

Fall 00  
PM

Course Syllabus  
HIST 324  
Modern European History, Politics and Culture  
Fall 2000

Course Day/Time/Place: **TTh /12.30-1:50 /Henry 221**  
Instructor: **Dr.Lilia Castle**  
Office Hours: **Wednesday 11.00 –12.00**  
Phone: **739-4628 off.**

**Course Description:**

This course introduces students to the history of modern Europe. The history is examined from the prospective of the trials and tribulations of peoples, governments, and social orders, cultures and individual personalities that shaped European continent from 1815 to modern time.

The course is designed to give students an understanding of the ideas, institutions, economy and other characteristic features of Europe in historical and contemporary context. Foreign and domestic policies of different countries, the origin and consequences of wars and revolutions will be explored. Additional coverage is given to culture. We investigate the expression of Modern ideas in literature and art.

Students should have the ability to give, understand and criticize the historical information in various forms: written essays, verbal discourse, small groups interaction. Through course material students should appreciate the values and lifestyles of peoples through the world.

Video clips, slides music will be used to bring the historical panorama to life

**Course requirements:**

1. There will be mid-term and final exams, a quiz, and a 15 minutes presentation.
2. Students will write short tests, pop-quizzes and analytical essays in class.
3. Reading and attendance: students are expected to read carefully all assigned materials; attend all classes, to be prepared, and participate if they wish to receive full credit for the course.

### Course Grading:

The exams will be given specific letter and number grades, and will count for a percentage of the total grade, as follows:

90-100	A	Mid-term exam – 15%
80-89	B	Final exam-15%
70-79	C	Quiz-15%
60-69	D	Student's presentation-5%
Below 60	F	Group discussions- 10%
		Essays-15%
		Quizzes, tests-15%
		In class participation-10%

### Course Text:

A History of the Modern World since 1815, by R.R.Palmer and Joel Colton, McGraw-Hill, Inc., NY, 1995

## COURSE SCHEDULE

**Aug.29** Introduction to the course.

**Aug 31** the Revolution in Western politics, 1775-1815: theory and practice. Robert Owen. Charles Fourier. Saint-Simon. Jean-Jacques Rousseau,

Homework: Prologue xxv-453

Students' presentations:

In *Anatomy of a revolution*, by Crane Brinton to find out about

1. Protestant Reformation
2. American Revolution
3. French Revolution
4. Russian Revolution

**Sept.5, 7** Video on Revolutions in Europe.

**Group discussion** on theory and practice of revolution (*up to 5 points*)

Homework: *Freedom and ideal state*, by L.Castle

**Sept.12 First essay (5%)**

The Industrial Revolution in Europe. Positive and negative results of the Industrial revolution. Urban working class. The condition of women and children.

Homework: ch. X1

**Sept.14** Realism, Positivism, Marxism, "Rational egoism". Thomas Malthus, David Ricardo, Adam Smith, Chernishevsky.

Homework: ch.XII

Prepare for the group discussion on the new social theories

**Sept.19** Group discussion on social theories (*3 points*)

**Sept.21** Unification of Italy. The founding of German Empire. National revolt in Greece. Nationalism.

Group discussion: Nationalism, Patriotism, Chauvinism (*2 points*)

Homework: The America's Civil War – presentations (major events, leaders, and reflection of the Civil war in American literature)

**Sept.26** Student's presentations on America's civil war.

**Sept.28** Liberalization of Russia: Great reforms of Alexander the II.

Homework: handouts, ch.XIII

**Oct.3** *Test* on the reforms of Alexander the II (*5 points*)

**Oct. 5,10** European culture of the first half of the XIX century: art, literature, music, theater, magazines, intellectual societies.

Classicism. Romanticism. Sentimentalism

Slides, video

Homework: ch. XIV, handouts.

**Oct.12** Intellectual games (*up to 5 points*).

European science in XIX century.

Homework: student's presentations on one of the writers, artists, scientists, of the XIX century.

**Oct.17, 19** Philosophy of life: Friedrich Nietzsche, Dostoevsky, Tolstoy

*Second essay* (5%)

**Oct.24, 26** Culture of the second half of the XIX century.

Slides, Video

Homework: ch. XIV, handouts

**Oct.31** Midterm

**Nov 2** **Imperialism.** First World War. Economic and social impact of the War. The reflection of the War in European literature. Lost generation.

**Nov.7.** Political parties at the beginning of the XX century. Russian Revolutions of 1905, 1917. Murder of Nicholas II and his family. Canonization of the Tsar in our time.

Video clips.

Homework: ch. XVII, handouts for the quiz

**Nov.9 Quiz** on First World War and two Russian Revolutions.

**Nov.14, 16 Democracy** and dictatorship. Italian fascism, Third Reich in Germany. Depression in US. Gulag in Stalin's Russia.

*Third essay (5 points)*

Homework: ch.XIX

**Nov.21, 28** The Second World War.

Video.

Homework: ch. XX, handouts.

**Nov. 30** Test on WWII

Homework: ch. XXI, XXII- for the workshop and Students presentations

**Dec.5** Students' presentations on modern issues.

**Dec.7** Workshop on modern issues. Modern culture and art.

Intellectual game.

**Dec. 12** Final exam