**History 3253 Europe, 1900-1950, Spring Semester 2015**

**The Ohio State University-Marion**

**Instructor:** Dr. Genova

**Office:** Morrill Hall 112

**Office Hours:** MW 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. and by appointment

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**Course Description and Objectives:**

This course examines one of the most dynamic, controversial, and troubling periods in European history. Beginning with the continent on the brink of catastrophe, revolution, and at the peak of its global domination, we will look in-depth at European society, culture, politics, and economics from the period prior to the First World War to the aftermath of the Second World War. We start with what has been referred to as the “Belle Époque,” a period that included sweeping reforms in European government, growing social strife, and rapid technological advance. Only in the wake of the catastrophic Great War was the era 1900-1914 called the “Belle Époque.” We then turn our attention to the world’s first industrial war and the advent of total war, and follow trends in culture, politics, economics, society, and Europe’s vast colonial empires through the interwar years into the Second World War and its wake. This course is designed to provide both a survey of European history during the first half of the 20th century as well as a rigorous examination of one of the more decisive periods in modern history. Attendance and participation are required for success in this course. In addition to required readings, film screenings will aid our class discussions and lectures. Grades are computed on the basis of attendance/participation, two short 5-page papers on assigned topics, as well as a mid-term and final exam. While no background in European history is required, strong interest in the subject is recommended. If you lack a background in European history it is strongly recommended that you do some outside reading in the period before 1900 to gain a better context for the material we will cover in the class.

**General Education Learning Objectives and Outcomes:**

***Historical Study***:

**Goals:**

Students recognize how past events are studied and how they influence today’s society and the human condition.

**Expected Learning Outcomes:**

1. Students construct an integrated perspective on history and the factors that shape human activity.

2. Students describe and analyze the origins and nature of contemporary issues.

3. Students speak and write critically about primary and secondary historical sources by examining diverse interpretations of past events and ideas in their historical contexts.

***Diversity:***

**Goals:**

Students understand the pluralistic nature of institutions, society, and culture in the United States and across the world in order to become educated, productive, and principled citizens.

**Global Studies:**

**Expected Learning Outcomes:**

1. Students understand some of the political, economic, cultural, physical, social, and philosophical aspects of one or more of the world’s nations, peoples, and cultures outside the U.S.
2. Students recognize the role of national and international diversity in shaping their own attitudes and values as global citizens.

**History Major Fulfillment:**

This course fulfills the category of post-1750, Western world in the History curriculum.

**Requirements and Grading:**

**Attendance and Participation: 10%**

**First 5-Page Paper: 20%**

**Second 5-Page Paper: 20%**

**Mid-Term Exam: 25%**

**Final Exam: 25%**

**\*\*\*Failure to do any of the assignments (i.e., submit the two papers, take the mid-term or final exam, or seven unexcused absences) will result in AUTOMATIC FAILURE of the course\*\*\***

**Grade Breakdown:**

93-100 = A, 90-92 = A-,

87-89 = B+, 83-86 = B, 80-82 = B-,

77-79 = C+, 73-76 = C, 70-72 = C-,

67-69 = D+, 63-66 = D, 62-0 = E.

**Required Texts:**

James Wilkinson and H. Stuart Hughes, *Contemporary Europe: A History*, 10th Edition

(Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Prentice Hall, 2004).

David Welch, *Modern European History, 1871-2000: A Documentary Reader*, 2nd

Edition (London and New York: Routledge, 1999).

Modris Eksteins, *Rites of Spring* (Boston: Mariner Books, 2000).

Primo Levi, *Survival in Auschwitz* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1996).

**Classroom Conduct:**

In this course we will create and maintain an environment of respect for one another where all will have an equal opportunity to learn, participate, and succeed. Harassment of any kind and disrespect in general will not be tolerated. All have the right to speak freely within the parameters of the course subject as well as the right to listen to others speaking. A student’s right to privacy shall in no way be infringed; any information pertaining to a student’s performance in the course shall be kept in strictest confidentiality among the interested parties according to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974.

**University Policies:**

**Academic Misconduct:**

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish  
procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term  
academic misconduct includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed;  
illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with  
examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the  
committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student  
Conduct (<http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/resource_csc.asp>).

Here is a direct link for discussion of plagiarism:

<http://cstw.osu.edu/writingCenter/handouts/research_plagiarism.cfm>

Here is the direct link to the OSU Writing Center: [http://cstw.osu.edu](http://cstw.osu.edu/)

  **Disability Services:**

The Office for Disability Services provides confidential support services, auxiliary aids and accommodations for students with disabilities that allow them to gain equal access to education. This office is a part of The Ohio State University system, and, is therefore an extension of the Columbus Office of Disability Services.

**Our Staff:**

The Office of Disability Staff members are knowledgeable, experienced and able to assist students with academic adjustment, learning strategies, advocacy skills and transition from high school to college and into employment.

Staff members are involved in a variety of additional activities. At times they serve as advocates for students to ensure access to appropriate accommodations. In addition, they act as consultants to faculty and staff on disability-related issues. Our staff also provides in-service training for the campus community and members of the greater Marion and surrounding communities.

**For more information:**

Margaret Hazelett, Coordinator   
Student Services Building, Room 128   
Phone: 740-725-6247   
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Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated, and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs.  The website for the Office for Disability Services for The Ohio State University system is: <http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/>.

**Class Schedule:**

**Week 1 (12-16 Jan.):**

Course Introduction and Europe 1900-1914:

12 Jan.: Course Introduction

14 Jan.: Politics and Economy 1900-1914

**Readings:** Wilkinson and Hughes, *Contemporary Europe*, Chapter 1:1-1:6

Welch, *Modern European History*, 1.9, 2.3, 2.5, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3

**Assignment: None**

**Week 2 (19-23 Jan.):**

Europe and Imperialism:

19 Jan.: **No Class**

21 Jan.: European Society and Imperialism, 1900-1914

**Readings:** Eksteins, *Rites of Spring*, Prologue, Act One

**Assignment: None**

**Week 3 (26-30 Jan.):**

Culture and Crisis:

26 Jan.: European Culture and Intellectual Life, Turn of the Century

28 Jan.: War on Two Fronts (1914-1916)

**Readings:** Wilkinson and Hughes, *Contemporary Europe*, Chapter 2:1-2:5

Welch, *Modern European History*, 1.11, 3.5, 4.1, 4.2, 4.4

Eksteins, *Rites of Spring*, Act Two

**Assignment: None**

**Week 4 (2-6 Feb.):**

War and Revolution:

2 Feb.: The Western Front: The U.S. Enters and Total War

4 Feb.: The Russian Revolution: Founding the First Workers’ Republic 1917-1921

**Readings:** Wilkinson and Hughes, *Contemporary Europe*, Chapter 2:6, 3:1-3:5

Welch, *Modern European History*, 3.6, 3.7, 4.7

Eksteins, *Rites of Spring*, Act Three

**Assignment: None**

**Week 5 (9-13 Feb.):**

Empires at War and Post-War Settlement:

9 Feb.: Europe and Its Empires: Colonialism and the Great War

11 Feb.: Versailles: The Reconstruction of European Order

**Readings:** Wilkinson and Hughes, *Contemporary Europe*, Chapter 4:1-4:5, 7:1-7:5

Welch, *Modern European History*, 4.8

**Assignment: None**

**Week 6 (16-20 Feb.):**

Cultures of Dissent and Conformity:

16 Feb.: Post-War European Culture: Dissent, Subjectivity, and

Hedonism

18 Feb.: Return to Normalcy: Europe’s Rough Road to Recovery in

the 1920s

**Readings: None**

**Assignment: None**

**Week 7 (23–27 Feb.):**

Fascism and Communism: Politics at Europe’s Extremes:

23 Feb.: Fascism Rises: Italy (1922-1930) and Germany (1918-1923)

25 Feb.: The Soviet Union in the 1920s

**Readings:** Wilkinson and Hughes, *Contemporary Europe*, Chapter 5:1-5:3, 6:1-6:3, 9:1, 10:1

Welch, *Modern European History*, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6, 5.9, 5.11a, 5.11b, 6.1, 6.2, 7.1, 7.2

**Assignment:** Paper #1 due 25 February

**Week 8 (2-6 Mar.):**

Capitalism Fails:

2 Mar.: Collapse: Depression and Culture Wars of the 1930s

4 Mar.: **Mid-Term Exam**

**Readings: None**

**Assignment: None**

**Week 9 (9-13 Mar.):**

Polarization across Europe:

9 Mar.: Nazism and Fascism during the 1930s

11 Mar.: The Soviet Union and Communism: The Left Turn (1928-1934)

**Readings:** Wilkinson and Hughes, *Contemporary Europe*, Chapters 8:1-8:5, 9:2-9:4, 11:1-11:4

Welch, *Modern European History*, 6.3, 6.6, 6.10

**Assignment: None**

**Week 10 (16-20 Mar.):**

Spring Break:

16 Mar.: **No Class**

18 Mar.: **No Class**

**Readings: None**

**Assignment: None**

**Week 11 (23-27 Mar.):**

The World in Tumult:

23 Mar.: Empires in Tumult: Colonialism between the World Wars

25 Mar.: New Aggression in Europe: Italian and German Expansion

1935-1938

**Readings:** Wilkinson and Hughes, *Contemporary Europe*, Chapters 10:2-10:3

Welch, *Modern European History*, 7.3, 7.4, 7.6

**Assignment: None**

**Week 12 (30 Mar.-3 Apr.):**

World War II and the Holocaust:

30 Mar.: World War II: Origins, Germany’s Early Successes 1939-1942

1 Apr.: The Holocaust: War of Extermination

**Readings:** Wilkinson and Hughes, *Contemporary Europe*, 9:5, 12:1-12:5, 13:1-13:3

Welch, *Modern European History*, 2.7, 2.8, 6.9, 8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.5, 8.6, 8.8

Levi, *Survival in Auschwitz*, pp. 9-86

**Assignment: None**

**Week 13 (6-10 Apr.):**

Collaboration and Resistance:

6 Apr.: The New Order: Collaboration in Europe 1940-1944

8 Apr.: Resistance and Liberation

**Readings:** Wilkinson and Hughes, *Contemporary Europe*, Chapter 13:4-13:5

Welch, *Modern European History*, 6.7, 9.1, 9.2

Levi, *Survival in Auschwitz*, pp. 87-187

**Assignment:** **None**

**Week 14 (13-17 Apr.):**

Europe after the War:

13 Apr.: Europe in 1945: Empire, Economy, Politics, and Ideas

15 Apr.: Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union after the War

**Readings:** Wilkinson and Hughes, *Contemporary Europe*, Chapter 14:1-14:4, 15:1-15:6, 16:1, 17:1-17:2

Welch, *Modern European History*, 9.3, 9.4, 9.5, 9.6, 10.1, 10.2

**Assignment:** Paper #2 due 15 April

**Week 15 (20-24 Apr.):**

Western Europe Recovers and the Cold War:

20 Apr. Western European Recovery

22 Apr.: The Cold War Envelops Europe

**Readings: None**

**Assignment: None**

**Week 16 (27 Apr.):**

Europe in 1950:

27 Apr.: Europe in 1950

**Readings: None**

**Assignment: None**

**Final Exam Week (29 Apr.-5 May):**

**\*\*\*Wednesday 29 April 1:30 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.\*\*\***