MCLG 110 Introduction to European Studies

Spring 2020

Course Meeting Times
Tuesday, Thursday 3:30 – 4:50 pm

Location
LA 105

Instructor Information
Co-Instructor: Marton Marko
Office: LA 435
Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday 10 – 11:50 am
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Co-Instructor: Clint Walker
Office: LA 330
Office Hours: Monday 12 – 2 pm, Wednesday 12 – 1 pm
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Course Description
This course offers an introduction to important themes in European Studies. The class examines Europe not only as a geographic region but also as an idea, both historically and in contemporary terms. The course provides an overview of the concept of Europe beginning with the ancient Greeks and Romans, the trajectory of the definition of Europe through history, and current issues related to defining what is European in terms of Europe as a region as well as principles, ideas, and practices around the world which can be traced to European culture. Readings and discussions concerning European identity through time will focus on different geographic regions and their histories and also offer attention to common denominators among those cultures which have articulated them as European. Presentations will include examples of art, architecture, music, and cultural artifacts that complement given themes and topics in the course. Analysis is also given to European inclusion and exclusion and how Europe has historically defined what is “not European” in light of such issues as race, religion, colonialism, and migration.

Learning Outcomes
1. Students will be able to recognize and identify attributes and characteristics common to European culture historically and in contemporary context.
2. Students will be able to define and identify terms, guiding ideas, movements, and trends which have connected and influenced time periods in European history and both separated and unified European cultures.
3. Students will become acquainted with particular regions and individual cultures which have historically been considered a part of broader European culture and understand the role each of those regions and separate cultures have played in the larger scope of European history and the construction of European identity.
4. Students will be able to critically connect major developments and figures in European context with broader global ideas and movements.
5. Students will critically engage with the concept of Europe as an idea of inclusion as well as exclusion using examples highlighting such issues as race, religion, colonialism, and migration.

**Required Texts**

Cultural Historical Readers:


Primary Texts / Literary Collections:


**Course Calendar**

**Tues 1/14** Course Introduction

**Thurs 1/16** Origins of the Idea of Europe via Ancient Greece and Rome

Delouche: pp. 62 – 93, Chapter II: Rome: From the 6th century BC to the 5th century AD

**Tues 1/21** From the Age of Byzantium to the Middle Ages

Delouche: pp. 126 – 157, Chapter IV, Medieval Christianity in the West: From the 11th to the 13th century

Medieval Mystics (Handouts)
Thurs 1/23  European Renaissance

(Optional) Delouche: pp. 158 – 189, Chapter V, Crises and Renaissance: The 14th and 15th centuries

Giovanni Boccaccio: Decameron (1313) (Handout)

Tues 1/28  European Exploration, Expansion, Colonialism

(Optional) Delouche: pp. 190 – 221, Chapter VI, Europe and the Wider World: From the 15th to the 18th century

Lualdi: pp. 15 – 20, Castillo, The True History of the Conquest of Spain (c. 1567); pp. 21 – 24, Las Casas, In Defense of the Indians (c. 1548 – 1550)

Thurs 1/30  Reformation in Europe

Delouche: pp. 221 – 237, Chapter VII, Reformation Europe: The 16th and 17th centuries, Sections 1, 2

Lualdi: pp. 24 – 26, Luther, Freedom of a Christian (1520); pp. 24 – 28; Calvin, Articles Concerning Predestination and The Necessity of Reforming the Church (1543)

Tues 2/4  Reformation in Europe (cont’d)

Delouche: pp. 238 – 253, Chapter VII, Reformation Europe: The 16th and 17th centuries, Sections 3 - 5

Lualdi: pp. 28 – 31, Loyola, A New Kind of Catholicism (1546, 1555, 1553) pp. 33 – 37, Henry IV, Edict of Nantes (1598); Montaigne, pp. 37 – 39, Of Cannibals (1580’s)

Thurs 2/6  Science, Humanism, Ideas of Government in 17th Century Europe


Take-Home Semester Test 1 Assigned

Tues 2/11  Concepts and Figures of the Enlightenment


Lualdi: pp. 85 – 87, Montesquieu, Persian Letters: Letter 37 (1721); pp. 87 – 91, Mary Astell, Reflections upon Marriage (1706); pp. 93 – 95, Marie-Thérèse Geoffrin and M. d’Alembert, The Salon of Madame Geoffrin (1765)
Thurs 2/13  Concepts and Figures of the Enlightenment (cont’d)


Kant: An Answer to the Question: What is Enlightenment? (1784) (Handout)

Take-Home Semester Test 1 Due

Tues 2/18  Voltaire and the Enlightenment

Voltaire: Candide (1759)

Thurs 2/20  Voltaire and the Enlightenment (cont’d)

Voltaire: Candide (1759)

Tues 2/25  From the French Revolution to the Napoleonic Era


Thurs 2/27  European Romanticism, Folk and Fairy Tales

Selected Folk and Fairy Tales from The Russian Fairy Book


Tues 3/3  19th Century Europe: Challenges of Modernization


Lualdi: pp. 150 – 151, Engels: Draft of a Communist Confession of Faith (1847)

Thurs 3/5  Europe in the Late 19th Century

Dostoevsky: Notes from the Underground (1864)

Tues 3/10  Europe in the Late 19th Century (cont’d)

Dostoevsky: *Notes from the Underground* (1864) (cont’d)


Thurs 3/12  Early 20th-Century Europe

Delouche: pp. 318 – 337, Chapter X, In Danger of Self-Destruction: 1900 – 1945, Sections 1 - 4


Tues 3/17, Thurs 3/19  SPRING BREAK

Tues 3/24  Interwar Period to the Second World War

Delouche: pp. 338 – 349, Chapter X, In Danger of Self-Destruction: 1900 – 1945, Sections 5, 6


Thurs 3/26  Europe and the Holocaust

In-Class Film Screening: *Europa, Europa* (Agnieszka Holland, 1990)

Begin reading Orwell: *Animal Farm* (1945), Camus: *The Fall* (1956)

Tues 3/31  Europe and the Holocaust (cont’d)

In-Class Film Screening: *Europa, Europa* (Agnieszka Holland, 1990)


Thurs 4/2  Serious Mid-Century Political Satire

Orwell: *Animal Farm* (1945)
Tues 4/7 The Fall of Europe?

Camus: *The Fall* (1956)

Due in Class: Annotated Bibliography and Outline for Final Paper

Take-Home Semester Test 2 Assigned

Thurs 4/9 From Postwar to Cold War


Tues 4/14: Fall of the Soviet Bloc, National and Continental Reiterations and Reunifications

(Optional) Delouche: pp. 382 – 413, Chapter XII, Towards a United Europe: 1986 – 1996


Semester Take-Home Test 2 Due

Thurs 4/16 “The Turn” on Screen

In-Class Film Screening: *Good Bye Lenin* (Wolfgang Becker, 2003)

Tues 4/21 “The Turn” on Screen (cont’d)

In-Class Film Screening Film: *Good Bye Lenin* (Wolfgang Becker, 2003)

Thurs 4/23 Multiculturalism and the EU, Europe Today


Tues 4/28 Current Issues in European Studies (TBD)

Thurs 4/30 Future Europe, Class Overview

Tues 5/5 Hand in Final Papers, Give Final Paper Presentations

(Finals Week)

1:10 – 3:10 pm
Required Assignments and Tests

Assessment activities and dates on which they are assigned and due include:

2 (Two) Take-Home Semester Tests
  Take-Home Semester Test 1 will be assigned Thursday 2/6 and due Thursday 2/13
  Take-Home Semester Test 2 will be assigned Tuesday 4/7 and due Tuesday 4/14

15 Minute-Length Presentation on a Topic Related to the Course During the Semester

Annotated Bibliography and Outline for Final Paper
  These are both due Thursday 4/4

Final Paper (7 – 8 pp. or 2000 words, excluding works cited section) on Topic Related to Class
  The Final Paper is due at the Finals Week session, Tuesday 5/5

Short 5 Minute-Length Final Paper Presentation providing an overview of your final paper
  This presentation is to be given at the Finals Week session, Tuesday 5/5

Regular Attendance and Regular Participation in Class Discussion

Course Guidelines and Policies

Preparation, Punctuality, Participation: Please be on time and come to class prepared ready to share responses to study questions when given and to discuss the course material.

Electronic Devices: If you bring a cell phone to class, please set it either on vibrate or mute. Unless specified for a class activity, personal computers, music players, and messaging devices are not to be used in class.

Student Conduct Code
Please refer to the Student Conduct Code of the University as it pertains to your responsibility to hand in work and/or perform activities assigned to be your own as indeed representing your own efforts and work.

Attendance
Regular attendance and regular participation in class discussion are expected for this course. You are allowed two unexcused absences without automatic grade penalty. After that, a penalty of 10 points will be assessed per unexcused absence from your attendance points. Excused absences may include, among other possibilities: verifiable illness, family or personal emergencies, religious holidays, and campus-sponsored events.

Course Withdrawal
February 3, 2020 is the last day to withdraw from classes with a partial refund. For a detailed listing of important University dates and deadlines, please visit http://www.umt.edu/registrar/calendar.php
Disability Modifications
The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students. If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with Disability Services, please contact Disability Services in Lommasson Center 154 or call 406.243.2243. We will work with you and Disability Services to provide an appropriate modification.

Grading Policy
Course Assignments and Grading Distribution:

2 Take-Home Semester Tests (2 x 80 points) = 160 points (40%)
Semester Presentation = 40 points (10%)
Annotated Bibliography and Outline for Final Paper = 20 points (5%)
Final Paper = 100 points (25%)
Final Paper Presentation = 20 points (5%)
Attendance, Preparation, Participation = 60 points (15%)

Total = 400 points

Letter Grade % of Total Course Points
A 93 - 100
A- 90 - 92
B+ 87 - 89
B 83 – 86
B- 80 – 82
C+ 77 – 79
C 73 – 76
C- 70 – 72
D+ 67 – 69
D 63 – 66
D- 60 – 62
F 0 - 59

Wishing you a great semester in MCLG 110 Introduction to European Studies!