European Democracy, Industry, and Empire, 1789-1914

This class will cover European history from the French Revolution in 1789 to the beginning of the first World War in 1914. We will focus on three themes. First, the assertion of various ideas of rights and citizenship and struggles throughout Europe to create political regimes that incorporated those rights. Second, the transformation of much of Europe from a largely agricultural and rural economy and society into an urban, industrial economy and society organized primarily, but not exclusively, on capitalist practices. Third, the extension of European economic and political power over much of North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, and Asia through the new empires of the late 19th century. Political regimes based on individual rights and broad participation thus confronted differences based on class and gender in Europe itself as well as those of race in the colonies. The class therefore will consistently consider the ways in which these confrontations challenged and shaped the meaning of those rights.

Learning Outcomes:

Students who successfully complete this course should learn the following:

Content:

• The narrative of European history between 1789 and 1914, including domestic political, economic, social and cultural developments, and the relationships between the European powers and their trading partners and colonial empires in Asia and Africa.

Skills:

• An understanding of the importance of the dimension of time in human experience;
• The ability to structure an argument based upon historical evidence;
• The ability to understand both national/regional and thematic approaches to the past.

Course Requirements:

The following readings are required for this class:

Textbook: Robin Winks and Joan Neuberger, *Europe and the Making of Modernity, 1815-1914* (Oxford University Press). I have indicated below the chapters relevant to each week’s topics.

Required readings:
Joseph Conrad, *Lord Jim*

Other required readings are available on Canvas.
Grading:
Your final grade will be based on the following components:
1. First exam (week of September 24) 25%
2. Second exam (week of November 5) 25%
3. Third exam (given during exam week) 25%
4. Analysis exercises: there are five exercises that are due in the course of the semester and that are intended to develop skills necessary for the study of history, and especially to prepare you to write the paper on *Lord Jim* (see below). Each of these exercises is worth two points each; they are not graded, but you received two points if you turn the exercise in on time.
5. Paper: A short (7-8 pages double-spaced 12-point type, which is approximately 250 words per page) paper discussing in detail Joseph Conrad’s *Lord Jim*. The paper should analyze the approach of the book to its topic, and place it in the larger context of the principle themes of 19th century European history. The paper is due on Friday, **November 30** (15%). Late papers will be reduced in grade by one full grade (i.e., A to B) for each day (including the weekend) they are late.

Course Outline:

Week 1 Lecture 1: Europe on the Eve of the French Revolution: Absolutism
Week 1 Lecture 2: Europe on the Eve of the French Revolution: England and the European Empires
Week 2 Lecture 1: A Language of Rights
Week 2 Lecture 2: The Origins of the French Revolution

**Analysis Assignment: Summarizing**

Week 3 Lecture 1: The Course of the French Revolution
Week 3 Lecture 2: Thermidor and the Napoleonic Empire
Week 4 Lecture 1: Legacies of the Revolutionary Era: The International Settlement
Week 4 Lecture 2: Responses to the Revolutionary Era

**Analysis Assignment: Analysis**

Week 5 Lecture 1: Developments in Agriculture and Industry During the 18th and 19th Centuries
Week 5 Lecture 2: The Industrial Revolution
Week 6 Lecture 1: Anti-Slavery and Parliamentary Reform in Great Britain
Week 6 Lecture 2: Further Reforms in Early 19th Century Great Britain

**Week 6: First Quiz**

Week 7 Lecture 1: Repression and Reform on the Continent 1815-1848
Week 7 Lecture 2: The Revolutions of 1848

Analysis Assignment: Interpretation

Week 8: Fall Break

Week 9 Lecture 1: The Unification of Italy

Week 9 Lecture 2: The Unification of Germany

Week 10 Lecture 1: The Rise of a Class Society

Week 10 Lecture 2: Urbanization and Urban Life

Analysis Assignment: Argument

Week 11 Lecture 1: Images of the 19th Century: Neo-Classicism and Romanticism

Week 11 Lecture 2: Images of Imperial Conquest

Week 11: Second Quiz

Week 12 Lecture 1: Democratization in Great Britain and France

Week 12 Lecture 2: Second Thoughts About Democracy in Imperial Germany

Week 13 Lecture 1: Imperial Europe in North Africa

Week 13 Lecture 2: Imperial Europe in Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa

Analysis Assignment: Counter-Argument

Week 14: Images of the 19th Century: Realism, Impressionism, and the Beginnings of Modern Art

Week 15 Lecture 1: Imperial Europe and The Culture of Imperialism

Week 15 Lecture 2: Scientific Racism and European Decadence

Lord Jim paper due

Week 16 Lecture 1: The Road to War: Diplomacy 1870-1890

Week 16 Lecture 2: International Crises and the Outbreak of the Great War

Exam Week: Third Quiz

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations.