

Dr. J. Trygve Has-Ellison
University of Texas at Dallas
Department of Historical Studies
HIST 3336.501
Office Hours MW 6-7 pm JO 5.712
john.has-ellison@utdallas.edu
jhasllsn@eaze.net

TWENTIETH CENTURY EUROPEAN CULTURE AND SOCIETY

Wednesdays 7-9:45 pm, JO 4.102

The twentieth century in Europe witnessed both catastrophic inhumanity and the rebuilding of civil society. European society also endured a post-industrial, post-imperial “hangover” that is still being negotiated to this day. In addition, American culture has dramatically changed the landscape of the European consciousness. This course will discuss these issues and will offer a basic understanding of the modern and anti-modern elements in European culture, from fascism and communism to pop culture, rock and roll, gender, and the anarchist moment.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Eric Dorn Brose, *A History of Europe in the Twentieth Century*

Modris Eksteins, *Rites of Spring*

Greil Marcus, *Lipstick Traces*

Jonathan Petropoulos, *Art as Politics in the Third Reich*

Sabrina P. Ramet and Gordana P. Crnkovic, *Kazaaam! Splat! Ploof! The American Impact on European Popular Culture since 1945*

Corinna Treitel, *A Science for the Soul*

EXAMINATIONS:

There will be a mid-term and a final. The final will not be comprehensive. Each exam will consist solely of essay questions, which will come from a list supplied before the exam. Exams are graded on factual content, but also on the originality of analysis.

ESSAYS:

Two book reviews, and a bibliographic essay (including a short oral presentation of your essay topic) is required. You will write one book review on one of our five specialized course texts (Eksteins, Marcus, Petropoulos, Ramet and Crnkovic, Treitel), and one book review on a novel chosen from a list that I will provide. Your bibliographic essay will address a particular aspect of European culture whether regional, national, or pan-European. The topic of the bibliographic essay is chosen in consultation with me, and must be made by the fourth week of classes. At the end of the fourth week, you must turn in a one-page paper with your topic title and a bibliography of possible sources. By

mid-term prepare to give a progress report on your topic. To eliminate confusion, both a book review template and sample example of a bibliographic essay will be supplied.

All papers are to be typed. Hand written and late papers will not be accepted, and each written assignment must conform to standard, grammatical rules. Unreadable papers will be handed back to the student with the expectation that the offense to the feelings of the English language will be rectified. Grades are based on clarity, analysis, understanding of the subject, and creativity. Original ideas that can be supported with evidence are always welcome.

GRADES:

This course has all the traditional elements: tests, papers, and attendance. But, more is required. This course calls for student participation: through engagement with the texts and vocal presentations. Grades will be based on exams (40%), papers (40%), and class participation (20%). Obviously, attendance will be a plus factor in determining your grade. Attendance and absences will be recorded and evaluated according to The University of Texas at Dallas guidelines. Attendance is taken into consideration when a student has earned a borderline grade. A student that has not been present, nor has shown any interest in participating in class, earns a grade based solely on their written work. Students who are present physically and mentally can positively affect their grade through their willingness to engage with the material, the professor, and their classmates.

All written work must be original; plagiarism or cheating will result in a failing grade. Missed exams cannot be made up without appropriate documentation (i.e. a doctor's note on office stationery, an official letter from the University, etc.). Disruptive or unscholarly behavior has no place in the classroom and will not be tolerated.

CLASS SCHEDULE:

January 11 – Introduction to the Class

January 18 – Brose, Chapter 1; Treitel, pages 1-82

January 25 – Brose, Chapter 2; Treitel, pages 83-164

January 25 – Last day to drop class

February 1 – Brose, Chapter 3; Eksteins pages 1-135: Bibliographic essay topic and source list due

February 8 – Brose, Chapter 4; Eksteins pages 139-331: First book review due

February 15 – Brose, Chapter 5; Petropoulos, pages

February 22 – Brose, Chapter 6; Petropoulos, pages

March 1 – Midterm

March 8 – Spring Break

March 15 – Brose, Chapter 7; Marcus, pages 1-152: Second book review due

March 16 – Last day to Withdraw from class

March 22 – No class

March 29 – Brose, Chapter 8; Marcus, pages 163-

April 5 – Brose, Chapter 9; Ramet and Crnkovic, pages 1-126

April 12 – Brose, Chapter 10; Ramet and Crnkovic, pages 127-234

April 19 – Brose, Chapter 11; Bibliographic Essay and Oral Report due

April 26 – Final Exam