

Spring 2013

HIEU 128: Europe Since 1945

Room: Center 113

Time: Monday/Wednesday 5:00 – 6:20

Instructor: Ryan Zroka

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Office: HSS 2302

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday, 3:45 – 4:45

Course Website: <http://zrokaHIEU128.wordpress.com/>

Course Summary

In the immediate aftermath of the Second World War, it seemed certain that Europe would be permanently relegated to a secondary role in world affairs. The fighting had left the continent economically devastated, and politically dominated by non-European powers – The United States and the Soviet Union. More than half a century later, however, the place of Europe in the world looks very different. The influence of the old superpowers has waned, and Europe has re-emerged as a center of economic power, technological innovation, and cultural production. As the pace of globalization increases, moreover, events in Europe are increasingly relevant to the United States and other parts of the world – as the global recession and the “euro crisis” have made clear.

The aim of this course is to gain a greater understanding of this pivotal region, by carefully examining the events which have shaped it. Particular emphasis will be laid on social and cultural developments. We will examine large, pan-European phenomenon, and also pay attention to regional particularities. We will consider of the decisions of powerful politicians, while also trying to illuminate the experiences of the ordinary man.

Assigned Texts and Readings

There are three assigned texts for the course, which are available at the UCSD bookstore:

Postwar, by Tony Judt

Under a Cruel Star: a Life in Prague, 1941-1968, by Heda Margolius Kovály

Village in the Vacluse, by Laurence Wylie

In an effort to reduce textbook costs, all the other readings are available in electronic format, either as an e-reserve through library, or through another website, as noted on the syllabus. Articles on e-reserve can be accessed at <http://reserves.ucsd.edu>. The password is **r2128**.

To view most of the online readings from your home computer, you will need to have set up a UCSD web proxy server. If you need instructions on how to do this, see libraries.ucsd.edu/proxy (Setting this up is actually a snap, it takes only a minute or two). For those unfamiliar with library reserves or online materials, the website contains full instructions on how to access them.

Course Requirements

There will be a midterm examination and a final examination. The midterm examination will be in-class, and will administered on May 8th. The final examination will be take-home. It will be due by noon, on Friday on finals week (June 15th). Both examinations will consist of some combination of essay questions. I will provide further information as to the contents and format as the exam dates approach. The midterm will be worth 40% of the course grade. The final will be worth 60%.

As the material permits, we will have discussions in lecture. Regular and insightful participation in class discussions will be factored in to your course grade.

Schedule of Lectures and Assignments

Week 1

Monday, April 1: Aftermath of the War

Readings:

“The Legacy of War,” in *Postwar*

Wednesday, Lecture 2: Remembering, Forgetting, Punishing

Readings:

Sarah Farmar, “Postwar Justice in France: Bordeaux 1953”

(e-book, at <http://quod.lib.umich.edu/cgi/t/text/text-idx?c=acls;idno=hebo4986>)

Begin the book, *Under a Cruel Star* (complete by the end of Week 5)

Week 2

Monday, April 8: Onset of the Cold War

Readings:

Geir Lundestad, "Empire by Invitation? The United States and Western Europe, 1945-1952" (online, available through <http://jpr.sagepub.com/>)

Optional: "The Coming of the Cold War," in *Postwar*

Wednesday, April 10: Decolonization

Readings:

Optional: "Lost Illusions," in *Postwar*

Week 3

Monday, April 15: Reconstruction of Western Europe

Readings:

"Democracy Transformed," by Mark Mazower (e-reserve)

Begin the book, *Village in the Vaucluse* (you may omit the sections "Adult Recreations and Pleasures," and "Growing Old in Peyrane"; complete the book by week 9)

Wednesday, April 17: Life in the Age of Affluence

Readings:

"Changes in Consumption as Social Practice," by Michael Wildt (e-reserve)

Week 4

Monday, April 22: Soviet Rule in Eastern Europe

Readings:

"Into the Whirlwind," in *Postwar*

Wednesday, April 24: Life in the Eastern Bloc

Readings:

Selections from *Anatomy of a Dictatorship*, by Mary Fulbrook (e-reserve)

Week 5

Monday, April 29: Youth Culture and Americanization

Readings:

“American Mass Culture and European Youth Culture,” by Arthur Marwick (e-reserve)

Wednesday, May 1: 1968 and the New Left

Readings:

“European Insurrection” pt. I and II, by David Caute (e-reserve)

Week 6

Monday, May 6: Cultural and Political Currents

Readings:

Selections from *Sexuality in Europe*, by Dagmar Herzog (e-reserve)
“Politics in a New Key,” in *Postwar*

Wednesday, May 8: Midterm

Week 7

Monday, May 13: End of Affluence

Readings:

“Diminished Expectations,” in *Postwar*

Wednesday, May 15: The European Periphery: Transitions in Southern Europe

Readings: None

Week 8

Monday, May 20: ‘Developed Socialism,’ The Eastern Bloc in the 70s and 80s

Readings:

“Soviet Society under ‘Developed Socialism,’” by Geoffrey Hosking (e-reserve)

Wednesday, May 22: The Collapse of Communism

Readings:

“Berlin: Wall’s End,” by Timothy Garton Ash (e-reserve)

Week 9

Monday, May 27: Holiday, No Class

Wednesday, May 29: The Fragmentation of Eastern Europe

Readings:

“National Communism: Serbia and the Bosnian War,” by Eric Weitz (e-reserve)

Week 10

Monday, June 3: Integration and its Discontents

Readings:

Selections from *The Last Days of Europe*, by Walter Laqueur (e-reserve)

Wednesday, June 5: Challenges Ahead: Globalization and Debt

Readings:

“Europe as a Way of Life” in *Postwar*

Finals Week

Friday, June 14th: Final Exam Due to my Office by Noon.