History 232: Modern European History II

Cynthia Smith

Prerequisite: English 100

Required Texts:


The Communist Manifesto, Karl Marx (any edition)

Supplemental Readings will be given in class

I. COURSE OBJECTIVES:

There are three main objectives for this course. The first is to provide an overview of European history from the watershed of Napoleonic rule and the legacies of the French Revolution through the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, ending with the choices Europeans now face in the post Cold War world. Formative events and controversial issues will be emphasized and discussed.

The second goal is to more fully use writing as a tool to understand history and its relevance. The field of history relies almost entirely on interpretation. By analyzing and writing about the material, students will go beyond simply learning what other historians think and actually practice the craft of history themselves. History should be a dynamic discipline, and writing is a natural way to become engaged in the material.

Finally, formulating an opinion and expressing and supporting it persuasively in writing are skills that are essential not only for career success, but for the emergence of an informed global citizen.

As a writing intensive course, the emphasis is on students working with the material and showing their understanding of it through formal written work. In addition to the established conference, students are encouraged to take advantage of the assistance available, both from the open door of the instructor and other sources such as the library and the Learning Center.
II. Course Requirements:

Attendance:

Much of the learning occurs in class, through discussion, participation and lecture. If you are not there, you are not benefiting from, nor contributing to, that experience.

Participation:

This class will include small group work and class discussions. You are expected to be a participating member in particular during scheduled class discussions.

Reading:

Although there are no points given specifically for reading, class discussions and lectures will be based on the assumption that the reading has been done prior to coming to class.

Essays:

There will be four essays assigned. They will ask for historical evaluation of the material covered in class. They will require students to analyze the historical information covered and come to their own conclusions about the key historical questions addressed.

Essays will be returned to students with detailed comments. There will be a mandatory rewriting of the first essay, incorporating the comments made. Students will have the option of rewriting the following two essays for a higher grade. There will be required student/teacher conferences following the first essay to discuss initial writing problems/concerns. Students will be encouraged to continue one on one assistance throughout the course.

The fourth essay will be a longer essay, and will require some research of material in addition to the class readings. There will be a mandatory rough draft for the third essay.

Essays 1, 2 and 3 will be 3-4 pages and worth 40 points each. Essay 4 will be 6-7 pages and worth 60 points. The rough draft will be worth 10 points

Quizzes:

There will be three (3) quizzes given. These will take the form of written identification of terms, ideas, and events covered in class. Quizzes will be taken at your convenience in the testing center in 7/421 during designated periods. 15 points each

Grades:
Grades will be determined as follows:

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<tr>
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<th>Points</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance/ Participation</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essays</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>D/F</td>
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220 - 245 = A  
196 - 219 = B  
171 - 195 = C  
147 - 170 = D  
Under 147 = F