History 328.001 -- Contemporary Europe – Spring 2020

Syllabus

Instructor: Dr. Troy Davis  
Department: History  
Office: 303, Liberal Arts North  
Office Hours: M-F 9:00-9:50 a.m.; 2:00-3:00 p.m.; and by appointment  
Office Phone: 468-2229 or 468-3802  
E-Mail: TDavis@sfasu.edu  
Class Meeting Time and Place: MWF 10:00-10:50 a.m., Ferguson 475


Required books:  
*One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*, by Alexander Solzhenitsyn  
*Under a Cruel Star: A Life in Prague 1941-1968*, by Heda Kovály  
*The Fall of the Berlin Wall: The Revolutionary Legacy of 1989*, edited by Jeffrey A. Engel

Course Description: Analysis of Europe since World War I. Topics include the breakdown of the peace settlement ending World War I, the impact of world War II on Europe, the rise and fall of the Cold War, decolonization and recent developments.

Course grade: Your grade for this course will be based on your performance on four exams and a five- to seven-page paper dealing with the three books by Solzhenitsyn, Kovály, and Engel. Each of the assignments will be worth 20 percent of your final grade. The fourth exam will be administered during finals week, but it will be non-cumulative.

Attendance policy: Regular attendance and interaction with other class participants is an important part of any university-level course. Accordingly, your final average in this course will be dropped three percentage points for each absence beyond six. In addition, in order to discourage excessive tardiness, which is distracting to both the instructor and other students, two tardies will be treated as the equivalent of one absence. (If you have to leave any class meeting early for some legitimate reason, please notify Dr. Davis of that fact before the class period begins. Otherwise, you will be counted absent for that period.)

Makeup policy: Makeup exams will be allowed only in documented cases of emergency. If you fail to show up for an exam without having first consulted with Dr. Davis (or without having first called the History Department office in an attempt to consult with Dr. Davis), you will receive a grade of zero for that exam. Makeup exams that are allowed will be administered during the last week of classes.

Policy on cheating and plagiarism: Cheating and plagiarism are extremely serious offenses and will not be tolerated in this course. Any student caught cheating on an exam or plagiarizing any part of his or her paper will receive an F in the course. A full description of university procedures and penalties in response to cheating and plagiarism can be found in university policy 4.1, Student Academic Dishonesty, available here: http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/4.1-student-academic-dishonesty.pdf.

Students with disabilities: To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the
accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.

Cell phones and electronic devices: Please turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices before coming to class.

Classroom conduct: Unprofessional or inappropriate behavior, especially any that might distract or demoralize other students and interfere with their learning (side conversations, texting, sleeping in class, etc.) may result in your being asked to leave the classroom.

Course Schedule:

**Europe, 1917-1945**

Topic 1 -- Soviet History, 1917-39

Topic 2 -- International Relations in Europe during the Interwar Years and World War II

*February 7 -- First Exam (Covers Topics 1 and 2, plus Solzhenitsyn book.)*

**The Early Postwar Period, 1945-55**

Topic 3 -- Aftermath of the War and the New Balance of Power in Europe

Topic 4 -- The Transition from War to Peace (Wegs and Ladrech, chapter 2)

Topic 5 -- Breakdown of the Wartime Alliance and Onset of the Cold War (Wegs and Ladrech, chapter 1)

Topic 6 -- Western European Politics, 1948-55 (Wegs and Ladrech, chapters 3 and 4)

Topic 7 -- Developments in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, 1948-55

*March 6 -- Second Exam (Covers Topics 3-7.)*

**Consolidation in Europe, 1955-72**

Topic 8 -- Cold War Developments, 1955-72

Topic 9 -- Developments in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, 1955-72 (Wegs and Ladrech, chapters 6 and 9)

Topic 10 -- Developments in Western Europe, 1955-72: France as a Case Study (Wegs and Ladrech, chapter 10)

*April 8 -- Third Exam (Covers Topics 8-10, plus Kovály book.)*
The End of the Postwar Era, 1972-Present

Topic 11 -- End of the Postwar Era: Western Europe (Wegs and Ladrech, chapter 12)

Topic 12 -- End of the Postwar Era: Eastern Europe (Wegs and Ladrech, chapter 11)

Topic 13 – Europe since the Cold War: A Return to Nationalism? (Wegs and Ladrech, chapters 11 and 14)

April 27 -- Papers due.

Monday, May 4, 10:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m. -- Fourth Exam (Covers Topics 11-13.)
Additional Information on Learning Outcomes and University Policies Relevant to this Course

Program Learning Outcomes:
The SFA History Department has identified the following Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) for all SFA students earning a B.A. degree in History:

1. Interpret the past in context.
2. Understand the complex nature of the historical record.
3. Engage in historical inquiry, research, and analysis.
4. Craft historical narrative and argument.
5. Practice historical thinking as central to engaged citizenship.

This course will focus on all five PLOs to varying degrees.

Student Learning Outcomes
The more specific outcomes for this particular course are as follows:

1. The student will be able to explain why the peace settlement ending World War I failed to secure European stability.
2. The student will be able to explain how the breakdown of the World War II alliance between the Soviet Union and the Western democracies divided Europe politically, economically, and militarily.
3. The student will be able to explain the “economic miracle” that allowed Western Europe to recover so quickly from the devastating effects of the Second World War.
4. The student will be able to explain the economic, political, social, and psychological factors contributing to Western European integration from the 1950s onward.
5. The student will be able to explain the process by which the communist system collapsed in Eastern Europe in the 1980s and how the end of the Cold War has affected Europe, both East and West, since then.

Explanation of credit hours awarded for course:
This is an upper-level history course. Upper-level lecture courses in history meet for 150 minutes each week for 14 weeks and also meet for a 2.5-hour final examination. Students typically have weekly reading assignments from a combination of textbooks, monographs, scholarly articles, primary document collections, and supplemental materials (biographies, historical novels, memoirs, etc). The level of reading is more advanced than that required in lower-level surveys, and the number of pages students are required to read is generally higher. Typical upper-level courses require students to take 2-3 essay exams per semester, in addition to the final exam, which is also generally a written exam. In addition, out-of-class writing assignments (book reviews, biographical sketches, research papers, etc) are typically required in upper-level courses. Course instructors are required to hold regular scheduled office hours to make themselves available to consult with students as needed. Combined, studying for exams, doing the required reading, completing writing assignments, and consulting with course instructors average two hours of work outside the classroom for every hour spent in the classroom. Online sections of upper-level courses contain extensive written content within modules, and instructors hold "electronic office hours" to consult with students as needed, generally responding to student inquiries within twenty-four hours. Online course content includes the same information students
in a face-to-face lecture course receive, requiring students to engage the online modules for at least 150 minutes per week. Besides engaging the material in the modules, online students have outside reading assignments similar to those mentioned above for face-to-face students. Thus, for every hour an online student spends engaging the content in the modules, he/she spends at least two hours completing associated activities and assessments.

**Academic Integrity (Student Academic Dishonesty, Policy 4.1)**

Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

**Definition of Academic Dishonesty**

Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/4.1-student-academic-dishonesty.pdf](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/4.1-student-academic-dishonesty.pdf)

**Withheld Grades (Course Grades, Policy 5.5)**

Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.