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 appointment
Email: mstonema@gmu.edu

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.

http://markstoneman.com
Last updated: May 3, 2012
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.


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

June 6  Wed.  CIVIL SOCIETY

June 11  Mon.  CITIES

June 13  Wed.  GENDER

June 15  Fri.  First paper due via email by midnight

June 18  Mon.  NATIONS AND NATIONALISM (1)
June 20 Wed. Nations and Nationalism (2)


June 25 Mon. The Great War


June 27 Wed. Mixed Interwar Themes


July 2 Mon. Nazi Germany


July 4 Wed. No class because of Independence Day

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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.
CONSTRUCTING FAMILIES IN FRANCE

July 9 Mon.


SCENES FROM WEST GERMANY

July 11 Wed.


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


RADICAL RIGHT-WING POLITICS IN FRANCE

July 16 Mon.


SCENES FROM GREAT BRITAIN

July 18 Wed.


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

[http://markstoneman.com](http://markstoneman.com)

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JULY 23  MON.  STOCKTAKING


JULY 25  WED.  Final paper due via email by midnight