

# History 464

## Europe – 1914 to the Present

Tues & Thurs 8.30 – 9.45 AM

CBC C-224

Fall 2010

**Dr. Paul Werth**

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This detailed survey of 20th-century Europe seeks to identify the political, social, cultural, and economic sources of both Europe's relative, though geographically uneven, prosperity as well as its most intractable problems in the present day. We shall concentrate on the major theme of ethnic cleansing, genocide, and population movements in the 20th century.

The course requires direct, active, and fanatical engagement on the part of the instructor and students alike. Fanaticism is assessed primarily in terms of the degree and depth of participants' preparation for class and eagerness to raise questions and engage in discussion and debate. The instructor will periodically post a set of questions, propositions, theses, and or triads on the course's website. These may serve as the basis for discussion in subsequent sessions, so students should check in with the website frequently. Participation is crucial to the course, and the instructor's assessment of student engagement in the course will be of substantial significance in determining final grades. Absences will be highly detrimental to students' grades.

The vast majority of the readings are available for purchase at the library, and when possible these will also be placed on reserve at the library. A few readings have been uploaded to the webcampus site for this course in scanned form. This is done in order to ensure conformity with fair use provisions of copyright law. These should be downloaded by students and, preferably, printed for intense scrutiny. Past experience suggests that students often relate to such readings with scorn or indifference. Maintaining the standards of fanaticism for this course may thus require that nasty mechanisms be introduced to ensure that students relate to these readings with the seriousness that they deserve.

There are three major writing assignments for the course. The first is a fictitious primary account that students will be asked to generate on the basis of course material, limited consultation with outside sources, and their own fertile historical imaginations. The second and third exercises entail the writing a comparative review of two or more scholarly articles, to be located by the students using the library's resources. Fanaticism is required for the completion of all exercises. Details are available on the website. All papers are due at the beginning of class on the given date. Electronic submissions are considered on time if sent before the beginning of class. Any late paper will be downgraded 5 points per calendar day and must be accompanied by a one-page, single-spaced explanation for why it is late and why – given that you have this syllabus and have thus been apprised of all due dates well in advance – I should accept it. I vastly prefer submissions in electronic form, but be sure to note the requirements for all electronic submissions. Be sure also to consult the checklist on the web site, which establishes the basic requirements for all papers. Details on the assignments and all the requirements referred to here can be found on the web site.

The course also includes five geography quizzes. These are exciting opportunities for students to exhibit their fanaticism by scoring perfectly. In each case you will be asked to insert the names of different states, and in some cases cities and other geographical features, onto a blank map. Specific expectations may be found on the website. I will allow you to take each quiz a second time (provided that you were present to take it the first time) and will count the higher of the two grades as 1/2 (and the lower as 1/2) for the purposes of computing your grade. However, if you wish to take the quiz a second time, you must do so within one week of the day I return the quizzes to the group and on your own time (i.e. during my office hours). Experience shows that some students' grades have suffered substantially as a result of an insufficiently fanatical attitude in preparing for such quizzes. Thus good sense – and aspirations towards fanaticism – suggest that students should prepare for the quizzes diligently, responsibly, and – yes – fanatically.

The instructor recognizes that occasionally crises arise involving work, family, and health. Even the most devoted fanatic occasionally encounters problems! In order for me to make an accommodation with you in such a case, I *must* be informed in a timely manner of the problem, either by the affected student or someone on his/her behalf. **Communication is key!**

#### **GRADES:**

Fanatical participation:	10%
Geography quizzes:	15%
Primary source paper	10%
First article review	15%
Second article review	15%
Mid-term exam	15%
Final Exam:	20%

#### **Required Reading**

- Peter Fritzsche, Germans into Nazis (Harvard, 1998).
- Norman Naimark, Fires of Hatred: Ethnic Cleansing in 20th-Century Europe (Harvard, 2001).
- Robert Paxton, The Anatomy of Fascism (Vintage, 2005).
- Sheila Fitzpatrick, The Russian Revolution (Oxford, 2001).
- Heda Kovaly, Under a Cruel Star: A Life in Prague 1941-1968 (Holmes & Meier, 1997).
- Tony Judt, Postwar: A History of Europe Since 1945 (Penguin, 2006).
- Electronic readings available at the webcampus site for this course.

### **SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND READINGS**

- (1) August 24            INTRODUCTION: EXPLANATION OF THE FUN TO COME!
- (2) August 26            ON THE EVE OF THE GREAT WAR  
 Reading:    Peter Fritzsche, Germans into Nazis, pp. 3-28  
                  Samuel Williamson, "The July Crisis," in A Companion to International History, 1900-2001, ed. Gordon Martel (Blackwell, 2010), pp. 105-116 [**webcampus**]

- (3) August 31            EXPERIENCING (TOTAL) WAR  
 Reading:    Fritzsche, pp. 29-82  
               Norman Naimark, Fires of Hatred, pp. 17-42  
**GEOGRAPHY QUIZ #1**
- (4) September 2        WAR'S END – OR CONTINUATION?  
 Reading:    Fritzsche, pp. 85-136  
               Naimark, pp. 42-56
- (5) September 7        THE DOUBLE REVOLUTION IN RUSSIA  
 Reading:    Sheila Fitzpatrick, The Russian Revolution, pp. 1-67
- (6) September 9        POST-WAR SETTLEMENTS – AND THEIR LIMITS  
 Reading:    Woodrow Wilson's Fourteen Points [**webcampus**]  
               Sally Marks, The Ebbing of European Ascendancy: An International  
 History of the World, 1914-1945 (Arnold, 2002), pp. 81-119  
               [**webcampus**]  
**GEOGRAPHY QUIZ #2**
- (7) September 14        REVOLUTIONARY RUSSIA: CIVIL WAR & STABILIZATION  
 Reading:    Fitzpatrick, pp. 68-119
- (8) September 16        (PRECARIOUS) STABILIZATION IN THE WEST  
 Reading:    Robert Paxton, Anatomy of Fascism, pp. 3-23
- (9) September 21        ITALY'S FASCIST ALTERNATIVE  
 Reading:    Paxton, pp. 24-86  
               Benito Mussolini, "Doctrine of Fascism" [**webcampus**]
- (10) September 23      EUROPE IN THE DEPRESSION  
 Reading:    Mark Mazower, "The Crisis of Capitalism," in Mazower, Dark  
 Continent: Europe's Twentieth Century (Vintage, 2000), pp.  
 104-137 [**webcampus**]  
**SELF-GENERATED PRIMARY SOURCE DUE**
- (11) September 28      STALINISM & THE FATE OF THE REVOLUTION  
 Reading:    Fitzpatrick, pp. 122-172
- (12) September 30      THE AGONY OF WEIMAR AND THE NAZIS' RISE TO POWER  
 Reading:    Fritzsche, pp. 139-214  
               Paxton, pp. 87-118

- (13) October 5      **FASCISTS IN POWER**  
 Reading:    Fritzsche, 215-235  
               Paxton, pp. 119-147
- (14) October 7      **THE FAILURE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORDER**  
 Reading:    Paxton, pp. 148-171, 206-220  
               P. M. H. Bell, “The Challenge in Europe, 1935-1941,” in A Companion (cited above), pp. 233-242 [**webcampus**]
- NO CLASS OCTOBER 12: INSTRUCTOR MUST TRAVEL**
- (15) October 14      **MID-TERM EXAMINATION**
- (16) October 19      **WORLD WAR & RACIAL WAR**  
 Reading:    Naimark, pp. 57-84  
               Tony Judt, Postwar, 1-40  
               Begin Heda Kovaly, Under a Cruel Star [finish by October 28]
- (17) October 21      **POST-WAR RETRIBUTIONS**  
 Reading:    Naimark, pp. 85-138  
               Judt, pp. 41-62  
               Continue with Kovaly
- (18) October 26      **POST-WAR SETTLEMENTS**  
 Reading:    Judt, pp. 63-128  
               Continue with Kovaly  
               **GEOGRAPHY QUIZ #3**
- (19) October 28      **COMMUNISM & RECONSTRUCTION IN EASTERN EUROPE**  
 Reading:    Judt, pp. 129-164, 226-237 (optional: 165-225)  
               Finish Kovaly
- (20) November 2      **STABILITY & AFFLUENCE**  
 Reading:    Judt, pp. 241-277, 324-353 (optional: 354-359)  
               **FIRST ARTICLE REVIEW DUE**
- (21) November 4      **DECOLONIZATION**  
 Reading:    Judt, pp. 278-323, 360-389  
               **GEOGRAPHY QUIZ #4**

- (22) November 9 THE 1960S IN EAST & WEST  
Reading: Judt, pp. 390-449

**NO CLASS 11 NOVEMBER – VETERANS’ DAY**

- (23) November 16 OF STAGFLATION & RIGHTWARD TURNS  
Reading: Judt, pp. 453-483, 526-558 (optional: 484-526)

- (24) November 18 THE COLLAPSE OF COMMUNISM  
Reading: Judt, pp. 585-664, 685-700 (optional: 559-584)

**NO CLASS 25 NOVEMBER – THANKSGIVING**

- (25) November 23 THE YUGOSLAV DISASTER  
Reading: Judt, pp. 665-685  
Naimark, pp. 139-184

- (26) November 30 ONE EUROPE OR SEVERAL?  
Reading: Judt, pp. 701-776  
**GEOGRAPHY QUIZ #5**

- (27) December 2 A PITIFUL ATTEMPT AT SUMMARY  
Optional: Judt, pp. 777-831  
**SECOND ARTICLE REVIEW DUE**  
Review may be turned in *on time* as late as Saturday, 4 December, at 11.59 PM

**FINAL EXAM: Thursday 9 December 2010, 8.00 – 10.00 AM**

*Note: Those arriving late may be denied an exam*