

# History 240B (A01)

**Subject to change**

*Europe: Napoleon to the European Union*

**January-April 2016**

**Mondays and Thursdays, 1:00-2:20pm**

**CRN: 21903**



**Instructor:** Dr. K. Semmens

**Office hours:** Mondays and Thursdays, 10:00am-11:00am, or by appointment

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## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

In History 240B, we will investigate the history of Europe from the rise of Napoleon in 1800 to its changing face in the present day. The course links political, social, cultural and economic developments within the leading states of continental Europe to key concepts like imperialism, industrialization, causes of war and peace, new ideologies, and mass politics. The “big” historical events and well-known figures of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries will naturally be covered (eg. the origins of the First World War), but lesser known stories (eg. the origins of mass tourism) will also be explored.

## **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Students who successfully complete requirements for History 240B will be able to:

- describe and compare the issues faced by many continental European countries between 1800 and the present
- identify key turning points in 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century European history, and describe the relationship between those turning points and various political, social, cultural and economic consequences in individual countries
- distinguish broadly shared trends (eg. rise of fascism) in Europe
- identify, describe, and evaluate distinct scholarly approaches to historical questions about this period
- read original evidence, scholarly arguments, and relevant popular depictions closely and critically
- complete an independent research essay, exploring and synthesising a range of sources, weighing their relative merits and limitations, and crafting a coherent and convincing final argument
- explain and evaluate themes, concepts, and approaches relevant to the cultural history of Europe in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries

We will practice these skills regularly in reading for discussions, debating and discussing assigned readings and ideas, writing formal examinations and/or article analyses, and researching and writing research essays.

## **REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS**

McKay et. al., *A History of Western Society, Volume C - From the Revolutionary Era to the Present*. 11<sup>th</sup> edition. (2014)

\*Please note: It is essential that you purchase the volume, edition and accompanying LaunchPad access code on sale at the UVic Bookstore. To access online material, see the instructions provided with the textbook and input your personal student access code.

## **EVALUATION**

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1. Article Analysis – <b>or</b> – Midterm Examination | 20% |
| 2. Research Essay                                     | 40% |
| 3. Final Examination                                  | 30% |
| 4. Discussion Group Participation Mark                | 10% |

**NOTE: Students must complete Assignments 1, 2 and 3 to pass the course.**

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

\* Please note: no written assignments will be accepted by e-mail!

*Midterm Exam:*

This 75 minute exam on Monday, 22 February 2016, at 1:00pm will evaluate mastery of the lectures and all the readings to date, including discussion group readings. It will be comprised of short answer questions and a longer essay.

\*NB: Students who submitted an article analysis do not need to attend today.

**Assignment 2**

**Assignment 3 (30%):** Final Examination (April 2016)

This two-hour exam will evaluate mastery of lecture material, seminar discussions and readings from both the McKay textbook and online sources. Format will be a mix of short answer identification questions and longer essays. Students are required to wait until the final examination timetable is posted before making travel or work plans.

**Assignment 4:** Discussion Groups (10%)

The class will be divided into two to four groups (dependent on final class size) that will each meet four times to discuss readings and primary sources from the

## **COURSE SCHEDULE AND READINGS**

- January 4      Course Introduction and Background  
                  McKay, 619-630
- January 7      The Rise and Fall of Napoleon  
                  McKay, 630-631, 634-640
- January 11     The Revolutions of 1848  
                  McKay, 684-685, 690-699, 706-713  
                  Suggested: McKay, 648-679
- January 14     The French and Russian Empires in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century  
                  McKay, 705-706, 752-756, 764-765
- January 18     Unifying Italy and Germany  
                  McKay, 756-762
- January 21     **WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS WORKSHOP**
- January 25    1<sup>st</sup> Discussion Group – The Modern City**  
                  McKay, 719, 722, 727

February 8 and 11    **NO CLASSES (READING BREAK)**

**February 15 2**

- March 17      World War II  
McKay, 916-923, 927-931
- March 21      The Holocaust and Other Nazi Crimes  
McKay, 776-781, 923-927
- March 24      The Cold War and the Fall of the USSR  
McKay, 934-942, 948-956, 972-74, 981-983, 997-1003
- March 28      **NO CLASS (EASTER MONDAY)**
- March 31      European Cooperation/ Final Exam Overview  
McKay, 944-947, 1016-1020, 1024-1029

**April 4      4<sup>th</sup> Discussion Group: Globalization**

McKay: 1018-1019, 1027; Online Document Assignment 30, “Contesting Globalization” via Launchpad

**NOTE – THE QUESTIONS AND QUIZ ARE FOR PREPARATION ONLY  
AND DO NOT NEED TO BE SUBMITTED**

*\*Specific times and locations for each group to be determined\**



