Jefferson College

Course Syllabus

HST 203
MODERN EUROPE
3 Credit Hours

Prepared by:
Gabrielle Everett

January 2005

Arts and Science Education
Dr. Mindy Selsor, Dean
HST203 Modern Europe

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Prerequisite: none
3 semester hours credit

Modern Europe is a general survey that examines the political, social economic and cultural aspects of the 20th century. Starting at the cusp of the twentieth century and continuing up to the present, the course continues to analyze the evolution of the Western tradition. Modern Europe will partially fulfill the humanities requirement for the A.A. and A.S. degrees. (F, S, Su)

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES -- At the completion of this course a student will:

A. understand the rise of middle class culture;

B. understand the origins, important aspects and results of World War I, World War II and the Cold War.

C. understand the important aspects and results of the collapse of communism

D. have the ability to understand the discipline of history and the perspectives, knowledge and tools of the field;

E. develop basic critical thinking skills and historical knowledge by assessing various historical interpretations, facts and perspectives.

III. COURSE OUTLINE

A. Unit I-- The West at the World's Center

1. International Expansion
   a. The Second Stage of the Industrial Revolution
   b. Imperialism
   c. International Rivalry

2. The Middle Class Challenged
   a. The Rise of Socialism
   b. Science and Philosophy
   c. The Arts
3. A Delicate Equilibrium
   a. Germany
   b. France
   c. Great Britain
   d. Russia
   e. Italy, Austria-Hungary and the Ottoman Empire
   f. The Road to War

B. Unit II – Total War and Depression

1. World War I
   a. Mobilization
   b. The Ordeal of Battle
   c. Wartime Revolution
   d. U.S. entry
   e. Armistice and Peace

2. Turmoil Between the Wars
   a. The Soviet Union under Stalin
   b. Fascism in Italy
   c. The Rise of Nazi Germany
   d. Democracies in Trouble
   e. Intellectual and Cultural Trends

3. World War II
   a. Causes
   b. Total War
   c. Global Conflict
   d. The Peace Settlement

C. Unit III -- The Emergence of World Civilization

1. The Cold War
   a. East versus West
   b. Economic Renaissance
   c. Social and Political Changes
   d. Unification

2. Problems of World Civilization
   a. The Third World
   b. Limited Warfare
   c. Ecology Uncertainties
   d. The New Technologies
IV. UNIT OBJECTIVES

A. Unit I
1. Explain the rise of imperialism and the increasing international rivalry between European powers in the late nineteenth century.
2. Describe the increasing threats to the middle class way of life.
3. What did the socialists want and why?

B. Unit II
1. Assess the domestic scene on the eve of World War I.
2. Compare and contrast the origins of World War I and II.
3. Compare and contrast the impact of World War I on France, Great Britain, Germany and Russia.
4. Assess the major destabilizing forces in Europe during the 1920's and 1930's.
5. Compare and contrast the impact of World War II on the U.S and the Soviet Union.

C. Unit III
1. Explain the origins of the Cold War.
2. Explain how the Cold War changed after the death of Stalin.
3. Describe the factors that led to the collapse of the Soviet Union.
4. Explain how the Third World has become prominent in international affairs since the end of World War II.
5. Describe the factors that led to the creation of the European Union.
6. Describe the factors of the post-9/11 reality.

V. REQUIRED MATERIALS


or


or


or


Various supplemental readings
VI. SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES

A. Documentaries
B. Slides
C. Readings placed on reserve in the library or handed out in class.

VII. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

A. Lecture
B. Class Discussion/Debate
C. Text analysis
D. In class writing assignments
E. Research paper/Book review
F. Multimedia presentations
G. Map assignments

VIII. METHODS OF EVALUATION

A. Three exams using multiple choice, essay, matching and identifications (ID's) will count for a total of 300 points.
B. Two research paper/book review worth 100 points.
C. An in-class grade of 200 points will assess for participation, discussion, quizzes, in-class writing assignments, oral presentations, attendance and deportment.
D. Options for extra-credit will include article review and film reviews.