

## HISTORY 101

Professor George Drake  
M.W.F. 10:00-10:50

Spring Semester, 2008-2009  
ARH 318; Office: Mears 317

### Basic Issue in European History

This course provides an introduction to the study of history, using themes from Modern European history. While following a narrative thread provided by occasional lectures and a survey textbook, the substance of the course is contained in a collection of documents assembled by the Grinnell College history faculty. You should read them with care and a critical mind. With effort and experience, you will have the fascination and joy of “doing history”. You will engage with the complexity and ambiguity of human thought and behavior.

Your understanding of the documents depends on concentrated and critical reading as well as your openness to differing and even unusual perspectives. Much will depend on the questions **you** ask of the material. Questions form the basis for historical understanding and they should be asked before, during and after examining the sources. “Are statements supported by evidence?” “Who created the document and why?” “When was it created; soon after or long after the event(s) reported?” Does the writer seem objective or obviously biased?” “What do I know about the period that helps me to judge the document?” “Do the documents support generalizations in the textbook?” These and similar questions provide the opportunity to understand and enjoy history. If you question the sources, class discussions will be lively and informative. Because much class time will be devoted to discussion, **you** bear considerable responsibility for the success of the course. On one occasion, you will lead class discussion along with a small group of classmates.

The more concrete, the more meaningful the historical event. This is one of the reasons why maps are essential and you are expected to refer regularly to the maps in your textbook.

### ASSIGNED READING:

Noble, et al., **Western Civilization: The Continuing Experience; Vol. II**, 2008.  
Grinnell College History Department, **Documents to Illustrate Basic Issues in European History Since 1650**, 2006.  
William S. Allen, **The Nazi Seizure of Power**, 1984.  
Karl Marx and Frederick Engels, **The Communist Manifesto**, 1848

## **ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING:**

1. **The written assignments are designed to accomplish the following:**
  - a. Focus your understanding of the past.
  - b. Provide experience in using documents to unlock historical events and support your analysis of these events.
  - c. Develop your expository writing skills.
  - d. Prepare you for class discussion.
  
2. **Written Assignments:**
  - a. **Examinations:**
    1. Mid-term (Monday, March 2) 15%
    2. Final (Final Examination Week, Wed. May 13, 9:00 a.m.) 25%40%
  
  - b. **Papers:**
    1. First essay, due on Friday, February 6 20%
    2. Second essay, due on Friday, April 17 20%
    3. Two Question/Observation pages, due Jan. 30 and March 13 10%50%
  
  - c. **Class Discussion:** Your attendance and participation is expected 10%  
100%
  
3. **Explanation of Papers:**

The essays should be relatively short (around 5 pages), offering your interpretation of an historical problem. Your sources will be the assigned course reading, particularly the documents. Following submission, you will participate in a tutorial where you will discuss your essay with a small group of students. Each in the group will have read the essays of the other students in your tutorial.

  - a. **First Essay and Tutorial:** Due on Friday, February 6, with your choice of topic to be submitted Friday, January 30. The tutorials will occur during the week of February 19-23. You will select one of these topics:
    1. Consider the political philosophies of Hobbes, Locke, Montesquieu and Rousseau. In what ways do they support each other? In what ways do they differ?
    2. What caused the French Revolution?
  
  - b. **Second Essay and Tutorial:** Due on Friday, April 17, with the choice of topic due on Friday, April 10. The tutorials will take place during the week of April 20-24. You will select one of these topics:

1. "The Russian Revolution belied the **Communist Manifesto**." Do you agree? Disagree?
2. "The Industrial Revolution created a social more than an economic transformation." Do you agree? Disagree?

**c. Two Question/Observation pages:**

You will write two one-page Question/Observation pages based on the assigned readings. The first, due on Friday, January 30, will focus on Documents 2: A and B (Hobbes and Locke). The second one-page Question/Observation, due on Friday, March 13, will center on Documents 10: A,B,C,D,E and F ( Imperialism).

**4. Explanation of Discussion Leadership:**

Once during the semester, together with a small group of classmates, you will lead discussion of the documents. The list of leadership groups will be given to you early in the semester. Student groups will lead discussion on Wednesday, February 18, Friday, February 27, Friday, March 6, Friday, April 10 and Monday, April 27.

**THE WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

**Week I**

- Monday, January 19      *Introduction*
- Wednesday, January 21      *Europe Before 1650*  
 Reading: W.C. Introduction
- Friday, January 23      *Europe Before 1650*  
 Reading: W.C. Chapter 15, pp. 451-489

**Week II**

- Monday, January 26      *The Age of Louis XIV*

Reading: W.C. Chapter 16, pp. 491-521  
Doc. 1: A,B,C,D,E

Wednesday, January 28 *The Age of Louis XIV and the Scientific Revolution*

Reading: W.C. Chapter 17, pp. 523-549  
Doc. 1: F, G, H; 2: A, B

Friday, January 30 *The Enlightenment*

Reading: W.C. Chapter 18, pp. 551-561  
Doc. 2: C, D (The Spirit of the Laws), F

**Choice of Essay Topic due in class.**

**Assignment: Question/Observation page on Hobbes and Locke due in class**

### Week III

Monday, February 2 *Eighteenth Century Europe*

Reading: W.C. Chapter 18, pp. 561-584  
Doc. 2: D (The Persian Letters), E, G

Wednesday, February 4 *The French Revolution*

Reading: W.C. Chapter 19, pp. 586-595  
Doc. 3: A, B, C,

Friday, February 6 *The French Revolution*

Reading: Doc. 3: E, F, ;  
W.C. Chapter 19, pp 595-604

**Written Assignment: First Essay due by 4:00 p.m.**

### Tutorials

### Week IV

Monday, February 9 *Extremes*

Reading: Doc. 3: G, H, I

Wednesday, February 11 *No Class*

Friday, February 13 *Napoleon*

Reading: W.C. Chapter 19, pp 604-616  
Doc. 3: J

### Week V

Monday, February 16 *Reaction to the French Revolution and Napoleon*

Reading: W.C. Chapter 21, pp. 648-665

Doc. 4: A,B,C,F

Wednesday, February 18 *The Industrial Revolution*

Reading: W.C. Chapter 20, pp. 618-632

Doc. 5: A,C,D,E,F

**Assignment: student-led discussion**

Friday, February 20 *The Impact of the Industrial Revolution*

Reading: W.C. Chapter 20, pp. 632-647

Doc. 7: A, B, C, D, E

## Week VI

Monday, February 23 *The Revolution of 1848*

Reading: W.C. Chapter 21, pp. 665-679

Doc. 5: G, H

Wednesday, February 25 *Communism*

Reading: The Communist Manifesto, pp. 31-65

Friday, February 27 *Communism*

Reading: The Communist Manifesto, pp. 65 to the end

**Assignment: student-led discussion**

## Week VII

Monday, March 2 *Mid-term examination*

Wednesday, March 4 *The Unification of Italy and Germany*

Reading: W.C. Chapter 22, pp.680-693

Doc. 6: A, B, C, D

Friday, March 6 *The Unification of Italy and Germany and  
mid- nineteenth century Europe*

Reading: W.C. Chapter 22, pp. 693-709

Doc. 6: G, H, J

**Assignment: student-led discussion**

## Week VIII

Monday, March 9 *The Age of Progress?*

Reading: W.C. Chapter 23, pp. 710-725

Doc. 7: F; 8: A, B

Wednesday, March 11 *The Age of Progress?*

Reading: W.C. Chapter 23, pp. 725-737  
Doc. 8: D, F, G, H

Friday, March 13 *Imperialism*

Reading: W.C. Chapter 24, pp. 738-748  
Doc. 10: A, B, C, D, E, F

**Assignment: Question/Observation page on Imperialism**

### SPRING BREAK

#### Week IX

Monday, March 30 *Catch-up*

Wednesday, April 1 *The Outbreak of World War I*

Reading: W.C. Chapter 24, pp. 749-769  
Doc. 10: G, H

Friday, April 3 *World War I and the Russian Revolution*

Reading: W. C. Chapter 25, pp. 770-790  
Doc. 11: A, B, C, D

#### Week X

Monday, April 6 *The Russian Revolution and the Impact of WW I*

Reading: W.C. Chapter 25, pp. 790-803  
Doc. 11: E, F, G, H, I

Wednesday, April 8 *Feminism*

Reading: Doc. 9: A, B, D, E, F, G; Doc. 13: I

Friday, April 10 *Interwar Europe*

Reading: W. C. Chapter 26, pp. 804-835  
Doc. 12: A, B, C, D, E

**Assignment: student-led discussion**  
**Choice of Essay topics due in class**

#### Week XI *(Film: Triumph of the Will)*

Monday, April 13 *Fascism*

Reading: W.C. Chapter 27, pp. 836-855  
Doc. 12: F, G

Wednesday, April 15 *Hitler and the Nazis*

Reading: W. C. Chapter 27, pp. 855-867  
Allen, Chapters 1-5

Friday, April 17 *The Nazis and World War II*

Reading W. C. Chapter 28, pp. 868-890  
Allen, Chapters 6-12

**Assignment: Second Essay due**

## **Week XII**

### **Tutorials**

Monday, April 20 *World War II*

Reading: W.C. Chapter 28, pp. 890-905  
Allen, Finish  
Doc. 12: I, J

Wednesday, April 22 *No Class*

Friday, April 24 *The Cold War*

Reading: W.C. Chapter 29, pp. 906-926  
Doc. 14: A, B, C

## **Week XIII**

Monday, April 27 *Decolonization*

Reading: W.C. Chapter 29, pp. 927-932  
Doc. 13: A, B, C

**Assignment: student-led discussion**

Wednesday, April 29 *The Common Market and European Union*

Reading: W.C. Chapter 29, pp. 932-933 and 949-951  
Doc. 13: D, E, F, H

Friday, May 1 *The Collapse of the Soviet System*

Reading: W.C. Chapter 29, pp. 933-943  
Doc. 14: A, B, C

## **Week XIV**

Monday, May 4 *The West and the World since 1989*

Reading: W.C. Chapter 30, pp. 944-956  
Doc. 14: D, E, F, G, H

Wednesday, May 6 *The West and the World since 1989*

Reading: W.C. Chapter 30, pp. 957-983

Friday, May 8      *Review*  
Reading            W.C. Glossary of Terms

**EXAMINATION WEEK**

**Final Examination, Wednesday, May 13, 9:00 a.m.**