

SYLLABUS

HI324⁹⁰ Modern European History, Since 1815
April 6-June 8 - Thursday - 1730-2140

SE '00
PKZ

Lecturer: Donald Wilson

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Text: R.R. Palmer, and Joel Colton, A History of the Modern World since 1815, 8th Edition, McGraw-Hill, Inc. New York, N.Y., 1995.

Description: A survey of the development of the institutions and ideas of European Civilization since 1815. Although presented in a chronological framework, the approach is topical with an emphasis on those factors that led to the expansion and dominance of European society, and then its decline following the Second World War. Within this context, the course seeks to provide a coherent examination of political, social, economic, and cultural movements that have served to provide the bases for our contemporary society. However, it should be understood that this is a course of wide scope. Consequently, it concentrates on factual description of "what happened", rather than probing deeply into causes and effects. Which is not to say that this aspect is to be completely ignored, but to come to definite conclusions would require extensive background, and a narrower focus of study.

Objectives: To provide the student with an appreciation of how historical events affected the lives of people to change the social, political, and economic structures and relationships of European Civilization. To attempt to give an understanding of the effects of ideas on the process of History; and the impact of technology on society. Also, by observing the outcome of the answers that our predecessors utilized to solve their problems, to provide a background by which to judge the preferred solutions to similiar problems of our time.

Reading/Writing Assignments: The lecture schedule lists the required readings from the text and handouts. In addition students will be responsible for a written book report of approximately four double spaced typewritten pages.

Class Format: A combination of lectures and discussions. Visual aids will be utilized where applicable. Students are encouraged to raise questions, or make comments, at any time.

Grading: Grading will be based on a point system as follows:

Mid-Term Examination...50 points	Letter Grade Scale:	200-180=A
Writing Assignment.....45 points		179-160=B
2 Quizzes - 15pts/ea...30 points		159-140=C
Final Examination.....75 points		139-120=D
Total.....200 points		119-0=F

H324
Essay/Discussion Topics

Date:

April 13

Describe the development of the Industrial Revolution in England in the 18th and 19th centuries, and the social, political problems and solutions, that was its results.

Describe Metternich's policies to prevent and repress revolutionary activity. How was the "congress system" involved, and how did the policies influence the United States?

Discuss the conditions and issues that brought about the revolutions of 1848. What did they have in common, and what were the final results?

April 20

Describe the methods by which Bismarck unified Germany. What occurred in pursuit of this goal that may have contributed to the first World War. Why was unification such an important event in European History?

April 27

Why may it be said that in the years 1871-1914 Europe reached the climax of the modern phase of its civilization? What major political, economic, and intellectual trends deserve to be stressed for these years?

Assess the incentives and motives for nineteenth century European imperialism. What impact did imperialism have upon non-European peoples (a) in Africa, (b) in Asia? In what sense did the imperialism of 1870-1914 help to create a worldwide civilization?

May 4

What were the causes and events of the First World War? What influence did the course of the fighting have on the peace settlement, and what further influence did the settlement itself have on the Second World War?

May 11

Assess the reasons for the collapse of the Tsarist Regime in February 1917, and the fall of the provisional government in October 1917, and the triumph of the Bolsheviks.

LECTURE SCHEDULE - HISTORY 324

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading Assignment</u>
Apr 6	Introduction	Geography-Prologue
13	Industrial&Political Revolution Liberalism.	Chap. XI-XII. HO #1
20	Final European Unifications.	Chap. XIII. HO #2
27	European Hegemony-Imperialism.	Chap. XIV-XV.HO #3
	<u>QUIZ #2</u>	
May 4	World War I.	Chap. XVI. HO #4
11	Russian Revolution-Communism.	Chap. XV11. HO #5
	<u>MID TERM EXAMINATION</u>	
18	Democracy-Depression-Dictators.	Chap. XVIII-XIX. HO#6
25	World War II-Post War World.	Chap. XX-XXI. HO#7
Jun 1	End of European Dominance-Cold War.	Chap. XXII-XXIII. HO#8
	<u>QUIZ #2</u>	
8	<u>FINAL EXAMINATION</u>	

May 18

To what extent did democracy triumph during the 1920s? What problems then caused it to be perceived as ineffective, what were its weaknesses?

Compare and contrast the anti-depression policies of the Western Democracies with the policies of Fascist Italy, Nazi Germany, and Communist Russia.

Assess the anti-imperialist movements in India and China during the 1920s and 1930s. Who were the principal leaders, and how did their approaches differ to the problems they encountered?

What caused a highly class conscious and aristocratic nation like Germany to accept and fanatically support Adolf Hitler, as dictator of the nation?

May 24

What influences, in addition to Hitler's will, contributed to the outbreak of the second world war? Was "appeasement" a useful or logical diplomatic device, at what point should statesmen like Neville Chamberlain have recognized that it was not a viable policy?

Assess the strategic decisions, and key turning points of the second world war.

Evaluate the outcome of the agreements reached at the Yalta conference. Was this outcome a consequence of the agreements, or Stalin's betrayal of them? Were there other reasonable alternatives that might have prevented eastern Europe falling under Soviet control?

June 1

What accounted for the spectacular end of the European colonial empires after the Second World War? In what way did the European nations react to the agitation for independence?

What may be said about experiences of newly independent nations in Asia and Africa in the decades after the independence (a) from a political viewpoint, (b) from an economic viewpoint?

How would you sketch the history of the Cold War during the years 1945-1975? Include (a) wartime origins, (b) the immediate postwar era, (c) the Khrushchev and Brezhnev years. In what sense did relations seesaw between crisis and conciliation?

The United States fought two wars in the years 1945-1973. Discuss the origins, nature, and outcome of (a) the Korean War, (b) the Vietnam War. Why was the Viet-Nam War so much more divisive an experience?