

## **International Studies 210: Introduction to Western Europe**

Prof. Richard Gunther, Department of Political Science  
2058 Derby Hall  
292-6266

Office Hours: Monday 2:00-3:00, Wednesday, 3:00-4:00, and by appointment

This course presents an introductory overview of the historical background to modern Western Europe. It surveys the development of society and politics, as well as the evolution of art, architecture and music from the 11th century until the outbreak of the Second World War.

Two components of the course will unfold in chronological order: both the readings, and the lectures and presentations of art and music will begin with Europe at the beginning of the 11th century and will progress temporally through the first third of the 20th century. (However, the readings will run somewhat ahead of the lectures and presentations of art and music throughout most of the first half of the course, due to the fact that the textbook devotes much greater attention to the period between the French Revolution and World War II than it does to earlier periods.) The lectures, however, will be primarily be organized along thematic lines (e.g., concerning the nature of feudalism, the dynamics of state-building, or the role of nationalism in contributing to the First World War), or as case studies of state-building and nation-building, starting with those that began earlier (e.g., Spain and Portugal), and ending with the mid-to-late 19th century state-building processes in Italy and Germany. Each class session will begin with a lecture focusing on social, economic and political developments during the period in question. The second segment of each class will be devoted to the arts, and will conclude with a video presentation of music and art from specific historical periods.

Attendance at all class sessions is essential, particularly since the student's exposure to the relevant art and music will take place only during class sessions. In order to provide an added incentive to attend all class sessions, there will be four *unannounced* quizzes over the course of the quarter which will collectively make up 40 percent of the course grade. (The midterm examination will account for another 30 percent of the grade, and the final exam 30 percent.) In those quizzes and examinations, students will be expected to have kept up with the readings in accord with the following schedule, as well as all of the presentations of art and music presented in class.

All readings are from R.R. Palmer, Joel Colton, and Lloyd Kramer, *A History of the Modern World*, ninth edition. These may be purchased at any of the campus-area bookstores (Long's, SBX, UBX, College Town and the University Bookstore). If the supply at any one of these bookstores runs out, students should check with the other bookstores to determine where remaining copies are located.

Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disabilities Services will be appropriately accommodated, and should inform the instructor of their needs.

### **Class Sessions and Reading Assignments**

**1** (January 4) Introduction

*Lecture:* An overview of the evolution of Western Europe from the 11th century through the early 20th century

*Music and Art:* The 11th Century

**2** (January 6)

*Readings:* Palmer and Colton, pages 1-46 ("Geography and History;" "Ancient Times;" "The Early Middle Ages;" "The High Middle Ages," secular civilization and the Church.

*Lecture:* The legacy of the Roman Empire, and the nature of feudalism

*Music and Art:* The 12th Century

**3** (January 11)

*Readings:* Palmer and Colton, pages 47-77 ("Disasters of the Fourteenth Century;" "The Renaissance in Italy;" "The Renaissance Outside Italy;" "The New Monarchies")

*Lecture:* The rise of monarchies

*Music and Art:* The 13th Century

**4** (January 13)

*Readings:* Palmer and Colton, pages 77-127 ("The Protestant Reformation;" "Catholicism Reformed and Reorganized;" "The Opening of the Atlantic;" "The Commercial Revolution;" "Changing Social Structures;" "The Crusade of Catholic Spain")

*Lecture:* State-building in Portugal and Spain, part 1

*Music and Art:* The 14th Century

**5** (January 18)

*Readings:* Palmer and Colton, pages 127-153 ("The Disintegration and Reconstruction of France;" "The Thirty Years' War, 1618-1648;" "The *Grand Monarque* and the Balance of Power;" "The Dutch Republic")

*Lecture:* State-building in Portugal and Spain, part 2

*Music and Art:* The 15th Century

**6** (January 20)

*Readings:* Palmer and Colton, pages 153-186 ("Britain: The Puritan Revolution... and The Triumph of Parliament;" "The France of Louis XIV, 1643-1715;" "The Triumph of Absolutism;" "The Wars of Louis XIV: The Peace of Utrecht, 1713")

*Lecture:* The failure of the Holy Roman Empire, part 1

*Music and Art:* 1500-1550

**7** (January 25)

*Readings:* Palmer and Colton, pages 187-224 ("Three Aging Empires;" "The Formation of an Austrian Monarchy;" "The Formation of Prussia;" "The Westernizing of Russia;" "The Partitions of Poland")

*Lecture:* The Reformation, the Thirty Years' War, and the failure of the Holy Roman Empire, part 2; State-building in England, part 1

*Music and Art:* 1550-1600

**8** (January 27)

*Readings:* Palmer and Colton, pages 225-263 ("Elite and Popular Cultures;" "The Global Economy of the Eighteenth Century;" "Western Europe after the Peace of Utrecht;" "The Great War of the Mid 18th Century")

*Lecture:* State-building in England, part 2; Scotland and Ireland

*Music and Art:* 1600-1650

**9** (February 1)

*Readings:* Palmer and Colton, pages 265-293 ("Prophets of a Scientific Civilization;" "The Road to Newton;" "New Knowledge of Human Beings and Society;" "Political Theory")

*Lecture:* State-building in France, part 1

*Music and Art:* 1650-1700

**10** (February 3)

*Readings:* Palmer and Colton, pages 295-342 ("The Philosophes;" "Enlightened Despotism;" "The British Reform Movement;" "The American Revolution")

*Lecture:* Early 18th art and architecture, and the history of opera through the late 18th century

*Music and Art:* 1700-1750

Excerpts from *Don Giovanni*

**11** (February 8)

*Readings:* Palmer and Colton, pages 343-387 ("The French Revolution")

*Lecture:* State-building in France, part 2

*Music and Art:* 1750-1789

**12** (February 10)

Midterm Examination

**13** (February 15)

*Readings:* Palmer and Colton, pages 389-425 ("Napoleonic Europe")

*Lecture:* The French Revolution and Napoleonic Europe

*Music and Art:* 1789-1825

**14** (February 17)

*Readings:* Palmer and Colton, pages 427-474 ("Reaction versus Progress")

*Lecture:* The Congress of Vienna and the Post-Napoleonic reaction.

*Music and Art:* 1825-1865

**15** (February 22)

*Readings:* Palmer and Colton, pages 475-517 ("Revolution and the Reimposition of Order, 1848-1870"; "The Idea of the Nation-State;" "The Unification of Italy")

*Lecture:* The Italian State-Building Process, part 1

*Music and Art:* *Carmen*, Act I

**16** (February 24)

*Readings:* Palmer and Colton, pages 517-529 ("The Founding of a German Empire;" "The Dual Monarchy of Austria-Hungary")

*Lecture:* The Italian state-building process, part 2  
*Music and Art:* *Carmen*, Acts II, III and IV

**17** (March 1)

*Readings:* Palmer and Colton, pages 551-588 ("European Civilization, 1871-1914: Economy and Politics")

*Lecture:* The German state-building, part 1.

*Music and Art:* 1865-1885

**18** (March 3)

*Readings:* Palmer and Colton, pages 589-612 ("European Civilization, 1871-1914: Society and Culture")

*Lecture:* The German state-building process, part 2

*Music and Art:* 1885-1911

**19** (March 8)

*Readings:* Palmer and Colton, pages 657-696 ("The First World War")

*Lecture:* Nationalism and The First World War

*Music and Art:* 1912-1939

**20** (March 10)

*Readings:* Palmer and Colton, pages 743-800 ("The Apparent Victory of Democracy;" and "Democracy and Dictatorship")

*Lecture:* Revolution, Repression, or Reform and Democracy: Political developments in the inter-war period

*Music and Art:* Two views of *Romeo and Juliet*