

History 359: History of Europe Since 1945

Instructor: Ben Shannon
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Office Location: Humanities 5265
Office Hours: MTWR, 4:00 – 4:30pm

Lecture Time: MTWR, 1:00 – 4:00pm
Location: Humanities 1221

Course Description

What are the legacies of World War II? Was the Cold War a time of stability or change? What are the origins of the European Union and what are its historical obstacles? How has ideology shaped the history of Europe? These questions will guide this course as we explore the following topics:

- Europe's Transition from World War to Cold War
- Communism in Eastern Europe
- Social Democracy and Consumer Culture in Western Europe
- The End of European Empires
- Protest Movements of the 1960s
- Secularization and Religious Renewal
- The Decline and Fall of Communism
- The Persistence of Nationalism and Extremism
- Efforts at European Union

Course Objectives

Upon completing this course, students should be able to:

- Identify key concepts and themes in the history of Europe since 1945
- Analyze primary source documents and understand their historical significance
- Construct a well-reasoned argument by comparing two or more primary source documents
- Clearly communicate knowledge, both verbally and through the written word

Assessment

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:

Discussion = 15%
Timeline Project = 10%
Exam 1 (6/30) = 10%
Exam 2 (7/11) = 20%
Exam 3 (7/18) = 20%
Final Exam (7/21) = 25%

(For the full version of this syllabus, please contact me at btshannon@wisc.edu)