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International Studies 205: Introduction to European Studies

Meeting Time and Place

MWF 9:00-9:50am
Croft 204

Course Description

This interdisciplinary course introduces Croft students to major themes in the study of European history, politics, economics, society and culture. While INST205 will explore the continent's history since 1789 during the first half of the course, we will spend the rest of the semester investigating Europe's new position in the world since the fall of communism (1989-1991), the expansion of the European Union and the implications of the 2008 Financial Crisis in Europe. During this period, Europe emerged from its Cold War divisions to become a continent of increasingly diverse populations, on the one hand, and politically, socially and culturally united, on the other. We will explore what it meant and means to be "European," core social and cultural values in Europe, and the ideas and ideologies that formed the political nexus of "European Civilization" in the past and in our times. By the end of the semester, you will have the knowledge and skills necessary to navigate the complexities of Modern Europe.

Required Books

The following books are available at the Ole Miss Bookstore. You may also purchase new/used copies online if you find this to be a more affordable option.

Jack Goldstone, *Why Europe? The Rise of the West in World History, 1500-1850* (McGraw Hill, 2009)

T.C.W. Blanning, *The Oxford Illustrated History of Modern Europe* (Oxford UP, 2001)

Anatole France, *The Gods Will Have Blood* (1912)

Slavenka Drakulic, *Café Europa* (Penguin, 1999)

Additional readings are available on Blackboard or online.

Required Films (TBA)

We will be watching five films over the course of the semester, which will be scheduled in the evening. You are expected to attend these screenings and the discussion afterwards. If other academic-related events interfere, you are responsible for making other arrangements with the professor. There will be a film section on the mid-term and the final exam. Schedule TBA.

- *Z* (France and Greece, Costa-Gavras, 1969)
- *Germany, Pale Mother* (West Germany, Helma Sanders, 1981)
- *Brother 2* (Russia, Aleksei Balabanov, 2000)
- *Seven Up!* (UK, Michael Apted, 1964), *49 Up* (UK, Michael Apted, 2005)
- *My Perestroika* (USA and Russia, Robin Hessman, 2010)

Course Policies

- You must read this entire syllabus. If you do not understand everything on this syllabus, I expect you to ask questions.
- You must participate actively in discussion. You should also become comfortable asking questions in class, and restrict email to questions and concerns of a more individual nature.
- Attendance for each scheduled meeting is mandatory. Your absence will result in a lower grade for the semester. Note, however, that attendance alone does not guarantee you a good participation grade. If you miss class, you are responsible for the consequences (missed lectures, quizzes, exams, etc.). If you miss more than four classes, you will fail the participation portion of your grade. By the same token, if you have perfect attendance, you will receive a “bump” to your participation grade.
- You are responsible for all readings listed on the calendar. You must also bring your readings to class during our discussions of them.
- Papers will be docked one letter grade per day after the due date. After two full days, you will receive no credit for them.
- Plagiarism will not be tolerated, and you will fail this course if caught violating established university policies regarding academic dishonesty. You should view the following video regarding the definitions of plagiarism and University of Mississippi policies:
http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/general_library/instruction/resources/plagiarism_ac_honest/plagiarism_academic_honesty.html (you must have Flash Player to render this video properly). I recommend that you also read the official statement in the university’s policy handbook:
<http://secure4.olemiss.edu/umpolicyopen/ShowDetails.jsp?istatPara=1&policyObjidP ara=10817696> (download the pdf file)
- You must proofread all of your written work. Sloppy writing will result in a lower grade for the assignment.
- You must act in a respectful and honest manner toward your fellow students and your professor, and you should expect the same in return.

- As a general rule, grades are not negotiable. I will spend considerable time reading and offering comments on your work. If you would like to discuss further why you received the grade that you did, you are encouraged to do so. If, however, you believe that I graded your work incorrectly, unfairly or inconsistently, you have the right to an appeal according to the following policy:
<http://secure4.olemiss.edu/umpolicyopen/ShowDetails.jsp?istatPara=1&policyObjidP ara=10818079> (download the pdf file)
- You should avoid using your cell phone in class. I realize that accidents happen, but please remember to turn your phone off upon entering the classroom. I will not tolerate, however, either answering a phone call or texting in class. You will be asked to leave if such an incident occurs.
- While you are encouraged to bring your laptop to class for taking notes, you may not use it for purposes unrelated to the course. If caught checking email, Facebook, etc., you will be asked to refrain from bringing your computer to class in the future.
- If you require special considerations based on a disability, religious observance, or participation in sanctioned extracurricular activities, you must inform me of them at the beginning of the semester.

Assignments

Quizzes

There will be four quizzes during the first half of the semester (listed on the calendar), which address the course readings. You will be required to demonstrate not only that you completed the readings, but also that you considered the analytical questions addressed therein. Quizzes will consist of short answer questions. They should take you no longer than 15 minutes each, and you may use your books and notes to help you. Discussion questions, from which the quizzes will be drawn, will be posted on Blackboard several days before the quiz.

Reading Journal

After the mid-term, you will write weekly journal entries (approx. 1-2 page) responding to the readings. You may focus on the study questions (one of them, a few of them, or all of them) that I will submit to Blackboard, or you may address other issues that you found interesting or provocative in the readings. While I intend these assignments to be loose in structure, so that you can address the issues that you want without having to come up with a formal thesis, good writing is essential every time. You will submit your entries to the Blackboard discussion board under the appropriate week, either as an attachment or inline text. If you submit it as inline text, make sure you also have the paper saved in a separate document, as you may lose your work due to a connection problem. These journals are due every Thursday.

Short Papers

You will write three short papers (approx. 4 pages each) during the semester on the major readings of the course (Goldstone's *Why Europe?*, France's *The Gods Will Have Blood*, and Drakulic's *Café Europa*). You will be required to re-write substantially the first two of these papers.

Important: I have a unique policy for when your papers are due. In short, I leave this up to you. After receiving your assignment, you will inform me ASAP over email when you can complete it. There are two rules: 1) You have to complete the assignments in the order in which I give them to you; and 2) once you set your due date, I will not accept the assignment any later.

In-Class Exams

You will take two exams that integrate material from lecture, the readings, and current events. The mid-term should take you only 50 minutes and will occur during a normal class period (see calendar). The final exam is on **Wednesday, Dec. 7, 8-11am**. This exam is cumulative but should take you only 90 minutes.

Final Essay

You will answer two final questions in the form of a 5-6-page paper, which will require you to synthesize course materials.

Grade Breakdown

Quizzes:	10%
Reading Journal	10%
Short Papers:	30%
In-Class Exams:	20%
Final Essay:	10%
Participation:	20%

Grading Criteria (in hierarchical order) for Your Papers

1. Clear **thesis** statement and introduction
2. Clear **organization**, sentence structure, transitions
3. Use of relevant **evidence** (both the quantity AND quality of the evidence are essential)
4. **Clearly** developed arguments that support the thesis
5. Proper **form** and **style** (this includes the mechanics of grammar, punctuation, spelling, etc.)

An "A" paper shows excellent command of all five aspects with few distracting errors in style. A "B" paper satisfies points 1-4, but the form and style will sometimes distract the reader's attention.

A "C" paper meets the requirements of points 1-3, but its organization and style leave the reader confused about the intent and/or direction of the argument.

A "D" paper is a "C" that does not use enough evidence (or relies on inappropriate or incorrect evidence (i.e., factual errors)) to support the thesis.

An "F" paper is seriously flawed and lacks a developed argument.

For each paper, I will distribute a grading rubric with the assignment, and my comments will address each of these five points.

Grading Criteria for Class Participation

“A” – active participation

“B” – sporadic, but valuable, participation

“C” – inactive participation

“D” – refusal to participate

“F” – more than 4 absences during the semester

A full evaluation of your participation is available at any point during the semester. You are encouraged to ask about this.

Discussion of Current Events

A major portion of class discussion concerns current events. As such, you will be required to keep abreast of news in Europe. During the first week of class, you will choose a group of European countries to follow during the first half of the semester. After the mid-term, you will choose a different group of countries. The available groups include (two people can choose groups marked with a “2,” but we will decide on the focus of each student):

- Spain and Portugal
- France and Belgium (2)
- Italy and Switzerland
- Germany, Austria and the Netherlands (2)
- United Kingdom and Ireland (2)
- Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Finland
- Poland, Czech Republic and Slovakia
- Hungary, Romania, Albania and Bulgaria
- Serbia, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Slovenia and Macedonia
- Russia, Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova (2)
- Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia
- Greece, Turkey and Cyprus
- Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan
- The European Union

You will subscribe to online news about your chosen group of countries using an RSS reader (Google Reader is the simplest to use). I will demonstrate how this works during the first week of class. As important news develops in your country group, I will call on you to report on this to the rest of the class.

Calendar (These dates are subject to change. Please listen closely for any modifications to the calendar, and write them into your copy of the syllabus.)

Section 1: Eight Moments in European History

Week 1: 1689: The Emergence of England

Monday, Aug 22: Syllabus, Geography, and Major Problems of the Course

Wednesday, Aug 24: Politics and Religion before the French Revolution

Friday, Aug 26: Clovers and Steam Engines: the European Economy on the Cusp of Modernity

Reading:

- Document: “An Act Declaring the Rights and Liberties of the Subject and Settling the Succession of the Crown” (1689) (Access online: http://avalon.law.yale.edu/17th_century/england.asp)

Paper 1 assignment distributed (start reading Goldstone, *Why Europe?*)

Week 2: 1789: Enlightenment and Revolution

Monday, Aug 29: European Enlightenment Thought

Wednesday, Aug 31: Liberalism and Revolution

Friday, Sept 2: **Quiz 1** (Roberts, Trebilcock, and the two “Declarations”); Discussion

Readings:

- John Roberts, “Revolution from Above and Below: European Politics from the French Revolution to the First World War,” in Blanning, pp. 11-39.
- Clive Trebilcock, “The Industrialization of Modern Europe, 1789-1918,” in Blanning, pp. 40-68.
- Document: “Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen” (1789) (Access online: http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Declaration_of_the_Rights_of_Man_and_of_the_Citizen)

Week 3: 1848: Socialism and Nationalism

Monday, Sept 5: **Labor Day – No class**

Wednesday, Sept 7: Socialism and Nationalism during the Revolutions of 1848

Friday, Sept 9: Discussion of *Why Europe?*

Readings:

- Pamela Pilbeam, “From Orders to Classes: European Society in the Nineteenth Century,” in Blanning, pp. 94-119.
- Document: Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, *Manifesto of the Communist Party*, Preamble, Chapter 1, and Chapter 2 (1848). (Access online: <http://marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1848/communist-manifesto/index.htm>)

Week 4: 1893: Empire and Colonialism

Monday, Sept 12: Patterns of European Expansion

Wednesday, Sept 14: Cultures and Practices of Imperialism

Friday, Sept 16: **Quiz 2** (Pilbeam, Marx and Engels, Winks and Neuberger, Lugard); Discussion

Readings:

- Robin W. Winks and Joan Neuberger, "The Age of Imperialism, 1870-1914," in *Europe in the Making of Modernity*, pp. 257-288. (BB)
- Document: Captain F. D. Lugard, "The Rise of Our East African Empire" (1893) (Access online: <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1893lugard.asp>)

Week 5: 1918: An Age of Total War

Monday, Sept 19: The Preparation and Conduct of the First World War

Wednesday, Sept 21: Revolution in Russia and the Inter-War Era

Friday, Sept 23: **Quiz 3** (Map, Strachen, Preston, Apollinaire); Discussion

Readings:

- Hew Strachan, "Military Modernization, 1789-1918," in Blanning, pp. 69-93.
- Paul Preston, "The Great Civil War: European Politics, 1914-1945," in Blanning, pp. 148-148.
- Document: Selection from Guillaume Apollinaire, *Calligrammes* (1918) (BB)

Paper 2 assignment distributed (Start reading Anatole France, *The Gods Will Have Blood*)

Week 6: 1946: A Europe Divided

Monday, Sept 26: World War II: Practice, Experience, Memory

Wednesday, Sept 28: Defining and Re-Defining "Europe" after the War

Friday, Sept 30: **Quiz 4** (Overy, Reynolds, Churchill and Stalin); Discussion

Readings:

- Richard Overy, "Warfare in Europe since 1918," in Blanning, pp. 210-230.
- Timothy Snyder, "Lithuania Neglects the Memory of Its Murdered Jews," *Guardian* July 29, 2011: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2011/jul/29/lithuania-murdered-jews-wartime-crimes>
- David Reynolds, "Europe Divided and Reunited, 1945-1995," in Blanning, pp. 279-304.
- Documents: Winston Churchill's "Iron Curtain" speech, and Joseph Stalin's response (1946) (Access online: <http://www.fordham.edu/Halsall/mod/churchill-iron.asp>; <http://www.soviethistory.org/index.php?page=article&ArticleID=1947iron1&SubjectID=1947coldwar&Year=1947> - you must register for this latter reading)

Film: *Germany, Pale Mother*

Week 7: 1968: Youth and De-Colonization

Monday, Oct 3: Youth Rebellion and Anti-Colonial Nationalisms

Wednesday, Oct 5: Discussion

Friday, Oct 7: **Mid-Term Exam**

Readings:

- Eric Hobsbawm, "May 1968," in *Revolutionaries* (BB)
- Document: "The Amnesty of Blinded Eyes" (1968) (BB)

Film: Z

Week 8: 1989: The "New" Europe

Monday, Oct 10: Cracks in the Soviet Block

Wednesday, Oct 12: Models of Socialist Collapse: Poland, Czechoslovakia, Germany

Friday, Oct 14: Discussion

Readings:

- Ivan T. Berend, "The Economic Factors in the Collapse of State Socialism and the New International Environment, 1973-1989" (Access E-Book: <http://umiss.lib.olemiss.edu/record=b4448509~S0> - I will demonstrate how to use this in class)
- Document: Transcript of the Tenth Session of the Socialist Unity Party Central Committee, Nov. 9 (1989) (Access online: <http://legacy.wilsoncenter.org/cwihp/documentreaders/eotcw/891109e.pdf>)

Section 2. Issues and Problems in Contemporary Europe

Week 9: Race, Ethnicity and Nationality

Monday, Oct 17: Immigration and Europe's New Demographics

Wednesday, Oct 19: Discussion

Friday, Oct 21: Discussion

Readings:

- Patrick Ireland, "Introduction: Europe's Immigrant Integration Crisis" (BB)
- Andrew Brown, "Behind the Burqa Ban's Reasoning," *Guardian* April 12, 2011: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/andrewbrown/2011/apr/12/france-burqa-ban-reasoning>
- Martin Robbins, "The Absence of Evidence for Banning the Burqas," *Guardian* April 12, 2011: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/science/the-lay-scientist/2011/apr/12/2>
- Russell Shorto, "Marine Le Pen, France's (Kinder, Gentler) Extremist," *New York Times*, April 29, 2011: <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/05/01/magazine/mag-01LePen-t.html? r=1&partner=rss&emc=rss>
- Kim Willsher, "Algerian-Born Man Living in France is Refused French Nationality," *Guardian* June 9, 2011: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2011/jun/09/man-refused-french-nationality>

Week 10: Europe and America

Monday, Oct 24: "America" in the European Imagination

Wednesday, Oct 26: Discussion

Friday, Oct 28: Discussion

Readings:

- Andy Markovits, "Anti-Americanism as a European Lingua Franca," and "Anti-Americanism: A Necessary and Welcomed Spark to Jump-Start a European Identity?" (BB)
- D.H. Lawrence, "Benjamin Franklin" (BB)

Film: *Brother 2*

Paper 3 assignment distributed (start reading Slavenka Drakulic, *Café Europa*)

Week 11: The Persistence of Class

Monday, Oct 31: Class and Politics in Europe Today

Wednesday, Nov 2: Screening of *Seven Up!*

Friday, Nov 4: Discussion

Readings:

- Richard Bessel, "European Society in the Twentieth Century," in Blanning, pp. 231-254.
- Sarah Boseley, "The French Expect their Health-Care to be World-Beating," *Guardian*, March 21, 2011: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2011/mar/21/new-europe-france-health-worldbeating>

Film: *49 Up*

Week 12: An Expanded European Union

Monday, Nov 7: The Theory and Practice of Europe's Union

Wednesday, Nov 9: Discussion

Friday, Nov 11: Discussion

Readings:

- Harold James, "The Fall and Rise of the European Economy in the Twentieth Century," in Blanning, pp. 182-209.
- Selections from "Treaty on European Union," (1992) - http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Treaty_on_European_Union/Preamble
- Dominic Tierney, "The Crazy Politics of the Eurovision Song Contest," *The Atlantic*: <http://www.theatlantic.com/entertainment/archive/2011/05/the-crazy-politics-of-the-eurovision-song-contest/239327/>

Week 13: Culture and Society after Communism

Monday, Nov 14: Culture and Society in the Former Eastern Bloc

Wednesday, Nov 16: Discussion (We will discuss *Café Europa* on this day)

Friday, Nov 18: **Class cancelled**

Readings

- Ivan Berend, "Transformation and Social Shock," and "Lasting Changes in the Structure of Income, Employment, Welfare Institutions, Education, and Settlement" (Access E-Book: <http://umiss.lib.olemiss.edu/record=b4448509~S0>)

- Polly Toynbee, "Poland's Steady Economic Progress Matched by Growth in Social Inequality," *Guardian* April 6, 2011:
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2011/apr/06/poland-economic-progress-social-inequality>

Film: *My Perestroika*

Week 14: The Continuing Financial Crisis and the Future of Europe

Monday, Nov 28: The European Debt Crisis and the Future of Europe

Wednesday, Nov 30: Discussion

Friday, Dec 2: Discussion; Review for Exam

Readings:

- Pagden, "Europe: Conceptualizing a Continent" (BB)
- Graeme Wearden and Phillip Inman, "Greek Debt Crisis: The Key Questions Answered," *Guardian*, June 16, 2011: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/business/2011/jun/16/greek-debt-crisis-key-questions-answered>
- "Europe's Economies" interactive chart, *The Economist*, July 25, 2011:
http://www.economist.com/blogs/dailychart/2011/05/europes_economies
- Aditya Chakraborty, "Q&A: Greece's Debt Crisis," *Guardian*, July 31, 2011:
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2011/jul/31/greece-debt-crisis-how-bad>

Final Essay Due on Wednesday, Dec 7 (you may submit late papers, but only if you make prior arrangements with me).