Dr. Kurt Borkman
Office: HS 196
Office Hours: MWF 8:45 – 9:45, T-Th 12:30-1:30
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Text: Spielvogel, *Western Civilization (Volume II, Since 1550)*

**Course Objective:**
This course will provide an overview of early modern and modern history with special emphasis placed on the social, political and intellectual developments of post-Napoleonic Europe (1815 – present). We will begin by examining both the structure of society and the European state system of the early modern era, the European Enlightenment, and the crisis of the Old Regime which culminated in the French Revolution and the triumph of Napoleon. Topics of particular interest during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries will be: Industrialization and Social Change, Patterns of Nineteenth Century Thought: Science, Philosophy and Social Theory in the Evolutionary World, the Rise of Nation-States, Imperialism, Alliance Systems and World War I, Europe between the Wars: The Age of Ideology, World War II, Europe and the Cold War, and the Dwarfing of Europe and the End of Ideology.

In addition to discussing the social, political, and military history of western Civilization, we will also attempt to show how the cataclysmic events and accelerated pace of modern history have fundamentally altered our assumptions regarding the nature of society, historical progress, human psychology, and the structure of the Universe.

**Warning:** Student outcomes in this course are not typical and may vary. If, while taking this course, you experience a sudden increase in curiosity, wonder, imagination, enlightenment, interest in the subject, or intellectual arousal, it may indicate a serious condition that can sometimes result in fulfillment and happiness. As with any college course, you should consult your professor before getting started.

In addition, by the end of the semester, students should be able to:

- Analyze the causes and consequences of the two World Wars.
- Analyze the structure of early modern European society and the state system.
- Evaluate Europe’s role in the modern world.
- Evaluate the impact of the Scientific Revolution and the Enlightenment on European thought and society.
- Explain the new imperialism of the nineteenth century and describe its impact on Europe and the world.
- Identify and illustrate the causes and consequences of the Industrial Revolution.
Course Requirements:
There will be two exams and one writing assignment in this class. The times and format of these exams and papers will be thoroughly discussed in class. Make-up exams will only be given in the case of extreme emergency.

Grading Policy:
Test #1: Identifications 25%
Test #2: Essay 25%
Final: Identifications and Essay 50%

NO AUDIO OR VIDEO RECORDING OF LECTURES!
CLASSES BEGIN PROMPTLY AS SCHEDULED – BE ON TIME!
NO FOOD OR DRINK IN THE CLASSROOM!
PLEASE TURN OFF CELL PHONES/NO TEXTING DURING CLASS!
FAILURE TO MEET ALL COURSE REQUIREMENTS WILL RESULT IN AN AUTOMATIC FAILURE IN THE COURSE!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Chapter(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction to Modern European History</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>The Rise of the State</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>The Enlightenment</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>The Enlightenment, Romanticism</td>
<td>17,21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Colonial Expansion, State System of the 18th Century</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>French Revolution and Napoleonic Europe</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Industrialism, Urbanization, Population Growth</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>19th Century Intellectual Currents</td>
<td>21,22,24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>19th Century Intellectual Currents</td>
<td>21,22,24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>National Unifications, Crimean War</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>World War I</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>World War I and Aftermath</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Age of Totalitarianism</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>World War II</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Post World War II Europe</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Academic Honesty:

Plagiarism and cheating are serious violations of the Student Code of Conduct. You will receive a zero on any assignment or exam where you have cheated or where you have plagiarized the majority of your work. Any plagiarism serious enough to warrant a zero will also be reported to the Dean of Student Development. If you have any questions about what counts as plagiarism or cheating, ask me before the assignment is due. I strongly encourage you to take the MC Library’s Plagiarism Tutorial, available online at: http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/library/plagiarismintro.htm.

All of the following are considered plagiarism:

- Turning in someone else’s work as your own
- Copying words or ideas from someone else without giving credit
- Failing to put a quotation in quotation marks
- Giving incorrect information about the source of a quotation
- Changing words but copying the sentence structure of a source without giving credit
- Copying so many words or ideas from a source that it makes up the majority of your work, whether you give credit or not.

Attendance Policy:

Attendance will be taken regularly so that I can learn your names. You will not be penalized for absences; experience tells me that you penalize yourself if you do not attend class. However, I do not lend my lecture notes, so I encourage you to confer with your fellow classmates about any information you missed. Also, if you arrive late for an exam, you will not be granted additional time.

Classroom Conduct: We follow the normal rules of civility in this classroom. That simply means that we should be respectful of other people and their opinions. In addition to that, I have a few of my own rules. First and foremost, NO CELL PHONES or TEXT MESSAGING during the lecture (parents and other care givers are exempt from this rule). Also, do not do homework during the lecture. Finally, no talking to one another while I’m lecturing.
Important Student Information Link:

In addition to course requirements and objectives that are in this syllabus, Montgomery College has information on its web site (see link below) to assist you in having a successful experience both inside and outside of the classroom. It is important that you read and understand this information.

The link below provides information and other resources to areas that pertain to the following: student behavior (student code of conduct), student e-mail, the tobacco free policy, withdraw and refund dates, disability support services, veteran services, how to access information on delayed openings and closings, how to register for the Montgomery College Alert System, and finally, how closings and delays can impact your classes. If you have any questions, please bring them to your professor. As rules and regulations change they will be updated and you will be able to access them through the link. If any student would like a written copy of these policies and procedures, the professor would be happy to provide them. By registering for this class and staying in this class, you are indicating that you acknowledge and accept these policies.

[http://cms.montgomerycollege.edu/mcsyllabus/](http://cms.montgomerycollege.edu/mcsyllabus/)