



## EUROPE SINCE 1914

EUH 3206: T/R 5-6, 6 (Flint 115)

University of Florida

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Since 1900 Europeans have witnessed an astonishing number of changes. In fact, some of the most dramatic transformations of the twentieth century came about just before it ended as a result of the sudden and unexpected collapse of communist systems in the Soviet Union (1991) and Eastern Europe (1989). Among the far-reaching consequences of these relatively recent developments have been the resurgence of nationalist and regionalist sentiments -- Scotland, Basque country, Lombardy, are examples -- the redrawing of state boundaries, and the acceleration of the movement towards transnational economic and political integration (EU). Although this is not a course in current affairs, we will be studying the major historical events of the past one hundred years that have given rise to the contemporary European scene. Some of the themes we will be exploring are: the origins and outcomes of the two world wars, the varieties of European social and political ideologies, and

the ever-changing pattern of national and trans-national identities.

**REQUIRED TEXTS:** (Paperback editions available through UF Bookstore.) Though all texts can be ordered on-line at any of the internet bookstores which carry academic texts of this sort, not all will have the correct edition in stock.)

*Europe Between Democracy and Dictatorship, 1900-1945.* Conan Fischer

*Europe's Troubled Peace, 1945-2000.* Tom Buchanan

*Aspects of Western Civilization.* Seventh Edition, Perry M. Rogers, Volume II.

### **READING ASSIGNMENTS:**

It is essential for you to complete all the reading assignments for each segment of the course. Please note that you will have to establish your own reading schedule. That is, instead of being assigned a specific number of pages to read each week, you are expected to read through all the given texts and determine for yourself how much you need to read in order to understand the topics being covered in the weekly lectures etc. Given that the texts themselves cover a great deal of material (and therefore make for rather dense reading) you should always make it habit of re-reading key chapters and your accompanying class notes. You should also take note of the fact that the required texts cannot possibly cover every aspect of the 20th-century in-depth. Please consult the bibliographies of the various required texts to provide you with sources that can be used to supplement your assigned readings.

### **EXAMS AND GRADING:**

There will be two in-class essay-type examinations and two reaction papers (5 double-spaced pages). The exams are designed to test your knowledge and level of mastery of both the lectures and the assigned texts. Thus you will be responsible for recounting many of the factual details and historical analyses found both in the assigned texts and in the weekly lectures. Students will also be graded on class participation, which means contributing to group discussions in a meaningful way.

**Attendance Policy:** *Please note that attendance is mandatory. Your final grade will go down one letter grade after three un-excused absences. Four or more un-excused absences will automatically lower your final grade by two letter grades.*

#### **Your final grade will be calculated using the following formula:**

Two Exams = 60%

Two reaction papers = 30%

Class participation = 10%

## COURSE CALENDAR

### Part I. [Historical Background to 20<sup>th</sup> century]

Week of:-

**24 August**

Introduction to the course: Europe and Europeans a mosaic of peoples and nations.

**31 August**

*Fin de siècle* Europe: Cultural climate and political realities; The "New Imperialism" and the "Great Powers."

**7 September (Labor Day on Monday)**

The Road to World War I: National rivalries and the breakdown of diplomacy.

**Readings, Part I:** *Europe, between Democracy and Dictatorship*, Chapters 1-2, pp. 1-71.; *Aspects of Western Civilization*, Part II., Chapters 8-9.

### Part II.[War, Revolution, and Peace]

**14 September**

"The Great War", 1914-1918 (Military campaigns; the Home Front; the course of the war)

**21 September**

The aftermath of war and the search for universal peace.

**28 September**

The Russian Revolution (1917-1922) and its impact in Europe.

**5 October**

The rise of fascism in Italy and Germany, Part I. (Against liberalism and communism: Mussolini's "third way")

**12 October**

The rise of fascism in Italy and Germany, Part II. (The collapse of Weimar and the ascendancy of Nazism.)

### **13 October/ First Reaction Paper Due.**

#### **19 October**

Liberal Democracy under threat: The Great Depression and its impact; the rise of anti-democratic movements in (southeastern, central, and western) Europe.

#### **26 October**

The Spanish Civil War (1936-1939), the “Munich Crisis,” and the coming of the Second World War.

### **27 October: First Exam.**

**Readings, Part II:** *Europe, between Democracy and Dictatorship*, Chapters 3-7, pp. 72-208; *Aspects of Western Civilization*, Part III., Chapters 10-12.

## **Part III.[World War II and Post-War Europe]**

#### **9 November- 16 November**

World War II: Triumphs and Defeats, (military campaigns, Holocaust, life behind the lines).

#### **23 November**

World War II: Aftermath. (End of war conferences, redrawing the map of Europe) The reconstruction of Europe; East versus West: The Cold War and its impact.

### **24 November/Second Reaction Paper Due.**

#### **30 November**

Re-defining Nationhood: The rise of regional nationalisms and the quest for European unity. The Collapse of Communism; The Emergence of a new Europe: Europe united and divided.

**Readings: Part III:** *Europe, between Democracy and Dictatorship*, Chapters 8-9; *Europe's Troubled Peace*. Chapters 1-12; *Aspects of Western Civilization*, Part III., Chapter 13-14.

## 8 December Second Exam

### Holidays:

November 6-7 Homecoming

November 11 – Veterans/Armistice Day

November 25-28 – Thanksgiving Holidays



### Addendum to Syllabus

#### Code of Conduct/Make-up exam policies for EUH3206

UF faculty are now being asked to provide written guidelines relating to (1) student conduct in the classroom and (2) make-up examinations. Most of these can be deduced by exercising common sense. But to avoid any misunderstandings, students enrolled in the courses listed above should take note of the following:

## Code of Conduct:

- (1) Cell phones must be turned off throughout the class period.
- (2) Students are asked not to talk, read papers, surf the internet, and otherwise distract the class from the lectures/class discussion.
- (3) Students coming in after the lecture has begun should not interrupt the professor and/or students by walking in front of classroom, re-arranging desks to gain access to seating, etc. Latecomers should therefore take a seat at the back or wherever it is possible without disturbing others.
- (4) Anyone who arrives more than ten minutes after class has begun will be counted absent unless he/she has the prior approval of the instructor.
- (5) Intellectual honesty: any student caught plagiarizing the written work of others and/or cheating on an exam will automatically fail the course.

## Make-up exams/Late Papers:

- (1) Apart from illness, family emergencies (immediate family only), and exceptional circumstances (to be determined by the instructor), exams will have to be taken on the assigned day. The scheduling of permitted make-up exams will be at the discretion of the instructor.
- 2) All written assignments – term papers and the like – are due on the day assigned in the syllabus and/or as announced by the instructor during class. Papers must be handed into the instructor on the due date in a hard-copy format. (That is, do not send your paper as an e-mail attachment etc.) No late papers will be accepted for any reason(s).

Below is the web-link to the UF honor code all are expected to uphold in this class:

<http://regulations.ufl.edu/chapter4/4017.pdf>

