

SYLLABUS

Modern European Intellectual History
History 367
Rhodes College
Spring Semester 2000
Professor Lynn Zastoupil

Office: 307 Clough
Office Hours: T, Th, F, 10:00-11:00 (and by appointment)
Telephone: #3654, 276-0940 (home)

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course will introduce students to some of the main currents of European thought since the eighteenth century. Some general familiarity with the course of European history during this period is assumed; students unacquainted with modern European history will be expected to do extra reading on their own. Although there will be some lectures, the emphasis will be on extensive readings of works by leading intellectuals in order to introduce students to the critical reading of historical documents and to familiarize them with the varieties of European thought in the modern era. It is expected that students will leave this course with a firm understanding of the main developments and key figures of modern European intellectual history. Students will also be introduced to the task of writing critical historical essays on intellectual topics.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

This course requires extensive reading and active participation in classroom discussions on the part of all students. Students who find it difficult to participate fully in the class discussions may submit summaries of the assigned readings; these summaries may help raise the grade for classroom participation. Each student will also conduct research on a major figure or intellectual movement discussed in the class, make a presentation to the class based on this research and submit a four page summary of the presentation, which will be graded. There will also be two essay assignments, one due on February 24, the other near the end of the semester. **BOTH ESSAYS MUST BE HANDED IN BY CLASS TIME ON THE DAY DUE. LATE ESSAYS WILL BE PENALIZED BY ONE FULL LETTER GRADE.** Final grades will be determined as follows: class participation/written summaries - 40%; first essay - 20%; research presentation - 20%; second essay - 20%.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

Roland Stromberg, European Intellectual History Since 1789, 6th ed.
I. Kramnick, ed. The Portable Enlightenment Reader
E. Burke and T. Paine, Two Classics of the French Revolution
J. S. Mill, On Liberty
K. Marx and F. Engels, The Marx-Engels Reader, 2nd ed.
Joseph Conrad, Heart of Darkness
Friedrich Nietzsche, The Will to Power
Sigmund Freud, Civilization and Its Discontents
Virginia Woolf, A Room of One's Own
Albert Camus, The Stranger

COURSE OUTLINE

Week I Introduction
Jan. 13 Introduction

Week II Enlightenment

Jan. 18 Defining the Enlightenment (Kramnick, Parts 1-2)
Jan. 20 Skepticism, Anticlericalism and Tolerance (Kramnick, pp. 75-133, 140-80)

Week III Enlightenment (cont.)

Jan. 25 Political Reform (Kramnick, pp. 356-63, 369-95, 405-24, 442-59, 466-68, 515-51)
Jan. 27 Economic and Social Reform (Kramnick, pp. 222-28, 491-515, 560-68, 586-628)

Week IV Romanticism

Feb. 1 Rousseau and Herder (Kramnick, pp. 229-35, 363-69, 424-41)
Feb. 3 Romanticism (Stromberg, pp. 29-43)

Week V French Revolution

Feb. 8 Burke (Stromberg, pp. 14-23; Burke, selections)
Feb. 10 Paine (Paine, selections)

Week VI Liberalism

Feb. 15 Liberalism (Stromberg, pp. 44-64)
Feb. 17 J. S. Mill (Mill, pp. 3-52)

Week VII Liberalism and Revolution

Feb. 22 J. S. Mill (Mill, pp. 53-106, 177-90, 246-52)
Feb. 24 Industrialism and Revolution (Stromberg, pp. 64-88)

FIRST ESSAY DUE AT CLASS TIME ON FEBRUARY 24

Week VIII Socialism

Feb. 29 Origins of Socialism (Sadler Committee Report, handout)
March 2 Marx and Engels (Stromberg, pp. 89-102; Marx and Engels, pp. 70-81, 101-05, 146-75, 473-91, 499-500)

SPRING BREAK MARCH 6-10

Week IX Darwin and Social Darwinism

March 14 Darwin (Stromberg, Chpt. 4)
March 16 Late 19th Century Developments (Stromberg, Chpt. 6)

Week X Imperialism

March 21 Imperialism
March 23 Conrad (Conrad, pp. 7-76, 251-62, 268-85)

Week XI Nietzsche

March 28 Nietzsche and Modernism (Stromberg, Chpt. 5, Nietzsche, selections)
March 30 Nietzsche (Nietzsche, selections)

Week XII World War One and Aftermath

April 4 War and Despair (Stromberg, Chpt. 7)
April 6 Freud (Freud, all)

Week XIII Feminism

April 11 Nineteenth-Century Background (Stromberg, pp. 293-301, Mill, pp. 109-19)
April 13 Woolf (Woolf, all)

Week XIV World War Two and the Holocaust

April 18 Pre- and Post-War Thought (Stromberg, Chpts. 8-9)
April 20 Easter Recess

Week XV Existentialism and Radical Sixties

April 25 Existentialism (Camus, all)

April 27 Radical Sixties (Stromberg, Chpt. 10)

SECOND ESSAY DUE AT CLASS TIME APRIL 27