

# History 120: The History of Europe, 1815-Present

Instructor: Benjamin Shannon  
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Office: Humanities 4269  
Office Hours: M, 2:30-4:30

Lecture: TR, 2:05pm-3:20pm  
Location: Humanities 1221

## Course Description

The nineteenth and twentieth centuries witnessed the spectacular rise and fall of European dominance in world affairs. But even in the twenty-first-century climate of globalization, Europe still plays an important role in shaping the modern world. Through an examination of the social, political, cultural, and intellectual histories of Europe, this course will demonstrate how Europe's collective past contributes to our understanding of the present.

## Course Objectives

Upon completing this course, students should be able to:

- Identify key concepts and themes in the history of Europe, 1815 to the present
- Analyze primary sources related to European history and understand their significance
- Construct an argument by comparing two or more primary source documents
- Clearly communicate knowledge, both verbally and through the written word

## Grades

Grades are based on the following scale:

100-93 = A  
92-88 = A/B  
87-83 = B  
82-77 = B/C  
76-70 = C  
69-60 = D  
59-0 = F

Final grades will be calculated accordingly:

Midterm Paper (3pgs) = 15%  
Final Paper (5-7pgs) = 25%  
Midterm Exam = 20%  
Final Exam = 20%  
Discussion = 20%

## Written Assignments

Students will complete two written assignments: a midterm paper (due 10/08) and a final paper (due 12/03). These assignments will be based on topics covered in discussion section, and should be written using in-class materials (i.e. no outside research). Their purpose is to familiarize students with the task of analyzing primary source documents within their historical contexts. Assignments must be turned in on their due date, at the beginning of class. If they are not turned on time, assignments will be penalized one letter grade for each day late. Deadline extensions will only be permitted in extreme situations or in the case of disability accommodation.