

Fascism, Communism and the Crisis of Liberal Democracy: Europe,
1919_1945

This course will explore the political, social and cultural identity crisis that Western Europe faced in the interwar period, with special emphasis on the challenges to liberal democracy that were launched from mass movements on opposite ends of the political spectrum. In dissecting this crisis, we will attempt to understand where it came from, why it took the course that it did, and how it fits into the longer term narrative of Europe's democratization.

The course requirements include a final exam, given during the regularly scheduled exam period, and a short paper, 5_7 pages, double-spaced. In addition, students will have the choice of 1) enrolling in a discussion section, which will meet once a week and will require some short writing assignments, OR 2) taking an in-class midterm. No grade will be given unless all written assignments have been completed, and unexused late assignments will be penalized.

The following books have been ordered at Groundworks Bookstore:

William Sheridan Allen, The Nazi Seizure of Power
Sheila Fitzpatrick, The Russian Revolution
Joachim Remak, The Nazi Years: A Documentary History
Martin Blinkhorn, Fascism and the Right in Europe, 1919-1945

These books have also been placed on reserve at the Central Library. Also on reserve are several copies of a textbook, Society, State and Nation in Twentieth Century Europe, for those of you who need a general overview of events. In addition, a packet of readings (those marked by a "*" on the syllabus), which each of you may purchase, can be found at University Readers.

PART I: POST-WAR EUROPE: "THE END OF THE WORLD AS WE KNOW IT?"

April 1 INTRODUCTION: Europe in 1919

Reading: Blinkhorn, chs. 2-3

*Mark Mazower, Dark Continent, Preface, Intro (pp 3-5, 22-27)

April 3 CRISIS IN GENDER RELATIONS: "THE WOMAN QUESTION"

Reading: *Roderick Phillips, Society, State and Nation, pp.142-46,
202-4

Primary Documents: all from Lives and Voices

*Alexandra Kollantai, "Communism and the Family"

*Elsa Hermann, "This is the New Woman"

*French Suffrage Society, "Votes for Women"

April 8 CULTURAL CRISIS: THE CRITIQUE OF LIBERAL SOCIETY

Reading: * Europe: Crisis and Conflict, pp 4-7

Primary Documents:

*Martinetti, "Manifesto of Futurism"

April 10 POLITICAL CRISIS: REVOLUTION IN RUSSIA

Reading: Fitzpatrick, The Russian Revolution, Intro, chs.1_2

Primary Documents:

*Lenin, selections

April 15 POLITICAL CRISIS: THE EMERGENCE OF FASCISM

Reading: Blinkhorn, ch.1,6, pp.115-116

April 17 THE RISE OF FASCISM IN ITALY

Blinkhorn, p 31-36

Primary Documents:

*Giacomo Matteotti, The Fascisti Exposed, "The Conquest of Molinella" (pp.103-119)

*Charles Delzell, Mediterranean Fascism, pp.12-25,
(fascist programs, speeches)

April 22 CRISIS AND STABILIZATION: SPAIN AND GERMANY

Reading: *Richard Bessel, "Why did the Weimar Republic Collapse?",
in Ian Kershaw, ed. Weimar: Why did German Democracy Fail?, pp.
120-132

*Luis Arranz et.al., "The Assault on Liberalism, 1914-1923", in Junco/
Shubert, eds., Spanish History Since 1808

April 24 RETURN TO NORMALCY: BRITAIN AND FRANCE

Reading: *Robin Winks and R.J.Q.Adams, Europe: Crisis and Conflict, pp 28-41, 176-185

Part II: INTERWAR CRISIS: THE SECOND WAVE

April 29 THE DEPRESSION

Reading: *Mazower, Dark Continent, ch.4, "Crisis of Capitalism"

Primary Documents:

*Men Without Work, pp.ix-xii, 100-101, 133-143, 143-154,
180-188

May 1 MIDTERM

May 6 THE SOVIET UNION: FROM LENIN TO STALIN

Reading: The Russian Revolution, chs.3_5

Primary Documents:

*Joseph Stalin, "The Socialist Drive", in Robert Daniels, The Stalin Revolution (pp.59-66)

May 8 ITALY: THE FASCIST STATE IN OPERATION

Reading: Blinkhorn, pp 65-71

Primary Documents:

*Delzell, ed. Mediterranean Fascism, pp.107-109, 120-126, 133-34, 199-201

May 13 SPAIN: THE REPUBLIC AND THE CIVIL WAR

Reading: *Nigel Townson, "The Second Republic, 1931-1936", in Spanish History since 1808

Blinkhorn, pp 54-56, 77-82

Primary Documents:

*Jose Maria Peman speech, in The Spanish Civil War, ed. Kenwood, pp.58-62

*Jose Antonio Primo de Rivera, "26 Point Program of the Falange", in Delzell, ed. Mediterranean Fascism, (pp.272-277)

*Manuel Cortes excerpt from In Hiding

May 15 FRANCE: FROM POPULAR FRONT TO COLLABORATION

Reading: *Paxton, Europe in the Twentieth Century, pp.388-396

*Leslie Derfler, An Age of Conflict, ch.7, "Resistance or Collaboration? The Example of Vichy France" (pp.172-197)

* Stanley Payne, A History of Fascism, 1914-1945, pp.397-

402

May 20 GERMANY: THE RISE OF FASCISM

Reading: Blinkhorn, pp 37-42

William Sheridan Allen, The Nazi Seizure of Power, Part 3_138 l,pp.

*Richard Bessel, "Why did Weimar fail?" pp.132-152

Primary Documents:

The Nazi Years, ch.3

May 22 Propaganda: FILM: "Triumph of the Will"

May 27-29 HITLER AND THE NAZI STATE

Reading: Blinkhorn, pp 71-77
Nazi Seizure of Power, Part II

Primary Documents:
The Nazi Years, ch.4

June 3 THE "NEW ORDER": WAR AND HOLOCAUST

Reading: Blinkhorn, pp 88-93

Winks and Adam, Europe: Crisis and Conflict, pp 216-44

*Christopher Browning, "One Day in Jozefow: Initiation to
Murder", in Nazism and German Society (pp.300-315)

Mass

Primary Documents:

The Nazi Years, chs.8-10

June 5 EUROPE IN 1945