

History 474: European Social History, 1830-1914  
Fall 1992, 2:30-3:45 TR  
6104 Social Sciences  
R. Koshar  
4120 Humanities  
Office hrs. 1-2:15 TR and by appt.  
Tel.: 265-2578

This is a survey of European social history from 1830 to 1914. The course considers the interaction of social-economic relations, political power, and cultural discourse while focusing on the specific life experiences of working class men and women as well as elites and the middle classes. It places particular emphasis on the social stresses of capitalist modernity in England, France, and Germany, but in both readings and lectures it encompasses other European and non-European countries when this is possible or necessary. The chronology is approximate since the period under consideration is difficult to understand without an introductory discussion of the French and industrial revolutions (taking us back into the eighteenth century) and a glance forward to World War I and its impact (taking us into the 1920s). I make no attempt to construct a blow-by-blow narrative, opting instead for multiple narratives that touch on major problems in the study of European social experience.

Required and recommended readings are listed below. Students are expected to have completed the required reading by the end of each of the course segments, although the lectures will be a good deal more useful to students if they complete the reading before or during each segment. The recommended reading is designed to give students more background on nineteenth-century Europe. Required and some recommended reading is available at the University Book Store and all required as well as recommended reading is on reserve.

There are no in-class exams. Assignments include two essays of roughly 6-8 typed, double-spaced pages as well as one take-home final, which is an essay of 8-10 pages. The instructor will distribute questions for each assignment. Students taking the course for four credits and graduate students will write a research paper instead of the longer essay for the take-home final. The course will have a grader whose primary responsibility is the reading of papers. Students who have specific questions about the grading of these assignments should see the grader, but those who would like to discuss substantive issues raised by the course material or who need clarification of assignments should see me. The two shorter assignments account for about fifty percent of the total grade, the take-home final for the other fifty percent.

### Required Reading

- Eric Hobsbawm, The Age of Revolution 1789-1848 (NAL)  
-----, The Age of Capital 1848-1875 (NAL)  
-----, The Age of Empire, 1875-1914 (Vintage)  
Frederick Engels, The Condition of the Working Class in England  
(Academy)  
Bonnie G. Smith, Ladies of the Leisure Class: The Bourgeoises of Northern France in the Nineteenth Century (Princeton)  
Alfred Kelly, The German Worker: Working-Class Autobiographies from the Age of Industrialization (California)

### Recommended Reading

- Carlo M. Cipolla, ed., The Fontana Economic History of Europe, Vol. 3: The Industrial Revolution, and Vol. 4 (Parts 1 and 2): The Emergence of Industrial Societies (Collins/Fontana)  
Robert Gildea, Barricades and Borders: Europe 1800-1914 (Oxford)  
Theodore Hamerow, The Birth of a New Europe: State and Society in the Nineteenth Century (North Carolina)  
Bonnie G. Smith, Changing Lives. Women in European History Since 1700 (Heath)  
Peter N. Stearns, European Society in Upheaval: Social History Since 1750 (Macmillan)  
Roland N. Stromberg, European Intellectual History Since 1789 (Prentice-Hall, Fifth Edition)

### Course schedule

#### 1. Was There a Dual Revolution? (Sept. 3-17)

- 9/3 Introduction  
9/8 The Peculiarities of the English  
9/10 Industrial Revolution  
9/15 The "Old Regime" and the French Revolution  
9/17 Revolution, Napoleon, and War

### Reading

Hobsbawm, Age of Revolution, Part I

#### 2. Social Portraits, 1815-1848 (Sept. 22-Oct. 6)

- 9/22 Politics and Economics: An Overview  
9/24 Honoré de Balzac, Paris, and the French Bourgeoisie  
9/29 Francesca F. (Women and Work in Vienna)  
10/1 Love, Death, and Class (Not a Movie)  
10/6 Frederick Engels and English Workers

### Reading

Hobsbawm, Age of Revolution, Part II

Engels, Condition, 50-110, 127-158, 223-246, 275-292

3. The Age of Capital: Who Won and Who Lost? (Oct. 8-22)

10/8        First essay due  
10/8        1848: Springtime of Peoples  
10/13       The Great Boom: Economics, 1850-1875  
10/15       Nations, States: The Normality of England and France?  
10/20       German Nationhood: Blood, Iron, and Capital  
10/22       Austro-Hungarian and Russian Paths to Nationhood  
10/27       Europe in the World: The Asymmetries of Capitalism

Reading

Hobsbawm, Age of Capital, entire book

4. Age of Empire, or Pessimism and "Progress" (Oct. 27-Nov. 12)

10/29       "Great Depression" and "Second Industrial Revolution"  
11/3        Imperialism: What's in a Name?  
11/5        Variants of Liberalism: Some Comparisons  
11/10       A Culture Of Time and Space  
11/12       A Dual Revolution in Germany?  
11/17       Second essay due  
11/17       Towards World War I

Reading

Hobsbawm, Age of Empire, entire book

5. Social Portraits, 1848-1914 (Nov. 11-Dec. 10)

11/19       The City and its Critics, I  
11/24       The City and its Critics, II  
Thanksgiving Recess  
12/1        Gender and Politics: Feminist Movements  
12/3        The Anti-Semitic Librarian, or the Story of Otto Böckel  
12/8        Death in Hamburg  
12/10       Workers in Imperial Germany  
12/15       Conclusions

Reading

Smith, Ladies of the Leisure Class, entire book (by 12/1)  
Kelly, The German Worker, 1-74, 121-134, 252-268, 307-369 (by  
12/10)

TAKE-HOME FINAL DUE, 4120 HUMANITIES, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 7:45-  
9:45AM