



2016-2017

SYLLABUS

European History of the 20th Century

Prof. Dr Almudena González del Valle

1.- COURSE DETAILS

Course:	European History of the 20 th Century
Degree/Diploma:	International Relations from a Spanish Perspective
Faculty:	Facultad de Ciencias Humanas y Sociales
Length	One Semester
ECTS:	5
Department:	International Relations
Office:	Lecturers common room- 1 st floor, building B and lecturers common room, building A
Office hours:	Under appointment
Key issues:	European History, Cultural History, Political History, Contemporary European History, Diplomacy, European Integration
Course Requirements:	Basic knowledge of European History during the 20 th century

2. COURSE DESCRIPTION

The aim of this course is to provide students with a general overview of the main issues that define the course of European history during the 20th century. This includes the study of conflicts between European states, internal political developments, cultural issues, as well as analysis of the mentalities and the ideologies that shaped the continent.

At the end of the course, students will have a sophisticated understanding of contemporary European political issues and be able to place them within the broader context of 20th century history.

Course seminars will be thematic in organisation. Students will prepare for seminars by reading set texts in advance. Discussion of these texts will form the basis of seminar discussion.

3.-CONTENTS

-MODULE 1: EUROPE. FROM ITS ZENITH TO CATASTROPHE-

Part 1: A PROSPEROUS EUROPE

1.1. *The Great Empires. Culture, Science, Society.*

1.2. *Conflicts and Tensions. Arms and Alliances. The Road to War.*

Part 2: THE FIRST WORLD WAR

2.1. *The Conflict and Its Consequences.*

-MODULE 2. THE INTERWAR YEARS-

Part 1: A HOPE FOR PEACE

- 1.1 Versailles. The Flawed Peace.
- 1.2. The Rise of Totalitarianism. Fascism and Nazism.
- 1.4 A New War on the Horizon.

Part 2: THE SECOND WORLD WAR

- 2.1. General Characteristics of the Conflict. The Western Front.
- 2.2. General Characteristics of the Conflict. The Eastern Front.
- 2.3. The Partition of Europe and the Beginning of Cold War.

-MODULE 3. TOWARDS THE EUROPEAN COMMON HOME-

Part 1: THE EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

- 1.1. The Treaty of Rome and the Challenges of Integration. From EC to EU.
- 1.2. Soviet Europe.

Part 2: THE CHALLENGES OF THE NEW EUROPE

- 2.1. The Fall of the Berlin Wall and the New Borders of Europe.
- 2.2. The Future and its Challenges.

4.-CLASS SCHEDULE

MODULE 1: EUROPE. FROM ITS ZENITH TO CATASTROPHE

Part 1: A PROSPEROUS EUROPE

1.1 The Great Empires. Culture, Science, Society (SESSION 1)

Required Reading:

- Zweig, E. (2009) *The world of yesterday*. London: Pushkin Press. (Selected readings).

Complementary Readings:

- Roberts, J. (2013). *A general history of Europe 1880-1945* Third edition. London: Longman. Chapters 2-8

General discussion

1.2. Conflicts and Tensions. Arms and Alliances. The Road to War. (SESSION 2)

Required Reading:

- Röhl, J.C.G. (2005). *Kaiser Wilhelm II. New interpretations*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press: Cambridge. (Selected readings).

Complementary Readings:

- Roberts, J. (2013). *A general history of Europe 1880-1945* Third edition. London: Longman. Chapters 2-8

General discussion

Part 2: THE FIRST WORLD WAR

2.1. The Conflict and Its Consequences. (SESSION 3)

Required Reading:

- Ferguson, N. (1999). *The pity of war*. London: Penguin. (Selected readings).
- Austro-Hungarian Ultimatum to Serbia, and Serbian answer*.

Complementary Readings:

- Paxton, R.O, Hessler, J. (2012). *Europe in the twentieth century*. Boston: Wadsworth. Chapters 2-5.
- Keegan, J. (1999). *The First World War*. London: A. Knopf.
- Massie, R.K. (2004). *Castles of steel. Britain, Germany and the winning of the war at sea*. New York: Ballantine Books.

General discussion

MODULE 2. THE INTERWAR YEARS

Part 1: A HOPE FOR PEACE

1.1 Versailles. The Flawed Peace. (SESSION 4)

<p>Required Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ferguson, N. (1999). <i>The pity of war</i>. London: Penguin. (Selected readings). -Wilson <i>14 Points</i>. -<i>Treaty of Versailles</i>. (Selected readings). <p>Complementary Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Paxton, R.O, Hessler, J. (2012). <i>Europe in the twentieth century</i>. Boston: Wadsworth. Chapter 6. -Graebner, N.A., Bennett, E.M. (2011). <i>The Versailles Treaty and its legacy: The failure of the wilsonian vision</i>. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. <p>General discussion</p>
<p>1.2. The Rise of Totalitarianism. Fascism and Nazism. (SESSION 5)</p>
<p>Required Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Klemperer, V. (2006): <i>The language of the Third Reich: LTI: Lingua Tertii Imperiii</i>. London: Continuum. (Selected readings). <p>Complementary Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Brendon, P. (2000). <i>The dark valley. A panorama of the 30s</i>. New York: Vintage Books. -Gilbert, M. (2004). <i>Winston Churchill. The wilderness years</i>. London: Pimlico. <p>General discussion</p>
<p>1.3. A New War on the Horizon. (SESSION 6)</p>
<p>Required Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Taylor, A.J.P. (1961). <i>The origins of the Second World War</i>. London: Hamish Hamilton. (Selected readings). <p>Complementary Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Overy, R. (2010). <i>1939. Countdown to war</i>. London: Penguin. <p>General discussion</p>
<p>Part 2: THE SECOND WORLD WAR</p>
<p>2.1. General Characteristics of the Conflict. The Western Front. (SESSION 7)</p>
<p>Required Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Keegan, J. (1997): <i>The Second World War</i>. London: Pimlico. (Selected readings). <p>Complementary Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Liddell Hart, B. (2007). <i>German generals talk</i>. New York: Perennial. -Overy, R. (1995). <i>Why the Allies won</i>. London: Jonathan Cape. <p>General discussion</p>
<p>2.2. General Characteristics of the Conflict. The Eastern Front. (SESSION 8)</p>
<p>Required Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Keegan, J. (1997): <i>The Second World War</i>. London: Pimlico. (Selected readings). -Overy, R. (1997). <i>Russia's war</i>. London: Allen Lane. <p>General discussion</p>
<p>2.3. The Partition of Europe and the Beginning of Cold War. (SESSION 9)</p>
<p>Required Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Feis, H. (1970). <i>From trust to terror. The onset of the Cold War 1945-1950</i>. London: Anthony Blond. (Selected readings). -Kennedy, P. (1998). <i>The rise and fall of great powers</i>. London: Unwin Hayman. (Selected readings) <p>Complementary Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Calvocoressi, P. (2009). <i>World politics since 1945</i>. Harlow: Pearson. -Col. Hughes-Wilson, J. (2006). <i>The Cold War</i>. London: Constable & Robinson. <p>General discussion</p>
<p>MODULE 3. TOWARDS THE EUROPEAN COMON HOUSE</p>
<p>Part 1: THE EUROPEAN INTEGRATION</p>
<p>1.1. The Treaty of Rome and the Challenges of Integration. From EC to EU. (SESSION 10)</p>
<p>Required Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Sakwa, R., Stevens, A. (2012). <i>Contemporary Europe</i>. Basingstoke: Palgrave. (Selected Readings). <p>Complementary Readings:</p>

-Dedman, M. (2009). *The Origins and development of the European Union 1945-2008*. London: Routledge.

General discussion

1.2. Soviet Europe. (SESSION 11)

Cineforum:

The Life of Others (2006). Dir. Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck. (or other film of our choice)

Complementary Readings:

-Zubkov, V.M. (2007): *A failed empire. The Soviet Union in the Cold War. From Stalin to Gorbachev*. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press.

General discussion

Part 2: THE CHALLENGES OF THE NEW EUROPE

2.1. The Fall of the Berlin Wall and the New Borders of Europe. (SESSION 12)

Required Reading:

-Leonard, M. (2005). *Why Europe will lead the 21st century*. London: Fourth State.

General discussion

2.2. The Future and its Challenges. (SESSION 13)

Required Reading:

-Media articles on the current economic and political crisis.

General discussion

5.- METHODOLOGY

The course will be organized in the form of seminars, with each session covering a specific topic of the syllabus. Seminars *-if not specifically indicated otherwise in the class schedule-* will be composed by a general introduction carried out by the course organiser followed by discussion of the set texts. Students are expected to participate actively throughout the seminar.

General Readings:

Apart from the readings included in the *Class Schedule*, these general studies are recommended:

- Davies, N. (1998) *Europe. A history*. London: Harper Perennial
- Mazower, M. (1998) *Dark Continent*. Vintage Books, New York: The Random House
- Paxton, R.O., Hessler, J. (2012) *Europe in the twentieth century*. Boston: Wadsworth
- Roberts, J. (2013). *A general history of Europe 1880-1945* Third edition. London: Longman. Chapters 2-8
- Roberts, J. (1997). *The history of Europe*. New York: Viking.

6. ASSESSMENT

Assessment will be based on the following four elements:

1. Final Exam. Student will critically analyse different but relevant texts not just to assess their knowledge but also their ability to provide a sophisticated and original analysis of the subject.
(50% of the final mark).

2. Final Dissertation. At the beginning of the course, students will choose a topic related the subject syllabus from a list of 20 provided by the course organiser. This will form the basis of a 6.000 words dissertation.
(30% of the final mark).

3. Short Essays/film critique or presentations At the end of each "Part" of the course, students will produce a 1.000 (max.) word essay that discusses the texts and other material provided by the course organiser. Since these texts will form the basis of the final exam, students will receive feedback on their essays/film critique as well as advice on the final exam. (10% of the final mark).

4. Seminar Participation. Students will be encouraged to participate with their comments and questions throughout the course. **(10% of the final mark).**

Please note:

-If a student does not attend to at least 80% of classes, coursework will not be assessed and a "not completed" grade will be issued. Attendance will be checked periodically.

-Tutorials are an essential part of the course. Students will be encouraged to ask questions and take part in debate. The course organiser will provide guidance on the preparation of the final dissertation and the short essays.

- Plagiarism of published material or other students work will result in an automatic fail.

-Students will be provided with the relevant guidelines for the production of academic pieces of research. Not fulfilling the standard of these guidelines will result in the dissertation being graded with 0 points.

-Students should only use scholarly academic material for the dissertation. Although the Internet can be used as a research tool, the use of general websites such as Wikipedia is not acceptable.

-All essays will be handed through a web tool (Moodle). Except in exceptional cases, late essays will not be accepted.

-Every student will have to complete all elements of course assessment to pass the course.

7. BIBLIOGRAPHY AND RECOMMENDED READINGS

- Bayly, C.A. (2004). *The birth of the modern world*. Oxford: Blackwell.
- Brendon, P. (2000). *The dark valley. A panorama of the 30s*. New York: Vintage Books.
- Calvocoressi, P. (2009). *World politics since 1945*. Harlow: Pearson.
- Col. Hughes-Wilson, J. (2006). *The Cold War*. London: Constable & Robinson
- Dedman, M. (2009). *The Origins and development of the European Union 1945-2008*. London: Routledge.
- Eichengreen, B. (2007) *The European Economy since 1945*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press
- Feis, H. (1970). *From trust to terror. The onset of the Cold War 1945-1950*. London: Anthony Blond.
- Ferguson, N. (1999). *The pity of war*. London: Penguin.
- Gilbert, M. (2004). *Winston Churchill. The wilderness years*. London: Pimlico
- Graebner, N.A., Bennett, E.M. (2011). *The Versailles Treaty and its legacy: The failure of the wilsonian vision*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Klemperer, V. (2006): *The language of the Third Reich: LTI: Lingua Tertii Imperiii*. London: Continuum.

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- Keegan, J. (1999). *The First World War*. London: A. Knopf.
 - (1997): *The Second World War*. London: Pimlico.
- Kennedy, P. (1998). *The rise and fall of great powers*. London: Unwin Hayman.
- Leonard, M. (2005). *Why Europe will lead the 21st century*. London: Fourth State.

- Liddell Hart, B. (2007). *German generals talk*. New York: Perennial.
- Massie, R.K. (2007). *Dreadnought. Britain, Germany and the coming of the Great War*. New York: Vintage Books.
 - (2004). *Castles of steel. Britain, Germany and the winning of the war at sea*. New York: Ballantine Books.
- Mazower, M. (1998) *Dark Continent*. Vintage Books, New York: The Random House.
- Overy, R. (2010). *1939. Countdown to war*. London: Penguin.
 - (1995). *Why the Allies won*. London: Jonathan Cape
- Paxton, R.O, Hessler, J. (2012). *Europe in the twentieth century*. Boston: Wadsworth

- Röhl, J.C.G. (2005). *Kaiser Wilhelm II. New interpretations*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press: Cambridge.
- Sakwa, R., Stevens, A. (2012). *Contemporary Europe*. Basingstoke: Palgrave.
- Senior Dello, S. (2012) *The European Union: Economics, Politics and History*. 3^a ed. London: McGraw-Hill.
- Taylor, A.J.P. (1961). *The origins of the Second World War*. London: Hamish Hamilton.
- Tuchman, B. (1962). *The guns of august*. London: Macmillan.
- Zubkov, V.M. (2007): *A failed empire. The Soviet Union in the Cold War. From Stalin to Gorbachev*. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press.
- Zweig, E. (2009) *The world of yesterday*. London: Pushkin Press.