

Syllabus

Hist 606-B01: Themes in European History II

Summer 2012

Instructor: Mark R. Stoneman, Ph.D.

Class meetings: June 4–July 23, Mon. & Wed. 7:20–10:00 p.m., West Building 1008

Office hours by appointment¹

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Description

Designed for graduate students both new to and familiar with European history, this course will explore selected aspects of modern European history from approximately the end of the Napoleonic Wars to the late twentieth century, although some topics will lead us back into the eighteenth century. Following a mixed chronological and thematic approach, it addresses developments in political participation, nationalism, human rights, ideologies, class relations, gender relations, production, consumption, migration, urbanization, international relations, war, and genocide. The course will be held in a seminar format that emphasizes reading and discussion. A short interpretive paper near the beginning of the term and a longer one at the end will be based on the many required course readings.

Requirements

Attendance is mandatory. As for the rest, your grade will be determined by the following components according to the percentages that follow them:

- Informed class participation 35%
- Short paper (5 pages), due June 15 (Fri.) by midnight 15%
- Long paper (20 pages), due July 25 (Wed.) by midnight 50%

Directions for the papers will be distributed in class or via email. The compressed nature of the summer term leaves no wiggle room, so late submissions will not be accepted. Please plan accordingly. (Only exception: significant illness or injury, for which you must supply adequate attestation in a timely fashion.)

Grading System

I determine all grades for the above components as letter grades, and then I convert them to numbers based on a 100-point scale to determine your course average. The equivalents I use are as follows: A = 95 (occasionally higher for particularly excellent work), A- = 92.5, A-/B+ = 90, B+ = 87.5, B = 85, B- = 82.5, B-/C+ = 80, C+ = 77.5, C = 75, C- = 72.5, C-/D+ = 70, D = 65, F = 55, and not submitting an assignment = 0.

I calculate course grades according to the weighting in the requirements section above. The cutoff for an A in the course is a 93 average, for an A- a 90 average, for a B+ an 87.5 average, for a B an 83, for a B- an 80, for a C+ a 77.5, for a C a 73, for a C- a 70, and for a D a 60.

¹ I am only on campus on the evenings we have class, usually by 5:00 p.m. In the summer, I tend to hang out in or near the Johnson Center eating area. Make an appointment if you want to be sure of catching me, but you're also free to simply look me up. It is also possible to meet with me during the week at the German Historical Institute, Washington, D.C. (<http://www.ghi-dc.org>), but only by appointment.

Communication

The best way to reach me outside of class is via email to mstonema@gmu.edu. Please write from your Mason address to ensure that I get your message, and make sure you check your Mason email daily, because this is how I will communicate with students outside of class. (We will see each other so frequently that setting up an online hub for the course appears unnecessary.)

Honor System

Academic honesty is essential not only to the success of the course, but also to your academic and professional careers. Hence, you are expected to know what plagiarism is and abide by the GMU Honor System and Code at <http://www.gmu.edu/academics/catalog/9798/honorcod.html>. If you are at all unclear about what plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty are, please talk to me.

Special Accommodations

Students requiring an academic accommodation should see me immediately and also contact the Office of Disability Services at <http://ods.gmu.edu> or (703) 993-2474.

Required Readings

BOOKS

The following books are required, and you will need them for the duration of the term, because the final paper will be based on all of them. Hence, I *strongly* recommend that you purchase them instead of trying to rely on library copies.

Blanning, T. C. W., ed. *The Oxford Illustrated History of Modern Europe*. 1996. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 2001.

Fritzsche, Peter. *Life and Death in the Third Reich*. Cambridge, MA: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2008.

Fuchs, Rachel G. *Contested Paternity: Constructing Families in Modern France*. Baltimore, MD: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2008.

Gaspard, Françoise. *A Small City in France*, trans. Arthur Goldhammer. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1995.

Hobsbawm, E. J. *Nations and Nationalism since 1780: Programme, Myth, Reality*. 2nd ed. 1992. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2012.

Hoffmann, Stefan-Ludwig. *Civil Society 1750–1914*. Houndmills: Palgrave Macmillan, 2006.

Kramer, Alan. *Dynamic of Destruction: Culture and Mass Killing in the First World War*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 2007.

Lees, Andrew and Lynn Hollen Lees. *Cities and the Making of Modern Europe, 1750–1914*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2007.

ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

There are also many required journal articles as well as two book chapters, which are listed in the schedule below. Except where a different URL is provided, you can get a copy of the journal articles via the e-journals link on the library's main website at <http://library.gmu.edu>. The book from which the two chapters come will be available in course reserves in the Johnson Center library for a period of two hours.

Schedule

All of the texts listed in this schedule are *required readings*. When a book is listed, the *whole book* is meant. Come to the class having already done that day's reading assignment and having prepared some questions and observations for our discussion.

Most of the readings should be accessible to general, albeit educated readers. If you do not understand the historical context of a given reading, please take steps to do whatever outside reading is necessary to fill that gap. If you do not know where to start, please ask.

I reserve the right to add or substitute articles, should it become necessary, although I would keep any such changes to a minimum, because of the extreme time constraints under which we are working in this intensive summer session.

June 4	Mon.	OVERVIEW T. C. W. Blanning, ed., <i>The Oxford History of Modern Europe</i> (1996; Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 2001).
JUNE 6	WED.	CIVIL SOCIETY Stefan-Ludwig Hoffmann, <i>Civil Society 1750–1914</i> (Houndmills: Palgrave Macmillan, 2006).
JUNE 11	MON.	CITES Andrew Lees and Lynn Hollen Lees, <i>Cities and the Making of Modern Europe, 1750–1914</i> (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2007).
JUNE 13	WED.	GENDER Joan W. Scott, "Gender: A Useful Category of Historical Analysis," <i>American Historical Review</i> 91, no. 5 (1986): 1053–75. Gay L. Gullickson, "La Pétroleuse: Representing Revolution," <i>Feminist Studies</i> 17, no. 2 (1991): 240–65.
JUNE 15	FRI.	First paper due via email by midnight
JUNE 18	MON.	NATIONS AND NATIONALISM (1) E. J. Hobsbawm, <i>Nations and Nationalism since 1780: Programme, Myth, Reality</i> , 2nd ed. (1992; Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2012).

- JUNE 20 WED. NATIONS AND NATIONALISM (2)
- Miguel Cabo and Fernando Molina, "The Long and Winding Road of Nationalization: Eugen Weber's Peasants Into Frenchmen in Modern European History (1976–2006)," *European History Quarterly* 39, no. 2 (2009): 264–86.
- Stefan Berger, "On the Role of Myths and History in the Construction of National Identity in Modern Europe," *European History Quarterly* 39, no. 3 (2009): 490–502.
- Robert Gerwarth and Lucy Riall, "Fathers of the Nation? Bismarck, Garibaldi and the Cult of Memory in Germany and Italy," *European History Quarterly* 39, no. 3 (2009): 388–413.
- Roy Foster and Alvin Jackson, "Men for All Seasons? Carson, Parnell, and the Limits of Heroism in Modern Ireland," *European History Quarterly* 39, no. 3 (2009): 414–38.
- JUNE 25 MON. THE GREAT WAR
- Alan Kramer, *Dynamic of Destruction: Culture and Mass Killing in the First World War* (Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 2007).
- JUNE 27 WED. MIXED INTERWAR THEMES
- Eric D. Weitz, "From the Vienna to the Paris System: International Politics and the Entangled Histories of Human Rights, Forced Deportations, and Civilizing Missions," *American Historical Review* 113, no. 5 (2008): 1313–43.
- Talbot Imlay, "Democracy and War: Political Regime, Industrial Relations, and Economic Preparations for War in France and Britain Up to 1940," *Journal of Modern History* 79, no. 1 (2007): 1–47.
- Hartmut Berghoff, "Consumption Politics and Politicized Consumption: Monarchy, Republic, and Dictatorship in Germany, 1900–1939," in *Decoding Modern Consumer Societies*, ed. Hartmut Berghoff and Uwe Spiekermann (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012), 125–48.²
- Anna von der Goltz and Robert Gildea, "Flawed Saviours: The Myths of Hindenburg and Pétain," *European History Quarterly* 39, no. 3 (2009): 439–64.
- JULY 2 MON. NAZI GERMANY
- Peter Fritzsche, *Life and Death in the Third Reich* (Cambridge, MA: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2008).
- JULY 4 WED. NO CLASS BECAUSE OF INDEPENDENCE DAY

² This book is on two-hour reserve in the Johnson Center library. Please note that the chapter from Jan Logemann assigned for July 11 also comes from the same book.

- JULY 9 MON. CONSTRUCTING FAMILIES IN FRANCE
 Rachel G. Fuchs, *Contested Paternity: Constructing Families in Modern France* (Baltimore, MD: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2008).
- JULY 11 WED. SCENES FROM WEST GERMANY
 Uta Andrea Balbier, "Billy Graham in West Germany: German Protestantism between Americanization and Rechristianization, 1954–70," *Zeithistorische Forschungen/Studies in Contemporary History* 7, no. 3 (2010), <http://www.zeithistorische-forschungen.de/16126041-Balbier-3-2010>.
 Elizabeth D. Heineman, "The Economic Miracle in the Bedroom: Big Business and Sexual Consumption in Reconstruction West Germany" *Journal of Modern History* 78, no. 4 (2006): 846–77.
 Jan Logemann, "Consumption and Space: Inner-City Pedestrian Malls and the Consequences of Consumer Geographies," in *Decoding Modern Consumer Societies*, ed. Hartmut Berghoff and Uwe Spiekermann (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012), 149–70.³
 Robert G. Moeller, "War Stories: The Search for a Usable Past in the Federal Republic of Germany," *American Historical Review* 101, no. 4 (1996): 1008–48.
- JULY 16 MON. RADICAL RIGHT-WING POLITICS IN FRANCE
 Françoise Gaspard, *A Small City in France*, trans. Arthur Goldhammer (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1995).
- JULY 18 WED. SCENES FROM GREAT BRITAIN
 Adrian Bingham, "The "K-Bomb": Social Surveys, the Popular Press, and British Sexual Culture in the 1940s and 1950s," *Journal of British Studies* 50, no. 1 (2011): 156–79.
 Steven Fielding, "A Mirror for England? Cinematic Representations of Politicians and Party Politics, Circa 1944–1964" *Journal of British Studies* 47, no. 1 (2008): 107–28.
 Joe Moran, "Mass-Observation, Market Research, and the Birth of the Focus Group, 1937–1997," *Journal of British Studies* 47, no. 4 (2008): 827–51.
 Simon Gunn, "The Rise and Fall of British Urban Modernism: Planning Bradford, circa 1945–1970," *Journal of British Studies* 49, no. 4 (2010): 849–69.

³ This book is on two-hour reserve in the Johnson Center library.

JULY 23 MON. STOCKTAKING

Evans, Richard J. "What is European History? Reflections of a Cosmopolitan Islander," *European History Quarterly* 40, no. 4 (2010): 593–605.

Jitka Malečková, "Gender, History and 'Small Europe,'" *European History Quarterly* 40, no. 4 (2010): 685–700

Patricia Clavin, "Time, Manner, Place: Writing Modern European History in Global, Transnational and International Contexts," *European History Quarterly* 40, no. 4 (2010): 624–40.

JULY 25 WED. Final paper due via email by midnight