

HIST 1233: THE History of Occidental Civilization, 1789 to the Present
AS.100.104
Syllabus

Instructor: Todd Shepard

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Office Hours: Mondays, 1-2 p.m., and by appointment.

Class Schedule: MW, 3-3:50 p.m., Mergenthaler 111; all sections meet on Friday.

The Course

This course is a historical exploration of events and developments in the European past from the late-18th century to the present. Over the course of the semester, we will study and discuss important moments, stories, groups and individuals from this period; we will also think about different approaches to interpreting the past and what it means to “do history” or think historically. We will pay significant attention to the histories of Germany, France, and the United Kingdom and less sustained attention to other countries in western and central Europe as well as Russia. As a necessary corollary, areas and peoples outside of the European continent--specifically the United States and various former colonial possessions--will be discussed in relationship to “European history.”

Expectations: You are expected to attend class regularly, to do all required reading, and to be prepared to participate in discussion. It is expected that you will ask questions when you do not understand or agree with what is being said in class or is in the reading. It is required that you show respect for the questions, viewpoints, and opinions that your fellow students offer in class, although it is in no way expected that you will necessarily agree with them, or with the instructor.

N.B. Be aware that several of the **required** readings deal with religious and sexual themes in ways that some may find controversial or even offensive. If you are unwilling to risk this, do not take the class.

Grading:

--*Attendance* at all classes is encouraged and good attendance will positively affect your final grade. Rather than take attendance, I ask each of you to hand in a 3”x5” index card at the end of each lecture period with your signature, the date, and at least one (1) question concerning that day’s lecture/discussion. (As a general rule, there are no “excused” absences. If, however, you will need to miss **more than one** class period due to religious holidays and/or Hopkins athletics’ activity, please speak to the instructor at the beginning of the semester, or as soon as possible.) If you show up late and/or make use of phones/pda’s in class, this may negatively affect your final grade. Use of laptops during class is not permitted.

--*In-Class Group Work:* On five occasions over the course of the semester, either on Wednesday or in your individual section (and on Nov. 23rd), we will do “in-class group work.” On that day, class will begin with a short (15 minutes) quiz concerning that week’s reading(s). We will then break down into small groups (5-7 students), which will each discuss the quiz and come up with the group’s written responses to all of the questions. Each person will receive a grade for that class made up of the average of their own quiz

grade and of their group's responses. Your grade for in-class group work will be the average of the 4 best grades you receive.

Some hints about in-class group work:

- 1/ The quiz questions will never be explicitly about readings by HOBBSAWM or MAZOWER. Still, you may need information from those readings to fruitfully engage with the other readings.
- 2/ There will be four or five questions: you will answer all but one for your individual response, and all for the group response.
- 3/ The questions are meant to allow you to think and discuss the readings, with the goal of synthesizing insights from the readings with material from other readings and from the class as a whole. It is on these criteria that the group responses will be graded. In-class group work questions, that is, are supposed to facilitate group discussion and produce insight, not measure your mastery of material we have already covered.
- 4/ On the individual responses, it is almost impossible to answer the questions to your satisfaction in 15 minutes. Complete and well-thought out answers, however, are not the basis on which this portion of the work will be graded. Instead, for your individual response, clearly indicate that you have done the readings and can identify connections between the readings and the questions you choose to answer. Make these explicit, by directly referencing the readings. You will receive more points for answering one question with clear references to relevant points in the readings than by "correctly"--even brilliantly--answering all the questions with no/minimal references.

--*The Two Quizzes*: There will be two quizzes, each covering roughly 80 years of European history as described first by Hobsbawm, then by Mazower. Both will be in-class and you will have a chance to improve your score. If you have pre-arranged to miss that class period for religious or athletics reasons, or you have a documented medical excuse, you will be allowed to arrange for a make-up.

--*Mid-term and final exam*: Both will consist of identifications and essay questions. Essay questions will be modeled on the questions you have done for In-class group work. The final exam will be cumulative.

Grading Breakdown:

Quizzes	20%
In-Class Group Work	25%
Mid-term Exam	20%
Final Exam	35%

N.B.: These percentages should allow you to estimate where you are grade-wise. The final grade, however, will be determined in close consultation with your T.A.; we will take your overall performance--most particularly your participation in section--into account.

University Guidelines:

Statement on Academic Integrity:

The strength of the university depends on academic and personal integrity. In this course, you must be honest and truthful. Ethical violations include cheating on exams, plagiarism, reuse of assignments, improper use of the Internet and electronic devices, unauthorized collaboration, alteration of graded assignments, forgery and falsification, lying, facilitating academic dishonesty, and unfair competition.

Report any violations you witness to the instructor. You may consult the associate dean of student affairs and/or the chairman of the Ethics Board beforehand. See the guide on “Academic Ethics for Undergraduates” and the Ethics Board Web site (<http://ethics.jhu.edu>) for more information.

Disability Services:

Any student with a disability who may need accommodations in this class must obtain an accommodation letter from Student Disability Services, 385 Garland, (410) 516-4720, studentdisabilityservices@jhu.edu.

Readings:

You should purchase the following books, which are available at the JHU Bookcenter:

Ian Buruma, *Murder in Amsterdam: The Death of Teo Van Gogh and the Limits of Tolerance*.

Aimé Césaire, *Discourse on Colonialism*

Eric J. Hobsbawm, *The Age of Revolution 1789-1848*

Mark Mazower, *The Dark Continent: Europe's Twentieth Century*

Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein* (any edition)

Carolyn Kay Steedman, *Landscape for a Good Woman*

All Readings marked with an asterisk (*) will be on electronic reserve.

Schedule of Classes and Readings

Week 1 **Introduction** September 2

Readings: Joan Scott, “*Only Paradoxes to Offer*”: *French Feminists and the Rights of Man* (1997), pp. 5-11 (in-class hand-out)*

Hobsbawm, pp. 1-64, 88-108, 112-138, 149-199, 217-52, 297-308

Week 2 **The New Regime** September 7 Labor Day NO CLASS/September 9

[***Sept. 11 GET QUIZ PREP HANDOUT for Hobsbawm***]

Week 3 **...and its Critics** September 14 [September 16 QUIZ on Hobsbawm reading]

Readings: Shelley, all

Week 4 **New Forms of Power and Knowledge: Science and Nationalism**

September 21 and 23

Readings: Robert Gildea, *Barricades and Borders. Europe 1800-1914*, pp. 46-82* and Lloyd S.

Kramer, “Historical Narratives and the Meaning of Nationalism,” *Journal of the History of Ideas* 58: 3 (1997), pp. 525-545.*

Week 5 **The Industrial Revolution and the “Social Question”** September 28 and 30

Readings: Friedrich Engels, *The Condition of the Working Class in England*, excerpts*

Week 6 **The Rise of the Working Class and 1848** October 5 and 7

October 9: GET QUESTIONS FOR TAKE-HOME MID-TERM

Readings: Joan Scott, “*Only Paradoxes to Offer*”: *French Feminists and the Rights of Man*, 57-70*

Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, *The Communist Manifesto*, Chs. I-IV (all) *

Week 7 **Making a European World: Colonialism and Consumerism** October 12 and 14

****OCTOBER 15, before 5 p.m. (THURSDAY) Submit answers to take-home mid-term****

Readings: Michael Adas, *Machines as the Measure of Men*, ch. 5

Documents on Imperialism TBA*

Erika Rappaport, "'A New Era of Shopping': The Promotion of Women's Pleasure in London's West End, 1909-1914" (1995), 130-155*

Week 8 Religion and the Confrontation With Modernity October 19 and 21

October 23 GET QUIZ PREP HANDOUT for Mazower

Readings: Bonnie G. Smith, "Cosmos: Faith Versus Reason," in Smith, *Ladies of the Leisure Class: The Bourgeoises of Northern France in the Nineteenth Century* (1981), 93-122*; Marinetti, "Futurist manifesto" [www.cscs.umich.edu/~crshalizi/T4PM/futurist-manifesto.html]

READ: Mazower: pp. 3-40, 64-211, 237-326

Week 9 World War I October 26 and 28 [TAKE QUIZ ON MAZOWER IN SECTION]

Readings: Robert Wohl, *The Generation of 1914*, 1-18*; Modris Eksteins, *The Rites of Spring: The Great War and the Birth of the Modern Age*, 55-64*; Annette Becker, *War and Faith: The Religious Imagination in France, 1914-1930*, 7-24, 32-47*; J. M. Winter, "Manpower and Military Service," from *The Great War and the British People* (1985), pp. 25-64*

Week 10 The Brave New World: Bolshevism, Fascism, and World War II

November 2 and 4

Readings: Ben-Ghiat, *Fascist Modernities*, pp. 1-29; 37-45, and 123-130*; Bartov, "Fields of Glory," in Bartov, *Mirrors of destruction* (2000), pp. 9-45 (especially 14-21 and 30)* and "Antisemitism, the Holocaust, and Reinterpretations of National Socialism," in Bartov, *Murder in our midst* (1996), pp 53-70 (60-67 can be skipped); Wilson, "The Fourteen Points" and "Treaty of Versailles" [www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/modsbook38.html]*; Christopher Isherwood, *Berlin Diaries*, 1-20, 186-207*

Week 11 The "Cold War" and "Decolonization" November 9 and 11

Readings: Matthew Connelly, *A Diplomatic Revolution* (2002), pp. 3-38; 91-141*; Césaire, all.

Week 12 From Consensus to Crisis November 16 and 18

Readings: Robert Moeller, "Reconstructing the Family in Reconstructing Germany: Women and Social Policy in the Federal Republic, 1949-1955," 137-169*; Steedman, all.

Week 13 Thanksgiving [November 23 class will meet]

Week 14 Immigration and the crisis of Europe November 30 and December 2

Readings: Buruma, all.

FINAL EXAM: THURSDAY, 17 DECEMBER 2009, 9 AM TO 12 NOON