

**History 101-02**  
**Basic Issues in European History, 1650 to the Present**  
MWF 10-10:50  
Noyce Science room 1515

**Professor Diana Shull**

Mears Cottage 214

Office Hours: Mondays and Thursdays, 12:30-2; Wednesdays, 11-12

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x3304

Course Webpage: <https://pioneerweb.grinnell.edu>

(Log in and click on “F07 European Hist: 1650-Present SEC02”)

**Course Overview:**

This course is an introduction to European history that centers on key patterns and events from seventeenth-century absolutist monarchies to the end of the Cold War in the early 1990s. The course explores European history by focusing on three important themes:

(1) Social and economic change over time

Some of the most rapid and drastic social and economic changes in European history, including industrialization and further urbanization, occurred during this time period. This course explores the similarities and differences between pre-industrial, industrial, and post-industrial societies, especially in the areas of living conditions, gender relations, and power hierarchies.

(2) Major turning points in political and cultural history

The course focuses particularly on the causes and effects of the French Revolution, the further consolidation and expansion of European empires, the First World War, the Russian Revolutions, the National Socialist dictatorship, and the collapse of Communist rule in Eastern Europe.

(3) Evolution of political ideologies

This course traces the origins and developments of the ideologies of liberalism, conservatism, nationalism, socialism, and feminism. It connects the evolution of these ideologies with changes in economies and societies throughout early-modern and modern European history.

**Course Methodology:**

This course seeks to introduce you to the ways historians investigate the past by engaging you in close reading, in-depth analysis, and discussion of a series of primary sources. It also lays the foundations for the explorations of other facets of European and global histories in mid- and upper-level courses. The course textbook provides you with historical narratives that establish the context for the events and developments depicted in the primary sources.

## **Course Requirements and Policies:**

**Class Discussion:** You **must** read the assigned primary sources and textbook passages before coming to class and participate actively in class discussions. Your participation grade is primarily based on your willingness to engage in class discussion in a constructive and consistent manner.

**Attendance:** You cannot participate in class discussion if you do not attend class! Class meetings are mandatory. You may miss two meetings for any reason (I do not need to know the reason). Any further failure to attend will have a negative impact on your participation grade unless this absence occurs due to a medical condition or a family emergency.

**Extensions and Late Assignments:** If you turn in an assignment late, your grade will drop by a third of a letter grade (for example from a 'B' to a 'B-') for every 24-hour period for which it is late. You must submit both a hard and electronic copy of your late work.

**Accommodations:** If you have specific physical, psychiatric or learning disabilities and require accommodations, please let me know early in the semester so that your learning needs may be appropriately met. You will need to provide documentation of your disability to the Dean for Student Academic Support and Advising, Joyce Stern, located on the third floor of the JRC (x3702).

## **Required Readings:**

\* Grinnell College Department of History, *Documents to Illustrate Basic Issues in European History Since 1650*. (Photocopied course packet)

\* Mark A. Kishlansky, "How to Read a Document," in Kishlansky, ed., *Sources of the West* (New York: Longman, 2001), xiii-xxii. (Course webpage)

You must purchase the following (available at the Grinnell College bookstore):

\* Thomas Noble, Barry Straus, et al., *Western Civilization: The Continuing Experiment*, Volume II: Since 1560, 4th Edition (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2005). Abbreviated as WC in the course schedule.

\* Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, *The Communist Manifesto* (New York: Signet, 1998).

\* William Sheridan Allen, *The Nazi Seizure of Power: The Experience of a Single German Town, 1922-1945*, Revised Edition (New York: Franklin Watts, 1984).

## **Assignments and Grading:**

I will hand out more information about these assignments in class (and post them on the course webpage) periodically throughout the semester (within one week of the due date).

\* Class Participation (25%)

\*Map Quiz (5%): 10 September (Monday)

\*3 Short Papers (30% total, 10% each):

21 September (Friday), 2 November (Friday), 30 November (Friday)

You will write three analytical papers that examine specific historical sources. You will receive the assignment a week prior to the due date. In response to a question, you should develop an argument and thesis that is based on a close reading of the source(s). The papers will vary in length from 3 to 5 pages. Papers are due at the beginning of class. I will post a style manual with more hints on how to compose these papers on the course webpage. Please also consider consulting the writing lab.

\*Mid-semester Exam (20%): 12 October (Friday) in class

\* Take-Home Final Exam (20%): **Due 21 December (Friday), by 5 PM, in my office.** You will receive the exam questions and format in the last week of class. You may submit the finished exam earlier if you wish.

## **Reading Schedule:**

### **Introduction:**

#### Week 1:

Friday, 31 August

**\*\*\*\*\*Saturday, 1 August, 3pm, ARH 102\*\*\*\*\***

**Screening of *The Return of Martin Guerre***

**This film will be on reserve in the AV Center (ARH 210) throughout the weekend.**

### **The Old Order in Europe:**

#### Week 2:

Monday, 3 September

Please try to already have seen *The Return of Martin Guerre* by class on Monday.

Read: Kishlansky, "How to Read a Document"; Documents 1:AB; WC, 500-504

Wednesday, 5 September

Early Modern Europe

Read: Documents 1:CDE; WC, 513-530

Friday, 7 September

NO CLASS

#### Week 3:

Monday, 10 September (**MAP QUIZ** in class)

Louis XIV and the Ancien Regime

Read: Documents, 1:FGH; WC, 539-548, 553-559

**Scientific and Cultural Challenges to the Old Order:**

Wednesday, 12 September

Empiricism and the Scientific Revolution

Read: Documents 2:ABC; WC, 548-553, 573-599

Friday, 14 September

The Enlightenment: Montesquieu and Voltaire

Read: Document 2:DE; WC, 603-617

Week 4:

Monday, 17 September

Enlightenment: Rousseau and Condorcet

Read: Documents 2:FG; WC, 617-624

**The French Revolution:**

Wednesday, 19 September

Read: Documents 3:ABC; WC, 643-653

Friday, 21 September (1<sup>ST</sup> PAPER DUE in class)

Read: Documents 3:DEFG; WC, 653-661

Week 5:

Monday, 24 September

Read: Documents 3:HIJ; WC, 661-673

**The Nineteenth Century:**

Wednesday, 26 September

Romanticism and Nationalism

Read: Documents 4:ABC; WC 711-715

Friday, 28 September

The Metternichean Age

Read: Documents 4:DEFG; WC, 708-711

Week 6:

Monday, 1 October

Liberalism

Read: Documents 5: ABC; WC, 677-690, 715-717

Wednesday, 3 October

Industrial Revolution

Read: Documents 5:DEF; WC, 690-703

Friday, 5 October

Marxism

Read: Marx and Engels, *The Communist Manifesto*, pp. 49-91; WC, 717-722

Week 7:

Monday, 8 October

1848

Read: 5:GH and 6:EF; WC, 732-737

Wednesday, 10 October

Italian and German Unification

Read: Documents 6:ABCDGHIJ; WC, 742-761

Friday, 12 October

**Mid-Semester Exam in class**

Week 8:

Monday, 15 October

Industrialization

Read: Documents 7:ABC; WC, 765-771, 777-782

Wednesday, 17 October

Nineteenth-Century Social Change

Read: Documents 7:DEF; WC, 782-805

Friday, 19 October

Images of Race and Class in Late Nineteenth-Century Europe

Fall Break:

20-28 October

**Fin de siècle:**

Week 9:

Monday, 29 October

Socialism and Unionization

Read: Documents 8:ABCDEF

Wednesday, 31 October

Feminism

Read: Documents 9:BCDEFG; WC, 821-832

Friday, 2 November (2<sup>ND</sup> **PAPER DUE** in class)

Colonization

Read: Documents 10:ABCDF; WC, 810-821

## **The Great War and the Russian Revolutions**

### Week 10:

Monday, 5 November

Outbreak of the Great War

Read: Documents 8:H and 10: EGH; WC, 832-839

Wednesday, 7 November

The Great War

Read: WC, 843-856

Friday, 9 November

The Rise of the Bolsheviks

Read: Documents 11:ABC; WC, 857-861

### Week 11:

Monday, 12 November

Russian Revolution

Read: Documents 11:DEFGHI; WC, 861-865

Wednesday, 14 November

Interwar Europe

Read: Documents 12:ABCE; WC, 865-875, 881-884, 895-900, 903-911

Friday, 16 November

The Rise of Authoritarianism

Read: Documents 12:FGH; WC, 886-895, 913-925

## **Nazism**

### Week 12:

Monday, 19 November

The Collapse of Weimar

Read: Allen, chapters 1-6

WC, 900-903, 925-927; Document 12:D

Wednesday, 21 November

The Rise of Nazism

Read: Allen, chapters 7-11

Friday, 23 November

NO CLASS, Thanksgiving Break

### Week 13:

Monday, 26 November

Life in the Third Reich

Read: Allen, chapters 13-16

Wednesday, 28 November

Triumph of the Will

Read: Allen, chapters 17-20; WC, 927-932, 938-945

Friday, 30 November (3<sup>RD</sup> PAPER DUE in class)

Genocide and Restitution

Read: Document 12:I; WC, 949-973, 982-983

## **Postwar Europe**

### Week 14:

Monday, 3 December

The Cold War

Read: Documents 14:ABC; WC, 973-978, 985-990, 999-1005

Wednesday, 5 December

The Emergence of the Welfare State

Read: Documents 13: DEFGHI; WC, 990-998

Friday, 7 December

Decolonization

Read: Documents 13: ABC; WC, 978-981, 1005-1010

### Week 15:

Monday, 10 December

Resistance in Eastern Europe

Read: Documents 14:CEF; WC, 1011-1017

Wednesday, 12 December

The Collapse of Communism

Read: Documents 14: DGH; WC, 1017-1019, 1025-1031

Friday, 14 December

Conclusion and Review

Read: WC, 1031-1042, 1047-1051, 1057-1066

**Take-Home Final Exam Due 21 December (Friday), by 5 PM, in my office.**