

# Europe Since 1945

## EUH 4282

### Course Description

This is a study of the social, political, and cultural histories of the post-WW II era tracing Europe's transformation from the desolation of war to a superpower. It examines the origins and consequences of the conflicts that led to the division of Europe, and some of the differences the cold war boundaries made in everyday life on each side of the "Iron Curtain." It explores high politics and their implications for the economy and society, while also reviewing the histories of dissent and protest in western as well as eastern Europe. It traces the developments of major European states, for comparative purposes, while examining efforts to integrate them into a unified Europe. Themes include terrorism, gender, migration, "Americanization" of culture, citizenship as well as immigration, de-colonization, nationalism, nuclear weapons, the sudden collapse of communism, and the evolving place of Europe in world history.

### Course Objectives

1. A main objective of this course is to provide students with practice in "doing history," and to teach essential skills of comparative work in the field of history.
2. To teach students the scholarly values of a range of sources, including documentaries, films, and literature.
3. To impress students with the political role of society and individuals even in closed, police state dictatorships.

### Course Requirements

- 1) Readings (from the syllabus and as assigned in class), class lectures, and materials, including slides and films;
- 2) Class attendance and participation in class discussions;
- 3) Two exams. Conflicts known in advance (e.g., sports events, family gatherings) require that the student submit the work in advance. No make-ups afterwards.
- 4) Three, three-page, well-argued and documented synthesis papers, in response to assigned questions. Follow guidelines for writing these papers titled On Writing for History Classes, posted on the class website and distributed in class. You must cite the assigned sources, but may not cite outside sources, including those from the web. Late papers will not be accepted, except for good reasons and on condition that the student asks for an extension at least 24 hours in advance. Once the first paper is submitted on time, however, a student may rewrite that paper as many times as she or he desires, until April 15, and the highest grade will be the final grade for that first paper. All papers must be submitted electronically as well as in hard copy.

### Grade Components

Class Participation (which assumes attendance) : 15 %  
Midterm and Final Exams: 40% (20% each)  
Papers 45% (15% each)

### Textbooks (available at the bookstore)

- 1) Walter Laqueur, Europe in Our Time (Penquin, 1992)
- 2) John McCormick Understanding the European Union (Palgrave 1999)
- 3) Elizabeth Pond, Beyond the Wall (Brookings, 1993)
- 4) Source book (on the web and on reserve at Strozier to be copied for your own use)

## **Resources on the web and elsewhere**

The course source book is available on the web. The course homepage (<http://mailer.fsu.edu/~nstoltzf>) can be used to get copies of course materials and course announcements. Be aware of web sites with documents germane to this class such as The History Archives (<http://www.hartford-hwp.com/archives/60/005.html>), the European Union site at (<http://europa.eu.int/index-en.htm>), Cold War Documents at <http://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/intrel/coldwar.htm> among many others. Please do feel free to make suggestions on how to improve the course (preferably by email).

## **Lecture, Paper, and Exam Schedule**

### **Part I: Legacies of WW II and Onset of Cold War**

#### **Week I:**

1) Scope and Organization of the Course; the Idea of Europe McCormick, 31-56  
2) After the War: Facing Reconstruction Laqueur, Preface, 3-21, 267-290; Source book, F. Bedürftig, "A People Without A State"; Eberhard Jäckel, "Downfall or Liberation?"; Timothy Garton Ash, "Chronology"; see the EU Webserver at (<http://europa.eu.int/index-en.htm>)

#### **Week II:**

3) Victor's Justice? Post-War Purges, de-Nazification, and the Nuremberg Trials Laqueur, 22-29; Source book, Michael Biddiss, "Victor's Justice"; Robert Paxton interview, "Vichy did the Work of the Nazis"  
4) Roots of Cold War Division: Tehran, Yalta, Potsdam Laqueur, 88-115

#### **Week III:**

5) Two Ideologies, Two Alliances, and the Division of Europe Laqueur, 67-76, 144-148; 293-297; McCormick, 1-20 Source book, Winston Churchill, "The Iron Curtain" speech, Charter of the United Nations (also at <http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/un/unchart.htm>)  
6) Two Germanies: Design or Default? Laqueur, 76-87; Source book, Pennacchio, "The East German Communists and the Origins of the Berlin Blockade Crisis," read "Berlin Airlift" and see the illustrations at [http://www.whistlestop.org/berlin\\_airbridge/page\\_31.htm](http://www.whistlestop.org/berlin_airbridge/page_31.htm)

#### **First Paper Due**

#### **Week IV:**

7) The Marshall Plan and Economic Recovery in Western Europe Laqueur, 167-231; see the Library of Congress' Exhibit marking the 50th anniversary of the Marshall Plan (<http://lcweb.loc.gov/exhibits/marshall/>)  
8) Rebuilding Western Europe's Political Institutions: Early Postwar Decisions Laqueur, 30-67, 126-143

### **Part II: European Politics--National and Collective**

#### **Week V:**

9) Politics, Economy, and the Individual in Postwar Europe Laqueur, 362-384; Source book, Havel, "On the Theme of an Opposition"  
10) Toward European Unity: Opening Gambits Laqueur, 116-125; 328-332; McCormick, 57-88, 120-146

#### **Week VI:**

11) **Midterm**  
12) Decolonization: the End of European Empire Source book, Mohandas Gandhi, "Indian Home Rule," Nicolas Mansergh, "Britain Leaves India," Francis Hutchins, "India Leaves

Britain"; Tony Smith, "French and British Decolonization Compared;" Betts, The Retreat from Empire

### **Week VII:**

13) Capitalism and "Economic Miracles" in western Europe Laqueur, 246-252; 415-426; 465-492; Pond, 13-19

14) Stalinization in eastern Europe -- and more Cold War conflicts Laqueur, 220-230, 316-322, 333-337, 397-404; 427-434; Pond, 20-32

### **Part III: Social Forces in Politics, Old and New**

#### **Week VIII:**

15) Diverging Societies, East and West: Ordinary People and State Security Source book, Havel, The Power of the Powerless, Schneider, The Wall Jumper, Naimark, Stasi History: "To Know Everything," Kramer, "Letter from Europe" (on the Stazi)

16) Politics, personality, and rebellion in eastern Europe Laqueur, 301-308, 354-361, 404-411; Source book, Kundera, from Unbearable Lightness of Being; Havel, from Disturbing the Peace, and Open Letters; Brezhnev-Dubcek Telephone conversation, 13 August 1968, ([http://www.fas.harvard.edu/%7Ehpcws/index\\_f.htm](http://www.fas.harvard.edu/%7Ehpcws/index_f.htm)); Havel, Letter to Dubcek

#### **Second Paper Due**

#### **Week IX:**

17) The 1968 Uprisings in western Europe Laqueur, 345-354, 149 -163; McCormick, 147-174, Source book, Daniel Cohn-Bendit interview by Jean-Paul Sartre, Grafitti from protesters, Paris, May 1968; GHI, 1968 in Germany

18) European Terrorism Laqueur, 446-448; Source book, Kurt Schelter, "International Terrorism"; Ganor, Defining Terrorism, Walker, History of Terrorism

#### **Week X:**

#### **Week XI:**

19) Terrorism Now: 9/11 and Europe Source book, The Economist, Is Europe behind the US?, Graham, Nuclear Terrorism, Ferguson, Terrorism, Kettle, Anti-Americanism, Huntington contested, Bedi, CIA and Islam,

20) New Social Movements in the West Laqueur, 435-440; Source book, "Greenpeace"; Guha, Environmentalism ; Tarrow, Power in Movement; Pugh, "Abortion Debate Heats Up in Britain" <http://www.hartford-hwp.com/archives/61/062.html>, Müller-Rommel, Green Parties under Comparative Perspective

#### **Week XII:**

21) Women and the Welfare State Laqueur, 231 -245; Source book, Jane Jenson, "Women and the Welfare State"; Simone de Beauvoir, "The Second Sex"; excerpts from The Economist; Michelle Dunne, "Women fight back," Sidhu, Women and Nobel Prizes

22) Immigration and neo-Fascism Laqueur, 441-445; Source book, Ann Cornelisen, "Strangers and Pilgrims", the Economist, Germany and immigration (2001), The Times, Neo-Nazis and the Wehrmacht exhibit, Amnesty International, Police and Immigration in Germany, David Childs, "The Far Right in Germany Since 1945"; Ingo Hasselbach, "How Nazis are Made"; Reuter, "Clashes Erupt After French Anti-Le Pen March"

#### **Final Paper Due**

#### **Week XIII**

23) Americanization of Europe? "Baywatch," blue jeans, rock 'n' roll, fast food, etc. Laqueur, 267-290; Volker R. Berghahn, et. al., "The American Impact on Europe," at <http://www.ghi-dc.org/conpotweb/westernpapers/introduction.html> Source book, Eva Cockcroft: "Abstract Expressionism, Weapon of the Cold War," Uta Poiger, Rock 'n Roll,

Female Sexuality, and the Cold War Battle over German Identities, The Sexual Behavior of American GIs in postwar Germany, Arnold Sywottek, "The Americanization of Everyday Life?" Timothy Ryback, Rock around the Bloc

24) The Nuclear Controversy and the decline of Detente Laqueur, 449-460; 507 - 549; Pond, 33-68; Source book, E.P. Thompson, "Questions for Mr. Weinberger"; Reagan on "Star Wars." See in general the Nuclear Files archive at <http://www.nuclearfiles.org/docs/>.

### **The Collapse of Communism and the New European Era**

#### **Week XIV:**

25) East European Revolution Laqueur, 550- 566; Pond, 69-84 Source book, Timothy Garton Ash, from The Magic Lantern

26) Collapse of the Berlin Wall, and the USSR Pond, 1-12; 85-129, 130-152

#### **Week XV:**

27) German Unification and the New Europe Laqueur, 567-570; Pond, 153-209

28) European Union: Progress and Limitations Pond, 210-248; McCormick, 175-229; Source book, Timothy Garton Ash, "Epilogue: European Answers?"; Britain and the Euro, EU Leaders design superpower, The Economist, Poland and its ex-communists.

### **Final Exam Week**

**Final Exam:** 50 minute exam - Grades may not be posted to ensure compliance with the Family Educational and Privacy Act.

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### **Florida State University Academic Honor Code**

Students are expected to uphold the Academic honor Code published in the Florida State University Bulletin and the Student Handbook. The Academic Honor System of the Florida State University is based on the premise that each student has the responsibility: 1) to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity in the student's work; 2) to refuse to tolerate violations of academic integrity in the university community; and 3) to foster a high sense of integrity and social responsibility on the part of the university community.

Concerning proper citation of sources in your papers: 1) If you take material that is not yours, from any source whatsoever, and copy it into assignments you submit in the class, you must provide a footnote, endnote, or parenthetical reference to the source of the material; 2) Material taken verbatim from another source must be enclosed in quotation marks and attributed as in rule #1; 3) Material not taken verbatim from a text but paraphrased must also be attributed as in rule #1. Anyone violating this code may fail the course.

### **Students with Disabilities**

Students with disabilities needing academic accomodation should: 1) register with and provide documentation to the Student Disability Resource center; and 2) bring a letter to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type. This should be done during the first week of class.