

**WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY**  
**Graduate Liberal Studies Program**

**SOCS 638**

**Summer, 2011**

**Europe from the French Revolution to the Great War,  
1789 - 1914**

**BOOKS: Broad Street Books will have copies of the following:**

John Merriman, History of Modern Europe, Third Edition, Vol 2  
Eric Hobsbawm, The Age of Revolution  
D. G. Williamson, Bismarck and Germany  
James Joll, The Origins of World War I  
Geoff Eley, Forging Democracy: The Left in Europe, 1850-2000  
[Part I only, so you may choose not to purchase; other options are available]

**SCHEDULE OF CLASSES, READINGS, AND EXAMINATIONS:**

**Note:** Readings listed below are intended to offer both introduction and interpretations about the course of European history in the 19th century. Students are urged to make use of Olin Library's excellent collection, and to supplement the listed readings with choices of their own. Suggestions for supplementary reading will be offered in class. The "Documents," are available in two installments, on line under "Moodle," accessible through your Wesleyan portfolio.

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 6: [1] INTRODUCTION AND  
[2] THE FRENCH REVOLUTION AND NAPOLEON.**

1. Models of revolution
2. Ideologies of change and counter-revolution
3. Radicalization and Export of Revolution
4. Napoleon and Europe

John Merriman, History of Modern Europe, chapters 12 and 13, or  
Eric Hobsbawm, The Age of Revolution, chapters 1, 3, and 4

Documents:

- "The Marseillaise"
- "Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen"
- "Robespierre's Last Speech"

## **SOCS 638 Summer, 2011 -2-**

### **FRIDAY, JULY 8: THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION.**

1. Definitions of industrialization
2. England's example: economic, political, and social
3. France's skepticism: resistance to industrialization
4. Changing societies

John Merriman, History of Modern Europe, chapter 14 or  
Eric Hobsbawm, The Age of Revolution, chapter 2, 8-11  
and Documents:

- Taine, "Notes on England"
- Ure, "The Philosophy of Manufacturers"
- Dickens, "Dombey and Son"
- "The 1834 Poor Law Report"
- "Child Labor in the Factories"
- Chadwick, "The Sanitary Condition of the Labouring Population"
- Wilson, "Chartism in Halifax"
- Smiles, "Self Help"
- Shelley, "England in 1819"
- Duke Of Wellington, "Tory Opposition to Reform"
- Macaulay, "The 1832 Reform Bill"
- Cobden, "Repeal of the Corn Laws"

### **MONDAY, JULY 11: REACTION AND REVOLUTION, 1815-1848**

1. The Vienna settlement, 1815
2. France: Restoration, revolution, and the "bourgeois" monarchy
3. German disunity: Prussia and Austria
4. Plans for Italian unity
5. Utopian Socialism

John Merriman, History of Modern Europe, chapters 15, or  
Eric Hobsbawm, The Age of Revolution, chapters 5-7,12,13, 16 or  
Geoff Eley, Forging Democracy: The Left in Europe, 1850-2000,  
chapters 1-3 and Documents:

- Guizot, "On Voting"
- "Proudhon and Saint-Simon"

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**WEDNESDAY, JULY 13: [1] REVOLUTIONS OF 1848 [2] RUSSIA:  
AUTOCRACY, REBELLION, AND REPRESSION, 1801-1855**

1. Revolutions of 1848

1. France, Germany, and Italy in 1848
2. The brief collapse of the old order
3. Political and social strife
4. A turning point in history?

2. Russia, 1801-1825

1. The abortive reforms of Tsar Alexander I
2. The first Russian revolutionaries: the Decembrist revolt of 1825
3. Tsar Nicholas I: Autocracy, Orthodoxy, and Nationality
4. The Opposition

John Merriman, History of Modern Europe, chapter 16, or  
Eric Hobsbawm, The Age of Revolution, chapter 16

**MONDAY, JULY 18: VICTORIAN ORDER**

1. The confidence of the 19th century
2. Family, morality, religion, and authority
3. Political agreement: parliament, parties, and power
4. Political disagreement: Disraeli vs. Gladstone
5. The Queen and the royal family

John Merriman, History of Modern Europe, pages 686-705, and  
Chapter 19

Documents:

- Bagheot, "The English Constitution"
- The Prince Consort, "The Great Exhibition, 1851"
- "Winston Churchill on Progress"

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**MONDAY, JULY 18: FIRST TAKE-HOME EXAMINATION DUE**

*The examination will be handed out in class on July 11. Your paper should be no longer than 5 printed pages, exclusive of endnotes. It is due **by the beginning of class on July 18**. Please send it by e-mail to [nagreen@wesleyan.edu](mailto:nagreen@wesleyan.edu)*

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**WEDNESDAY, JULY 20: [1] GERMAN AND ITALIAN UNIFICATION [2] FRANCE:  
EMPIRE, PARIS COMMUNE, AND REPUBLIC**

1. German and Italian Unification
  1. Prussia vs. Austria
  2. Bismarck's Prussia: old and new power
  3. Bismarck's Empire: Blood and Iron
  4. Bismarck's alliances and alignments
  5. Italy: Accident or Design? .
  
2. France: Empire, Paris Commune, and Republic
  1. The Second Empire of Napoleon III
  2. The Paris Commune of 1871
  3. The Third Republic
  4. Political and Social struggles

John Merriman, History of Modern Europe, chapter 17,  
And pages 725-744, and

D. G. Williamson, Bismarck and Germany  
and

Documents:

- “The Paris Commune, 1871”
- “Manifesto of the Comte de Chambord 1871”
- “Clericalism, There is the Enemy”
- “Jules Ferry on Education”
- “General Boulanger’s Campaign”

**MONDAY, JULY 25: MARXIAN SOCIALISM AND ANARCHISM**

1. The Manifesto
2. The Development of Marxian Socialism
3. Bakunin and Anarchism
4. Socialist Paths

John Merriman, History of Modern Europe, chapter 20 or  
Geoff Eley, Forging Democracy: The Left in Europe, 1850-2000,  
chapters 4-6, [and chapter 2 if you didn’t read it earlier,] and

**SOCS 638 Summer, 2011 -5-**

Documents:

- Marx&Engels, “The Communist Manifesto”
- “Keir Hardie on Socialism,”
- Jaurès, Discours à la Jeunesse,”
- “Syndicalism in France”
- “Fernand Pelloutier on the General Strike”

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 27 : IMPERIALISM AND NATIONALISM**

1. Theories of Imperialism
2. British and French Imperialism
3. German and Italian Imperialism
4. The Dreyfus Affair and the New Right in France

John Merriman, History of Modern Europe, chapter 21 and

Documents:

- “The Concept of Empire”
- “England’s Mission”
- “Jules Ferry and Imperialism”
- Drumont, on Dreyfus and the Jews
- Emile Zola, “I Accuse”
- “Dictator and King by Charles Maurras”
- “Dreyfus After His Pardon”

**MONDAY, AUGUST 1: RUSSIA: REFORM, REACTION, AND REVOLUTION, 1855-1905**

1. Tsar-Liberator: Alexander II
2. Revolutionary opposition
3. Reaction again: Alexander III
4. Industrialization and its consequences
5. The Revolution of 1905

John Merriman, History of Modern Europe, pages 705-725, and

Documents:

- “Pobedonostev’s Advice to the Tsars”
  - Lenin, “What Is To Be Done?”
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***WEDNESDAY AUGUST 3: SECOND TAKE-HOME EXAMINATION DUE.***

*The examination will be distributed on July 30. Please send it by e-mail to [ngreene@wesleyan.edu](mailto:ngreene@wesleyan.edu)*

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**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3: THE ORIGINS OF THE GREAT WAR AND CONCLUSIONS**

1. Alliances and Armaments
2. Planning for War
3. German Responsibility?
4. Nationalities and Nationalism
5. Social Conflicts
6. Collective responsibility?
7. Progress, Power, and Promise
8. The Climax of Enlightenment
9. An Age of Illusions

James Joll, *The Origins of World War I*

John Merriman, *History of Modern Europe*, chapter 22 to page 888,

Documents:

- “David Lloyd George in 1908,”
- Gabrielle d’Annunzio
- “Marinetti: The Founding and Manifesto of Futurism”
- “Léon Jouhaux at Jaurès’ Grave, 1914”
- Dangerfield, “England in 1914”

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***FRIDAY, AUGUST 5, 12 NOON: ABSOLUTE FINAL DUE DATE FOR SECOND TAKE-HOME EXAMINATION.***

***PAPERS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY E-MAIL TO [ngreene@wesleyan.edu](mailto:ngreene@wesleyan.edu)***

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