

History 2302
HISTORY OF WESTERN SOCIETY SINCE 1500

Dr. Steven Soper
Fall Term 2009
TTh, 2:00-3:15
MLC 148

Office: LeConte 128
Office Hour: W, 10-11 a.m.
and by appointment
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This course traces the history of Europe from the sixteenth century to the present. Students should approach the course with three principal objectives in mind: 1) to gain a basic grasp of the most important ideas, events, personalities, and institutions in modern European history; 2) to reflect upon the historical significance of a series of more specific topics, problems, and questions, from the politics of anti-slavery in the eighteenth century to the experience of total war and genocide in the twentieth century; 3) to develop the critical reading and writing skills necessary to develop your own historical arguments.

Books

The following two required books are available at the various university bookstores:

Dennis Sherman and Joyce Salisbury, *The West in the World*, 3rd ed., vol II:
From 1600 (Boston: McGraw-Hill, 2008).

Primo Levi, *Survival in Auschwitz* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1986).

Library Reserves/Coursepacks

Our other assigned readings will be available online at the following three locations: 1) our textbook's "[Primary Source Investigator](#)" (PSI) website; 2) [library course reserves \(LCR\)](#): the password you need to access these materials is "europe"; 3) the "assigned readings" page at our [eLearning Commons \(eLC\)](#) website. I will review how to access and navigate these online resources in our first class meeting (Aug. 18); students who miss this demonstration should consult the document entitled "How to Access Online Readings," on our main eLC page. **Please note:** To prepare for class lectures, discussions, and exams, it is a good idea to print a copy of each assigned reading.

Course Requirements

Class participation. This is a lecture course with a large student enrollment, which means it's impractical for me either to take attendance or to keep track of who is participating in class discussions. Therefore, your final grade will be based exclusively on the results of two in-class exams and two essay assignments. Nevertheless, our class is small enough to permit at least a limited amount of in-class discussions. To facilitate these discussions, I will announce discussion topics in advance – typically, just one or two days beforehand – and I will post one or more discussion questions on our eLC "discussion" page. You may simply look at my question(s) and save your thoughts for class, or you may initiate an online discussion of one or more of the questions, which will help set our discussion in motion when class meets. (**Note:** I have posted a document entitled "How to Participate in Online Discussions" on our main eLC page.) Both forms of participation – online and in-class – are entirely optional, but I strongly encourage all

of you to get involved and, at the very least, to make a habit of reviewing your fellow students' comments before class meets.

First Exam. The first exam, covering the first four weeks of the semester, will consist of five brief essays on specific readings, documents, and images and one longer essay on a broader theme. I will post a list of the relevant readings, documents, images and essay themes ahead of time on our eLC "exams" page, but you will not see the specific questions until the exam takes place, on **Tuesday, Sept. 15**. **Note:** Please bring three large exam books (aka bluebooks) and multiple pens or pencils to the exam.

Please note: To prepare for the exams and, more generally, to get the most out of our class lectures and discussions, you would benefit from consulting some of the other online resources – chapter summaries, essay questions, and quizzes – provided by our textbook authors at the ["West in the World Information Center"](#) website.

Essays. You will write two essays, one on Italian nationalism (due on **Tuesday, Oct. 6**), the other on representations of the Holocaust (due on **Tuesday, Nov. 17**). I will post longer descriptions of each essay topic two weeks before the due date. Your essays must be eight (typed, double-spaced) pages long, with normal (1") margins and a normal (12-point) font. A **hard copy** of each essay will be **due at the start of class on Oct. 6 and Nov. 17**. The penalty for late submission is one full grade off for each day the essay is late: therefore, essays submitted after class ends on Tuesday, Oct. 6 and Tuesday, Nov. 17 will drop one grade, essays submitted on Wednesday will drop two grades, essays submitted on Thursday will drop three grades, and essays submitted after Thursday will automatically receive a grade of F. **Note:** Please submit late essays to Sheila Barnett in the main office of the History Department, in LeConte Hall. To help prepare you to write strong history essays, I have posted a document entitled "Essay Guidelines" with specific writing recommendations and requirements on our eLC "essays" page.

Final Exam. The final exam, covering the final eleven weeks of the semester, will consist of five brief essays on specific readings, documents, and images and two longer essays on broader themes. I will post a list of the relevant readings, documents, images and essay themes ahead of time on our eLC "exams" page, but you will not see the specific questions until the exam takes place. **Note:** Please bring four large exam books (aka bluebooks) and multiple pens or pencils to the exam. The final exam is scheduled to take place in our usual classroom on **Friday, Dec. 11 from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.**

Note: Academic dishonesty in this course will result in disciplinary actions as outlined in the University's academic honesty policy, which can be consulted on the internet at the following address: http://www.uga.edu/honesty/ahpd/culture_honesty.htm.

Grades

Grades will be determined on the following basis:

first exam	15%
first essay	30%
second essay	30%
final exam	25%

Schedule of Class Meetings and Assignments

Instructions

- 1) Be sure to complete the assigned readings before class meets.
- 2) Most of the PSI assignments can be found by going to the chapter we are currently reading (e.g., the first PSI assignment, “Preface to the Encyclopedia,” appears among the primary sources for Chapter 14). In some cases, however, I will ask you to read or view PSI sources from earlier or later chapters, the numbers of which will be indicated in brackets (e.g., “British Slave Trade” [PSI 18]).
- 3) Occasionally I will ask you to look at materials located at the PSI “sites” pages, which will be indicated in brackets (e.g., “Claude Monet” [PSI sites]).

- Tues., Aug. 18** Introduction
- Thurs., Aug. 20** What Is Enlightenment?
Sherman, ch. 14; “Preface to the Encyclopedia” [PSI].
- Tues., Aug. 25** A Social History of the Enlightenment
“Education of Women” [PSI]; Kant, “What Is Enlightenment?” [eLC].
- Thurs., Aug. 27** Humanitarianism & Anti-Slavery
Sherman, ch. 15; Equiano, *The Interesting Narrative*, chapters I and II [eLC].
- Tues., Sept. 1** State-Building & Social Change
Schneider, *The Ceremonial City* [LCR]; “Women Spinning” [PSI]; “Declaration of Love” [PSI]; Calvino, *Italian Folktales* [eLC].
- Thurs., Sept. 3** Radical Revolution
Sherman, ch. 16; “Bastille” [PSI]; “Declaration of the Rights of Man” [PSI]; “Decree Abolishing the Feudal System” [PSI]; Dawson (ed.), *The French Revolution: “Festival of The Supreme Being”* [LCR].
- Tues., Sept. 8** Napoleon’s Wars
“There Is No Remedy” [PSI]; “Levee en masse” [PSI]; “Emperor Napoleon” [PSI]; “Anti-Napoleon” [eLC].
- Thurs., Sept. 10** The Industrial Revolution
Sherman, ch. 17; Cobbett, *Advice to Young Men* [LCR]; Marx, *The Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts* [eLC].
- Tues., Sept. 15** FIRST EXAM
- Thurs., Sept. 17** The Restoration
Sherman, ch. 18; “Carlsbad Resolutions” [PSI]; *The Memoirs of Alexander Herzen* [LCR]; “Burning Carriages” [PSI].
- Tues., Sept. 22** The Romance of Revolution
“Romantic Era” video [PSI]; Mazzini, *Life and Writings* [LCR]; “Communist Manifesto” [PSI].
- Thurs., Sept. 24** Italian Unification
Sherman, ch. 19.
- Tues., Sept. 29** Nationalism as a Civil Religion
Mosse, *The Nationalization of the Masses* [LCR].
- Thurs., Oct. 1** Italy in the 1880s
Abba, *Diary of One of the Thousand* [LCR]; de Amicis, *Heart* [LCR]; commemorations of King Victor Emanuel II and Garibaldi [eLC].

- Tues., Oct. 6** Democracy & Imperialism
Sherman, ch. 20.
DUE – ESSAY on Italian Nationalism
- Thurs., Oct. 8** Rules of War, 1848-1914
“Photographic Van” [PSI 19]; “View of Balaklava” [PSI 19]; Alsace-Lorraine [PSI 19]; “Boer soldiers” [PSI]; Harlow and Carter (eds.), *Archives of Empire* [LCR].
- Tues., Oct. 13** The Modern City
Sherman, ch. 21; “London Street Scene” [PSI 18]; “Rue Rivoli” [PSI 19]; Poe, “The Man of the Crowd” [eLC]; Baudelaire, *The Parisian Prowler* [eLC].
- Thurs., Oct. 15** Painters of Modern Life
“Impressionism” (WebMuseum, Paris) [PSI sites]; “Claude Monet” [PSI sites]; “Milestones of the Millenium” [PSI sites]; Kelly, *First Nights* [LCR].
- Tues., Oct. 20** World War I
Sherman, ch. 22; “World War I Devastation” [PSI]; “Romagne cemetery” [PSI]; “Verdun” [PSI]; World War I poetry [eLC], *Wipers Times* [LCR]; “Art of the First World War” [PSI sites].
- Thurs., Oct. 22** The Russian Revolution
Sherman, ch. 23, pp. 712-717; Korevanova, *My Life* [LCR].
- Tues., Oct. 27** The Rise of Fascism
Sherman, ch. 23; Salvemini, *The Fascist Dictatorship* [LCR].
- Thurs., Oct. 29** The Nazi Dictatorship
Haffner, *Defying Hitler* [LCR]; Kaplan, *Between Dignity and Despair* [LCR].
- Tues., Nov. 3** World War II
Sherman, ch. 24; “Refugee Children” [PSI 22]; “Underground Shelter” [PSI]; “Guernica: Testimony of War” [PSI 23 sites]; “Declaration of Human Rights” [PSI 25].
- Thurs., Nov. 5** The Holocaust
“Holocaust” video [PSI].
- Tues., Nov. 10** Representing the Holocaust
Levi, *Survival in Auschwitz*; Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum [eLC].
- Thurs., Nov. 12** Economic Reconstruction
Sherman, ch. 25; “Consequences of the Peace” [PSI 24]; “Marshall Plan” [PSI].
- Tues., Nov. 17** Cultural Reconstruction: Italian Neorealism & James Bond
Zavattini, “Some Ideas on the Cinema” [LCR].
DUE – ESSAY on Representations of the Holocaust
- Thurs. Nov. 19** The Road to 1989
Sherman, ch. 26; documents of East European dissidence [eLC].

Thanksgiving Break – November 23-27

- Tues., Dec. 1** European Unity
Göktürk et. al. (eds.), *Germany in Transit* [LCR].
- Thurs., Dec. 3** Review Session for Final Exam

FINAL EXAM: Friday, December 11 – 3:30-6:30 p.m.