



中央民族大学  
MINZU UNIVERSITY OF CHINA

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## Minzu University of China

### HIST 300 European History From 1870

#### Summer 2020

#### Basic Information

**Class hours:** Monday through Friday, 3 hours each day

**Office Hours:** 2 hours (According to professors' teaching plan)

**Field Trip:** According to professors' teaching plan

**Credit:** 6

**Total contact hours:** 90 (50 minutes each)

**Instructor:** TBA

**Prerequisites:** None

#### Course Description

This course will examine European history from 1870 to the present by tracing the decline of European hegemony and the gradual de-Europeanization and de-Westernization of global geopolitics. We will focus on the evolution of political systems, geopolitical ideologies, public opinion formation, de-colonization, and Europe's cultural variety and heritage during this period as well as all these factors' legacy in the contemporary world.

#### Learning Objectives

Successful completion of the course will allow students to

1. **Historical Literacy-** Students will gain an understanding of the scope, breadth, and richness of historical studies.
2. **Critical Thinking-** Students will learn to apply historical methods to critically evaluate the record of the past and how historians and others have interpreted it.
3. **Research Skills-** Students will acquire basic historical research skills, including (as appropriate) the effective use of libraries, archives, and databases.
4. **Communication Skills-** Students will learn to organize and express their thoughts clearly and coherently both in writing and orally.
5. **Writing & Intellectual-** Students will demonstrate their mastery of the knowledge and skills involved in historical practice by conceptualizing and executing a significant piece of original research.



### Readings

We will read the following text, so you need to purchase it. We will discuss the chapters in class on a weekly basis and you will be graded on participating in these discussions.

David Clay Large and Felix Gilbert, *The End of the European Era: 1890 to the Present* Sixth Edition (New York: W. W. Norton, 2008)

### Requirements and Grading

#### Exams

We will have two quizzes, a mid-term exam, and a final exam for this course. Consult the class schedule for details below.

#### Attendance

We will take attendance, so come to class. If you miss lectures, your grade will plummet. If you miss for reasons of illness, I will need documentation. I will make no exceptions.

#### Grading

Your final grade will be broken down as follows: 20% attendance, 20% participation in discussions, 20% two quizzes on lecture content and reading (10% each), 20% mid-term exam, and 20% final exam.

#### Grading Policy

|        |    |       |    |       |    |       |    |          |   |
|--------|----|-------|----|-------|----|-------|----|----------|---|
| 97-100 | A+ | 87-89 | B+ | 77-79 | C+ | 67-69 | D+ | Below 60 | F |
| 94-96  | A  | 84-86 | B  | 74-76 | C  | 64-66 | D  |          |   |
| 90-93  | A- | 80-83 | B- | 70-73 | C- | 60-63 | D- |          |   |

### Course Outline

#### Week 1

Monday: Introduction to the Course and Discussion of Historical Terms and Methods

Tuesday lecture 1: The Age of European Modernity

Wednesday lecture 2: European Colonialism as Globalization

Thursday lecture 3: The Great War

Friday lecture: *The End of the European Era* (Chapters 1-2)

#### Week 2

Monday lecture 4 and Quiz 1: The Roaring 1920s

Tuesday lecture 5: The Great Depression and Communism

Wednesday lecture 6: Communism and Nazism

Thursday lecture 7: The Second World War

Friday lecture: *The End of the European Era* (Chapters 3-7)



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### **Week 3**

Monday lecture 8: Reconstruction and the Cold War

Tuesday lecture 9: Decolonization I

Wednesday: MIDTERM EXAM

Thursday lecture 10: Decolonization II

Friday lecture: *The End of the European Era* (Chapters 8-10)

### **Week 4**

Monday lecture 11: Entrenchment and Revolt in the 1960s

Tuesday lecture 12: Superpower Hegemonies

Wednesday lecture 13: Détente

Thursday lecture 14 and Quiz 2: The 1970s as Crisis and Opportunity

Friday lecture: *The End of the European Era* (Chapters 11-13)

### **Week 5**

Monday lecture 15: Delusions and Idealism

Tuesday lecture 16: Cold War's End

Wednesday lecture 17: The Post-Cold War World

Thursday lecture: *The End of the European Era* (Chapters 14-17)

Friday: FINAL EXAM

### **Class Expectations**

This course is a mix of lectures and discussions. Please note that because this is a 6-credit course, our sessions will be three hours each. We will take short breaks in between lecture and discussions. You will be graded based on your exams and discussions in which I expect active participation from you. Feel free to ask questions about the lectures and readings and to debate with each other. Do not sit in silence because it will bring your grade down. If you have issues about speaking in class, talk to me during office hours or before or after class.

### **Office Hours**

Office hours exist to clear up any misunderstandings about the course or its materials, to address a student's scholarship and, most importantly, to allow for one-on-one contact between you and me. I encourage the development of intellectual relationships that lead to self-discovery, so I cordially invite you to visit me.