

Course Syllabus: Spring 2020: History of Europe: 1815-1919

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Course Objectives:

The objective of this course is to examine the unprecedented transformation of Europe in the “long century” of 1815-1914. The technological, economic, political, and imperialist impulses not only transformed Europe but the world. This course will cover the history of that era from the conclusion of the Napoleonic Wars and the Conference of Vienna in 1815 to the outbreak of the First World War (a subject not covered in this course but will be in the spring of 2019).

Course Requirements

There are several requirements for the successful completion of this course.

1. Regular and Punctual Attendance
2. Five exams worth 100 points—total 500 points
3. Three book reviews worth 100 points each-total 300 points

Total points==800

720-800 points=A

640-719 points =B

560-639 points=C

480-559 points=D

0-479 points===F

Course Readings

1. Tim Pat Coogan, *The Famine Plot: England's Role in Ireland's Greatest Tragedy*. St. Martin's Griffin Press, ISBN # 978-1-137-27883-8.

I chose this book for a couple of reasons, the first being the Irish famine was the last great famine of western European history and yet it is probably one of the most misunderstood events in modern history. It also served as one of the major migratory waves of immigrants to the United States and many Americans today share some Irish ancestry. Although the blight of the potato and the environmental sources of the famines are well-known, less understood is the role that British imperial policies and commitment to “free market” fundamentalism played in this historical tragedy. This book is an important contribution to rectifying the historical role that Great Britain's imperial policies played.

2. Gay Gullickson, *Unruly Women of Paris: Images of the Commune*, Cornell University Press, ISBN # 978-080143228

The French Commune uprising of 1871 and the bloody repression by the French Army marks a milestone in the history of nineteenth-century social and political uprisings. What role did women play and how was gender conceptualization used a weapon against the communards in justifying the mass repression against them? It was the search for these answers that I chose this book.

3. Adam Hochschild, *King Leopold's Ghost: A Story of Greed, Terror, and Heroism in Colonial Africa*. Houghton Mifflin, ISBN # 978-0618001905.

In the history of imperialism and colonialism, King Leopold of Belgium and the conquest of the Belgium Congo (today-the Democratic Republic of the Congo) is beyond anything our modern moral comprehension can fathom. It is one of the greatest tragedies in modern world history and underscores the sheer brutality, racism, and human greed in colonial empires and bares open the sheer hypocrisy of colonialism as a humane and "civilizing" force. It also begs to question the term "Europe's century of peace" as the peace may have applied to Europe itself but not to vast portions of humanity. Yet, it is also a testimony to the role of and activism of the twentieth-century's first global human rights campaign. It is for these reasons that I chose this book.

Course Outline

Jan. 14-Introduction to the Course-The Long 19th Century and the Age of Revolution
Jan. 16-Metternich's Europe and Balance of Power Nation-States, the Revolutions of 1848
Jan. 21- The Industrialization of Europe
Jan. 23- Socialist, Anarchist, and Marxist critiques of Capitalism
Jan. 28-England
Jan. 30-England
Feb. 04-England
Feb. 06-Ireland
Feb. 11- Exam # 1 (book review over "The Famine Plot due)
Feb. 13-France
Feb. 18-France
Feb. 20-Germany
Feb. 25-Germany
Feb. 27-Italy
Mar. 03-Exam # 2 (book review over Unruly Women of Paris
Mar. 05-The Austro-Hungarian Empire and Eastern Europe
Mar. 10-spring break, no class
Mar. 12-spring break no class
Mar. 17-Russia
Mar. 19-Russia
Mar. 24-Russia, the Trans-caucus and the Balkans
Mar. 26-Exam # 3
Mar. 31-Imperialism and India
Apr. 02-Imperialism and China
Apr. 03—last day to drop the course with a grade of "W"
Apr. 07-Imperialism and Africa
Apr. 09-Imperialism and the Middle East
Apr. 14-Exam # 4 (Book Review over King Leopold's Ghost due)
Apr. 16-World War I
Apr. 21-World War I
Apr. 23-the Bolshevik Revolution
Apr. 28-The aftermath of the Great War
May 04-Exam # 5—time to be announced

Marketable Skills for History Degree

SLO 1—The history student will demonstrate historical research skills in a logically organized, written paper that is mechanically correct and supported by relevant documentation of historical content.

Marketable skills---Students can identify useful resources from a pool of data.
Students can select and organize data in a relevant manner.
Students can make written presentations to various audiences.

SLO 2—The history student will demonstrate the ability to write about topics in historiography and how those topics are interpreted.

Marketable skills---Students can utilize data to persuade various audiences.
Students can utilize data to generate and strengthen ideas.
Students can decipher stances adopted by various individuals.

SLO 3—The history student will demonstrate knowledge of American History, World History, and Non-American History.

Marketable Skills---Students can meet deadlines in a successful manner.
Students can discharge responsibilities in an adequate manner.
Students can manage the absorption of data.

The Americans with Disabilities Act:

Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Mary Schwartz in Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson hall, Room 112. The mailing address is P.O. Box C-171, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Telephone 432-837-8203.

These competency variables will be assessed through multiple choice questions, essay questions short answers and assigned readings.