

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY

CSU Virtual International Program

SSC 303 – Storia Politica dell'Europa Moderna

(Political History of Modern Europe)

Spring Semester VIP 2020

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Class: Tuesday, 10 - 11 am (Pacific time) via **ZOOM PLATFORM**

CREDITS – 3 CSU semester units

Location of Course – <https://calstate.zoom.us/j/8173805868>

Office hours: 1 hour after every class and upon appointment

Course Description

The course aims at providing the instruments for understanding and interpreting the cultural, political, economic and social history of Europe from early 19th century until World War II. Lessons will start analyzing the spread of liberalism and democratic ideals, the birth of socialism, the evolution of reactionary, conservative and authoritarian ideologies and movements. They will go on focusing on the social and economic crisis between the end of 19th and the begin of 20th centuries that led to World War I. The following dissolution of the Austrian, Russian and Ottoman Empires, and their aftermaths on the international relations will be dealt with, as well. The Communist revolution in Russia together with the crisis of liberal regimes in Europe and the seizure of power in Italy and in Germany by Fascism and Nazism will be dealt with particular attention. The last part of the course will focus on World War II, the Resistance movements, the rebirth of democracy in Western Europe, the Communist seizure of power in Central and Eastern Europe.

CSU GE category: D5

Required Books/ Readings

Asa Briggs & Patricia Clavin, *Modern Europe 1789-Present* (Pearson 2003).

Available on Amazon and in the library.

Students are asked to inform me if they did not bring the book back with them from Florence.

Movies or documentaries watched in class are course's components.

Additional readings and web resources will be sent each week.

General Course Requirements

- 1) Active participation in the virtual class and discussions;
- 2) Regular reading of assigned texts;
- 3) 1 take-home questionnaire with multiple choice questions (*see class calendar for the dates and details*);
- 4) 2 online questionnaires with True/False questions (*see class calendar for the dates and details*);
- 5) 2 summaries to be sent via email (*see class calendar for the dates and details*);
- 6) 2 essays (*see class calendar for the dates and details*);
- 7) 1 five minutes video presentation on a special topic agreed with the instructor to be sent via email (*see class calendar for the dates and details*);

Students must complete ALL requirements for passing the course.

You are responsible for the weekly readings, the information given to you in the **virtual** class and/or **via email**.

Part of your grade will be determined by participation in class discussions and active engagement in all activities of this course. ***Make sure to check your email on a regular basis for updates and additional information.***

Learning Objectives

- Students will study the main European historical phenomena from the Napoleonic Era to the end of the Second World War;
- Students will learn the historical origins of the main political ideologies and European political movements;
- Students will learn to identify the links “cause-effects” among the main European political events of 19th and 20th century.

Learning Outcomes

- At the end of the semester students will be able to identify the main political changes in the history of Europe between 1800 and 1945;
- They will be able to give presentations about topics of European history;
- When given a time span, they will be able to identify the major events of the European context.

Grades and Exams

Your grade will be determined by the following assignments:

- 5% for 1 take-home questionnaire with multiple choice questions
- 20% for 2 online questionnaires with True/False questions (10% each)
- 20% for 2 summaries to be sent via email (10% each)
- 30% for 2 essays (15% each)
- 15% for 1 five-minute video presentation
- 10% for active class participation

Grading points

100-94	A
93-90	A-
89-88	B+
87-83	B
82-80	B-
79-77	C+
76-73	C
72-69	C-
68-67	D+
66-63	D
62-60	D-
59 and below	F

The + and - symbols will be used for grading (except for A+). Specific information about the presentation, exams and other projects will be given to you during the semester.

A Student performance has been outstanding and indicates an exceptional degree of academic achievement in meeting learning outcomes and course requirements.

B Student performance has been at a high level and indicates solid academic achievement in meeting learning outcomes and course requirements.

C Student performance has been adequate and indicates satisfactory academic achievement in meeting learning outcomes and course requirements.

D Student performance has been less than adequate and indicates deficiencies in meeting the learning outcomes and/or course requirements.

F Student performance has been unacceptable and indicates a failure to meet the learning outcomes and/or course requirements.

VERY IMPORTANT: Failure to complete all work and exams assigned in the course could result in failure of the class.

Class Code of Conduct

Activities unrelated to the course (including private conversations, emailing, text messaging, reading, web surfing, etc.) are not permitted during class time. Please turn off or put all electronic devices on silent mode prior to the beginning of the class.

Academic Dishonesty Will Not Be Tolerated.

Any form of plagiarism or cheating may result in a failing final grade in the course and might be reported to IP and your campus. You are better off spending your time studying for the class. If you have questions about what constitutes academic dishonesty, please refer to the student handbook and catalog of your campus and also ask me and/ or the Resident Director for more information.

Students with Disabilities

Upon identifying yourself to the instructor and the university, students with disabilities will receive reasonable accommodation for learning and evaluations. For more information, contact the teacher if you need special accommodations.

Attendance

For on-line classes, the teacher will track attendance through the Canvas portal.

Copyright and Privacy Laws

No portion of the texts, films, videos, and other material used in this course can be reproduced in any format including scanning, electronic downloading or sharing of files.

In addition, no portion of class lectures, discussions, and activities can be reproduced and used in any format, including electronic, without the written consent of the instructor and/or guest speakers.

Changes - Important

Information contained in this syllabus, including the class calendar, other than that mandated by the University, may be subject to change with advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

Class calendar:

February 25: Florence Campus

Introduction to the course.

The Napoleonic era.

March 3: Florence Campus

The Congress of Wien, Liberal revolutions and democratic movements in Europe in the first half of 19th century.

The communist *manifesto* (1848).

March 10:

SUSPENSION OF COURSES AT CSU IP FLORENCE CENTER.

March 17: **Classes resume on line**

The 1848 revolutions and the Italian unification (1861).

March 24: **on line class**

Europe in the second half of the 19th century.

The instructor will assign you and send to you via email a short essay / scientific article / book chapter to read and to write about (essay #1).

March 31: **NO CLASS**

California state holiday: Caesar Chavez*

April 1:

ASSIGNMENT DUE: summary #1

Send to a.martini@csufirenze.it one summary (max. 800 words / 5000 characters) describing the most important events of 19th century in Europe.

Make up class for holiday cancellation

April 3: on line class h. 10 - 11 am (Pacific time)

The First World War in Europe.

April 7: on line class

The Russian Revolution (1917) and the peace treaties of Paris (1919 -1922).

April 14: on line class

The aftermaths of the First World War (1919 – 1933).

ASSIGNMENT DUE: essay #1

Send to a.martini@csufirenze.it one essay (max. 1500 words / 7000 characters) commenting the reading assigned on March 24th.

April 21: on line class

MID TERM: on line questionnaire with True/False questions (details to be announced): 40 minutes.

Revision of the test: 20 minutes.

April 27:

The instructor will send you a multiple choice questionnaire about the Russian Revolution and the peace treaties of Paris.

April 28: on line class

Fascist Italy (1922 – 1939).

ASSIGNMENT DUE: multiple choice questionnaire

Send to a.martini@csufirenze.it the take-home questionnaire that you received on April 27th.

April 30:

The instructor will assign you and send to you via email a short essay / scientific article / book chapter to read and to write about (essay #2).

May 5: on line class

Consequences of the great crisis in Europe (1929).

International balance in the '30s, the appeasement and the beginning of the Second world war (1939).

ASSIGNMENT DUE: summary #2

Send to a.martini@csufirenze.it one summary (max. 800 words / 5000 characters) describing Fascist Italy.

May 12: on line class

The Second World War in Europe (1940 – 1942)

ASSIGNMENT DUE: essay #2

Send to a.martini@csufirenze.it one essay (max. 1500 words / 7000 characters) commenting the reading assigned on April 30th.

May 19: on line class

The end of the Second World War and the beginning of the Cold War.

ASSIGNMENT DUE: Five-minute video presentation

Send to a.martini@csufirenze.it a video presentation about the topic agreed with the instructor. Details explained in the first on line class.

May 26 – 29: on line class

FINAL TERM: on line questionnaire with True/False questions (details to be announced); 40 minutes.

Revision of the test: 20 minutes.