

## **MIR 561-European Diplomatic History**

Spring 2017-MIR Program

Thursday, 6:30-9:30pm.

Room IB 301

Instructor: Sandrine Bertaux

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Office hours: Before and after class, and by appointment

Course description: This course introduces students to the history of Europe from the end of the old regime with the advent of the French revolution (1789) till the end of the Cold War with the fall of the Berlin Wall (1989) and the collapse of the communist bloc. Topics include the French and Bolshevik revolutions; Napoleon's empire and the rise of nationalism; the industrial revolution and the social question; the two world wars; fascist dictatorships and the Soviet Union; Europe's imperial expansion and decolonization; European integration and the end of the Cold War. The question of the relationship between citizenship, human rights, race, empire and the nation state will serve as a common thread to understand the making of modern and contemporary Europe.

Organization of the course: Weekly readings are composed of one or several primary sources that is, documents contemporary to the period, and of one or several secondary sources that is, historians' analysis of that period. In addition, I will give *before* each session a short timeline, a list of key concepts and of study questions; you will receive a summary of the lectures *after* each session. There is approximately 70 pages of weekly reading.

Requirements: students must have carefully read the texts assigned for the session as well as the timeline, key concepts and study questions *before* coming to class.

### Assignments:

- 1) One oral presentation
- 2) One in-class midterm exam
- 4) One in-class final exam.

### Grading policy:

Class participation: 10%

Oral presentation: 20%

Exam: (30+40) 70%

## **WEEK 1-(9 Feb.) Introduction to the course**

## **WEEK 2- (16 Feb.) The French Revolution: Citizenship, Nation, State and Human Rights**

### Primary sources:

Abbé Sieyès, *What is the Third Estate?* January 1789

National Assembly, *The Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen*, 26 August 1789

### Secondary sources:

William H. Sewell, "Ideologies and Social Revolutions: Reflections on the French Case," *The Journal of Modern History*, 57,1 (1985): 57-85.

**WEEK 3- (23 Feb.) The Haitian Revolution and Napoleon's Empire**Primary source:

Edmund Burke, *Reflections on the Revolution in France*, 1790

*The Constitution of Haiti*, 1805.

Secondary source:

Eric J. Hobsbawm, *The Age of Revolutions, 1789-1848* (New York, Vintage Books 1996): Chapter 4 "War" and Chapter 5 "Peace", 77-107.

Franklin W. Knight, "The Haitian Revolution," *American Historical Review*, 105,1 (2000): 103-115.

**WEEK 4- (2 March) Slavery, Citizenship and Human Rights**

Screening: *Racism: A History* (BBC Four Documentary, 2007): Part 1 and 2.

**WEEK 5-(9 March)- The Social and National Questions in Europe**Primary Sources:

Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, *The Communist Manifesto*, 1848

Ernest Renan, *What is a Nation?* 1882

Secondary sources:

Eric J. Hobsbawm, *The Age of Revolutions, 1789-1848* (New York, Vintage Books 1996): Chapter 6 "Revolutions" and Chapter 7 "Nationalism", 109-145.

**WEEK 6-(16 March)-European Imperialism and Nation-Building**Primary sources:

John Stuart Mill, *On Colonies and Colonization*, 1848

Jules Ferry, *Speech before the French Chamber of Deputies*, 28 March 1884

Secondary sources:

John Gallagher and Ronald Robinson "The Economic of Free Trade" *The Economic History Review* 6,1 (1953): 1-15.

Eric J. Hobsbawm, *The Age of Empire, 1875-1914* (New York, Vintage Books 1989): Chapter 3 "The Age of Empire", 56-83.

David Thomson, *Europe since Napoleon* (Penguin Books, 1970): Chapter 19 "The Eastern Question", 462-480.

**WEEK 7-(23 March) The First World War**Primary Sources:

Woodrow Wilson "The Fourteen Points", 1918

John Maynard Keynes, *The Economic Consequences of Peace*, 1920.

Secondary sources:

Tyler Stovall, "The Color Line behind the Lines: Racial Violence in France during the Great War," *American Historical Review*, 103, 3 (1998), 737-769.

Susan Pedersen, "The Meaning of the Mandate System: An Argument," *Geschichte und Gesellschaft*, 32,4 (2006): 560-582.

**WEEK 8-(30 March) Fascist Dictatorships****In Class Midterm: 45 minutes**Primary Sources:

Sandrine Bertaux, *Projecting the Nation. European States in the 1920s and 1930s* (Istanbul: Ottoman Bank Archives and Research Center, 2006).

Benito Mussolini "Fascism" *Italian Encyclopedia*, 1932

Law for the Protection of German Blood and German Honour (15 September 1935); Reich Citizenship Law (15 September 1935), First Regulation of the Reich Citizenship Law (14 November 1935).

Secondary sources:

Robert Paxton, "The Five Stages of Fascism," *The Journal of Modern History*

70,1 (1998): 1-23.

Ian Kershaw, "Hitler and the Uniqueness of Nazism," *The Journal of Contemporary History*, 39,2 (2004): 239-254.

### **WEEK 9-(6 April) The Soviet Union**

#### Primary Sources:

Sandrine Bertaux, *Projecting the Nation. European States in the 1920s and 1930s* (Istanbul: Ottoman Bank Archives and Research Center, 2006).

#### Secondary sources:

Sheila Fitzpatrick "Ascribing Class: The Construction of Social Identity in Soviet Russia", *The Journal of Modern History* 65,4 (1993): 745-770.

Terry Martin, "The Origins of Soviet Ethnic Cleansing," *The Journal of Modern History*, 70, 4 (1998): 813-861.

### **WEEK 10-(13 April) The Second World War**

#### Secondary sources:

Eric J. Hobsbawm, *The Age of Extremes. The Short Twentieth Century* (Abacus 1995), chapter 5 "Against the Common Enemy," 142-177.

Mark Mazower, *Dark Continent. Europe's Twentieth Century* (Penguin Books, 1998): Chapter 5 "Hitler's New Order, 1938-1945", 141-184.

Michael Marrus and Robert Paxton "The Nazis and the Jews in Western Europe" *The Journal of Modern History* 54,4 (1982): 687-714.

20 April –Spring Break: No Class

### **WEEK 11-(27 April)-Postwar Europe: The Cold War and European Integration**

#### Primary sources:

Winston Churchill, *The Iron Curtain Speech*, 5 March 1946.

Joseph Stalin, *Reply to Churchill*, 1946, 14 March 1946.

Rudolf Hess, *Testimony at the Nuremberg Trial*, 5 April 1946.

#### Secondary sources:

Mark Mazower, *Dark Continent. Europe's Twentieth Century* (Penguin Books, 1998): Chapter 8 "Building People's Democracy" and Chapter 9 "Democracy Transformed: Western Europe, 1950-1975," 253-331.

### **Week 12-(4 May)- Late Imperial Europe and Decolonization**

Aimé Césaire, *Discourse on Colonialism*, 1950.

Patrice Lumumba, *Speech at the Ceremony of Proclamation of the Independence of Congo*, 30 June 1960.

#### Secondary sources:

Peo Hansen and Stefan Jonsson, *Eurafrica. The Untold History of European Integration and Colonialism* (London: Bloomsbury, 2014)

Frederick Cooper, "Alternatives to Empire. France and Africa after World War II" in Douglas Howland and Luise White, Eds. *The State of Sovereignty. Territories, Laws, Population* (Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 2009), 94-123.

### **WEEK 13-(11 May)-The Collapse of Communism, the End of the Cold War and the Remaking of European Identity**

#### Secondary sources:

Mark Mazower, *Dark Continent. Europe's Twentieth Century* (Penguin Books, 1998), chapter 11 "Sharks and Dolphins: The Collapse of Communism" and "Epilogue: Making Europe," 367-410.

Robert Hayden, "Constitutional Nationalism in the Formerly Yugoslav Republics" *Slavic Review* 54,1 (1992): 654-673.