**EUH 3269**  
*Readings in Modern Europe*  
**Tuesday Hours 8-10**

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**Aim:** This is a graduate seminar designed to familiarize you with the major trends in European thought and politics since the French and Industrial Revolutions as well as historiographical debate on these issues. The expectation is that you will gain familiarity with this material and that it will aid you in future graduate courses while helping to prepare you for Ph.D. comprehensive examinations should you go that route. We obviously cannot cover everything. But we will try to address the most important trends of European thinking (positivism, Freudianism, postmodernism) while also addressing major political movements (communism, Nazism, decolonization). I hope that by the end, you have a firm enough grasp of these issues so as to allow future, more in-depth reading.

**Expectations:** This is a demanding seminar. All readings will be in English. But there will be intensive reading and discussion for each of our weekly meetings. Much of your grade will depend on your level of preparation for our work, as you are expected to read the required material closely and be prepared to discuss it. Everyone will have a chance to discuss, as this is a small class. There is no place to hide. I also have no problem calling on students to address questions. I am not demanding the correct answer, because oftentimes there is none. But I expect you to be prepared to the point where you can engage intelligently with weekly materials.

**Grading:** Half of your grade will depend weekly participation concerning the readings (50%). If participation is not up to snuff on a week to week basis, I reserve the right to assign the class weekly short papers to help spur discussion. The other half of your grade will depend on a twenty-page double-spaced essay on one of the weekly topics, in which you answer a “comprehensive exam-style” question. It will be due on December 6. You will need to show command of historical narratives based on facts and events, as well as command of historiography.

**Books:** See the Required Reading in the class schedule below for the books and articles that you will need to access. Some materials will be made available through Canvas. I would advise against buying them new, as all are available for a fair price on used book sites, and they are free in the libraries. I reserve the right to tweak the syllabus based on the needs and interests of the class group.

**Foreknowledge:** As this is a graduate level course, I expect that you have a pretty good foreknowledge of Modern European history. As a companion should you need it, I recommend the following good textbooks.


**Policies:**

**Attendance:**
Attendance at all sessions is mandatory. You may miss one session for a documented emergency. Each session missed thereafter will result in a deduction of a half letter grade from your final grade. You must be on time for class. And you must observe etiquette, which among other things means no cell phones, and no social media.

**Late Papers:**

Papers will not be accepted late without medical documentation.

**Academic Honesty:**
The University of Florida Student Honor Code, which includes a detailed explanation of plagiarism, is located at this link:

http://www.dso.ufl.edu/scer/honorcodes/honorcode.php

Violations of the Student Honor Code including any form of academic misconduct will be referred to the proper university authorities and will result in sanctions ranging from grade penalties to expulsion depending on the severity of the offense.

**Students with Disabilities:**
Any student who suspects he or she may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the class instructor privately to discuss the student’s specific needs and provide written documentation from the Office of Student Accessibility Services. If the student is not yet registered as a student with a disability, he or she should contact the Office of Student Accessibility Services.
**Reading and Class Schedule**

**Part 1:**
**Theoretical Problems**

Week One: August 23
Modern Foundations


Week Two: August 30
Irrationalism


Week Three: September 6
Postmodernism


Week Four: September 13
Gender

Required: Joan Wallach Scott, Gender and the Politics of History (New York, 1999).

Part II
Transitional Problems

Week Five: September 20
Nationalism


Week Six: September 27
Imperialism


Imperialism in France, Britain, and the Netherlands (Manchester, 2011); Philippa Levine, ed., Gender and Empire (New York, 2004); Matthew P. Fitzpatrick, Liberal Imperialism in Germany: Expansionism and Nationalism, 1848-1884 (New York, 2008); Susanne Zantop, Colonial Fantasies: Conquest, Family, and Nation in Precolonial Germany, 1770-1870 (Durham, NC, 1997); Eric Ames, et al., eds., Germany’s Colonial Pasts (Lincoln, NE, 2005); Shelley Baranowski, Nazi Empire: German Colonialism and Imperialism from Bismarck to Hitler (New York, 2011); Sara Friedrichsmeyer and Susanne Zantop, eds., The Imperialist Imagination: German Colonialism and Its Legacy (Ann Arbor, MI, 1998).

Week Seven: October 4

War


Part III: The Short Twentieth Century

Week Eight: October 11
Diplomacy


Week Nine: October 18
Communism


Week Ten: October 25
**Fascism**


Week Twelve: November 1
**Nazism**


Week Thirteen: November 8

Holocaust


Week Fourteen: November 15
Postwar/Cold War

**Required:** Tony Judt, *Postwar: A History of Europe since 1945* (New York, 2005), parts 1-3 and Epilogue.


**Part IV:**
*Ends of History?*

Week Fifteen: November 22
Multinational Spaces


Week Sixteen: November 29

Decolonization


Papers Due:
February 6 at noon.