HIST 3369 is a survey of European history in the twentieth century. In this course, we will investigate an "age of extremes." Europeans who lived through this era experienced some of the most ambitious social experiments in human history, far-reaching global economic and political power, and two devastating world wars. The course takes a pan-European approach, highlighting cases from Central, Eastern, and Western Europe, and both large and small states.

COURSE GOALS

As an active participant in HIST 3369, by the end of the semester you will be familiar with the major historical developments in twentieth-century Europe, with a particular emphasis on:

- the relationship between history and geography
- political ideologies and their impact on everyday lives
- forced and voluntary migration
- state-sponsored violence and mass surveillance
- European and national identities

The course is also designed for students to practice analytical skills, including:

- primary and secondary source analysis
- how to construct and support a historical argument
- how to communicate clearly and effectively in class discussions
- how to successfully research and present historical questions
REQUIRED TEXTS

Christopher Brooks, *Western Civilization: A Concise History*, vol. 3 (this is an open-access textbook, available for no cost. You will be able to access and download it through Blackboard)

Available at the bookstore:


Additional materials will be posted to Blackboard.
**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

All requirements must be completed in order to pass the course.

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**PARTICIPATION 01**

This course is heavily based on discussion and students are expected to participate in every class session. Participation grades are based on (1) Blackboard discussion posts on the reading in advance of class (These are short activities, and you will be provided with a prompt each day). **You are allowed to skip 2 Blackboard discussion posts during the course of the semester** (2) Discussion in small groups and class-wide activities in class. You can find a detailed rubric for participation grades on Blackboard.

This means that students must attend class, do the course readings and activities at the time they are indicated on the syllabus, bring readings to class, and come prepared to discuss readings and lecture materials. I suggest taking notes while you do the readings – underline and mark important phrases in the document, look up any vocabulary words you’re unfamiliar with, and think about how the reading connects to previous readings and course content.

Note-taking is also considered part of participation (though I will not be personally evaluating your notes). Laptops are permitted, but only for class-related activities such as accessing readings and taking notes. I reserve the right ban them if I see electronic devices being used for other purposes.

Attendance: Students are expected to attend class regularly, arrive on time, and stay until class is dismissed. Students are permitted three absences total over the course of the term. Subsequent absences will result in a reduction of your participation grade. Please come see me if you have concerns over your class attendance.

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**PRIMARY SOURCE ESSAY 02**

There will be a short writing assignment (750-1000 words) asking you to analyze Béla Zombory Moldován’s *The Burning of the World*. A detailed assignment sheet will be distributed later in the semester. **Due date: September 13**
There will be a mid-term and final exam in this course. A study guide discussing format and content will be distributed in advance of the exams. If you miss the final exam, you will receive a grade of "0" for the exam. There will be no make-up dates for the final. **Exam dates: October 14 and December 13**

**Journal Article Essay**

Students will choose among the three journal articles assigned this semester (see readings listed for September 11, September 25, and October 28) and write a short analytical essay in response to the author’s argument. A detailed assignment sheet will be distributed later in the semester. **Due date: November 8**

**Final Project**

Students may choose to write a traditional research paper of 2500 words on a topic related to twentieth-century European history or craft an “unessay” out of their research project. The idea of the unessay comes from digital humanities scholars Daniel Paul O’Donnell and Michael Ullyot. It is designed to let students be creative, while still engaging in scholarly activity. An unessay can take a number of different forms, and it will be evaluated based on its creativity and persuasiveness. Examples of unessays include original song lyrics, collages, lesson plans, dramatic skits, timelines, and infographics. There will be a multi-part assignment with detailed instructions to follow. **Due date:** December 2
CORRESPONDENCE
I will occasionally send emails to your UTEP email accounts regarding class content, resources, and scheduling issues. Please check your UTEP account regularly. I do not regularly check email on the weekends, but otherwise I will respond to your email within 24 hours.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
All students are required to uphold UTEP’s policies on academic integrity and scholastic dishonesty. Any violations will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution.

CLASSROOM ACCOMMODATIONS
If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to cass@utep.edu, or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106.

LATE WORK POLICY
Deadlines in this course will be taken seriously and extensions will not be granted (except in cases of documented emergencies). Late work will be marked down a full letter grade the first day and one-third of a letter grade for every day thereafter.
READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS SCHEDULE

PART I: BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTIONS

August 26 Course Introductions

August 28 Pre-War Europe
  • Podcast: “How do you solve a problem like Fritz Haber (Bb)

September 2 NO CLASS – LABOR DAY

PART II: DECADES OF CRISIS

September 4 The Great War
  • Béla Zombory-Moldován, The Burning of the World: A Memoir of 1914 (available at UTEP bookstore)

September 9 The Bolshevik Revolution
  • Alexandra Kollontai, “Working Woman and Mother,” (Bb)
  • “Breakdown of Discipline at the Front (April 16, 1917),” (Bb)
  • “Condition of the Troops at the Front (October 13, 1917),” (Bb)

September 11 Social & Geopolitical Consequences of World War I
  • Mary Louise Roberts, "Samson and Delilah Revisited: The Politics of Women’s Fashion in 1920s France," The American Historical Review 98 (June 1993), 657-684. (Bb)

SEPTEMBER 13: PRIMARY SOURCE ESSAYS DUE, 11:59PM VIA BLACKBOARD

September 16 Artistic Revolutions
  • Modernist Art Manifestos. (Bb)

September 18 Stalinism
  • Joseph Stalin, “On the Grain Crisis” (Bb)
  • Joseph Stalin, “Liquidation of the Kulaks” (Bb)
  • “Collectivization Accelerated” (Bb)
  • Joseph Stalin, “Dizzy with Success” (Bb)

September 23 Conservatives & Fascists
  • Doris Bergen, War and Genocide, chapters 1-2 (available at UTEP bookstore)

September 25 Interwar Science & Sport
  • Shelley Baranowski, “A Family Vacation for Workers: The Strength through Joy Resort at Prora,” German History 25 (Winter 2007), 539-559. (Bb)

September 30 The Spanish Civil War
  Cary Nelson, ed., “Spanish Civil War Letters by American Volunteers,” (Bb)
October 2 1938 and the Transformation of Europe’s Geography
- Doris Bergen, War and Genocide, chapters 3-4 (available at UTEP bookstore)

October 7 War & Genocide pt. 1
- Doris Bergen, War and Genocide, chapters 5-6 (available at UTEP bookstore)

October 9 War & Genocide pt. 2
- Doris Bergen, War and Genocide, chapters 7-8 (available at UTEP bookstore)

October 14 Midterm Exam

PART III: POSTWAR REALITIES

October 16 Rebuilding Europe
- Podcast: “Savage Continent,” (Bb)

October 21 The Politics of Retribution
- Anonymous author, A Woman in Berlin, excerpts (Bb)

October 23 A Continent on the Move
- Jan Gross, Fear, excerpts (Bb)

October 28 “American” West and “Soviet” East

October 30 Decolonization
- Ho Chi Minh, “Declaration of Independence, Democratic Republic of Vietnam” (Bb)

November 4 Cold War Rivalries
- Kitchen Debate documents (Bb)

PART IV: DESTRUCTION OF THE STATUS QUO

November 6 Troubles in the West, Crisis in the East
- Svetlana Alexievich, Secondhand Time: The Last of the Soviets, chapters TBA (available at UTEP bookstore)

NOVEMBER 8: JOURNAL ARTICLE ESSAYS DUE, 11:59PM VIA BLACKBOARD
November 11 The Fall of State Socialism
- Svetlana Alexievich, Secondhand Time: The Last of the Soviets, chapters TBA (available at UTEP bookstore)

November 13 War and Dissolution in the East
- SANU Memorandum (Bb)

November 18 No Man’s Land
- Film Screening in Class

PART V: EUROPE IN THE 21ST CENTURY

November 20 European Integration
- Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union (Bb)

November 25 & 27 NO CLASS

December 2 Contemporary Issues in Europe
- Readings TBA

December 4 Conclusions

Final Exam: Friday, December 13, 1:00-3:45pm

The syllabus is subject to change. Check your email and Blackboard for syllabus-related announcements!

COURSE DUE DATES

SEPTEMBER 13: PRIMARY SOURCE ESSAY

OCTOBER 14: MIDTERM

NOVEMBER 8: JOURNAL ARTICLE ESSAY

DECEMBER 2: RESEARCH PROJECT

DECEMBER 13: FINAL EXAM