

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
Department of History
Semester 1, ~~1995-96~~ 1996-97

History 120

EUROPE AND THE MODERN WORLD
1815 TO THE PRESENT

Mr. Hamalainen

COURSE DESCRIPTION

History 120 explores the major political, social, cultural and economic trends and changes in nineteenth and twentieth century Europe. There will be an emphasis on certain critical and crucial developments and problems rather than on comprehensiveness. Thus, the course will involve an attempt to go into some depth on some central issues rather than make an effort to cover superficially everything of some importance in European history in the period. The following kind of general topics will form and encompass the core of the course: demographic changes in occupational and socioeconomic structures; impact and nature of romanticism, conservatism, liberalism, nationalism, nation building, imperialism, socialism, communism, fascism, racism, and national socialism on European society; continuity and changes brought about by revolutionary experiences; the effect and importance of the two world wars, and the post-war period.

LECTURES

There will be two lectures a week followed by questions and discussion as time may permit. A number of historical and/or documentary films will be shown. In addition, students are required to attend a supplementary 50-minute discussion section directed by the teaching assistant.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT AND EXAMS

There will be three 50-minute examinations, each dealing with roughly one-third of the course. All examinations will consist of essay and short identification questions. The students who have enrolled for four credits shall write an eight page essay which analyzes some aspect of the required reading.

GRADING SYSTEM

The course grade will roughly be determined by the following indicators: each examination counts for about 25% and discussion group participation, the essay, and lecture attendance make up the remaining 25%. Some considerations will also be given to the trend of performance in terms of whether it is going up or down.

REQUIRED READINGS (ALL THE LISTED BOOKS ARE PAPERBACKS)

Main text:

- Jackson, J. Spielvogel, Western Civilization. Vol. C. Since 1789 (West Publishing Co. 1991)
- Karl Marx, Communist Manifesto (International Publishers)
- Ivan Turgenev, Fathers and Sons (Bantam)
- Erich M. Remarque, All Quiet on the Western Front (Ballantine)
- M. Djilas, Conversations with Stalin (Harbrace)
- P.K. Hämäläinen, Uniting Germany (Westview)