

History and Literature 97
Sophomore Tutorial: Modern Europe

Spring 2009
 Wednesdays 1-4 pm
 Robinson Hall 208

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This course provides an introduction to key methods in interdisciplinary scholarship, while exploring questions such as “what is history?”, “what is literature?”, and “what is Europe?”. In order to provide a focus for such broad areas of inquiry, our discussions will center on three major novels from Britain, France, and Germany. Each week, we will put these readings in dialogue with other primary texts—ranging from philosophy to poetry to journalism—and with scholarly works by historians and literary critics. While considering historical developments such as the world wars, European colonialism, and the literary turn from realism to modernism, we will follow a central thread: examining the ways in which “Europe” has been imagined during the past 250 years. Each of our primary texts implicitly or explicitly addresses the boundaries of Europe—whether by imagining Europe’s borderlands and colonies, or by dramatizing the experience of Europe’s internal “others” (Jews, Muslims, disenfranchised women). Through both close reading and historical research, we will explore how these imagined boundaries have changed over time, as well as how the debates of previous centuries continue to live on in contemporary arguments about the unification of Europe.

Required readings:

The following texts are available for purchase at the Coop:
 Louis-Ferdinand Céline, *Journey to the End of the Night*
 George Eliot, *Daniel Deronda*
 Günter Grass, *The Tin Drum*

Some of our readings (as marked on the syllabus) are available as online resources. Make sure to print out a copy to bring to class.

A course packet, with photocopies of our other assigned readings, will be kept in our Sophomore Tutorial box in the Hist & Lit office (Barker 122). We recommend that you take the packet to Gnomon or Kinko’s to make your own course reader. Please use the sign-out sheet when you borrow and return the packet.

Recommended background readings:

John Merriman, *A History of Modern Europe: from the Renaissance to the Present*
 Mark Mazower, *Dark Continent: Europe's Twentieth Century*
 Tony Judt, *Postwar: A History of Europe Since 1945*
 Eric J. Evans, *The Forging of the Modern State: Early Industrial Britain, 1783-1870*
 Martin Pugh, *State and Society: A Social and Political History of Britain, 1870-2007*
 David Blackbourn, *History of Germany, 1780-1918: The Long Nineteenth Century*
 Mary Fulbrook, *History of Germany, 1918-2000*
 Jeremy D. Popkin, *A History of Modern France*
 Charles Sowerwine, *France since 1870: Culture, Society, and the Making of the Republic*
 Nicholas V. Riasanovsky and Mark D. Steinberg, *A History of Russia*

Assignments:

Active participation and attendance in tutorial is the primary requirement of the course. Before our meeting, finish the reading, and be prepared to share your thoughts and questions with the class. To give you a more active role in shaping the conversation, we will ask each student to send us a discussion question about the week's readings (via e-mail, no later than 9 a.m. on Wednesday). We will also ask you to sign up for an in-class presentation on one of our secondary readings.

In the first half of the term, our writing assignments will center on close readings of primary texts. In the second half of the term, we will work on a longer research and writing project that will help develop the skills you will need for the Junior Tutorial. When submitting your written work, please send it to both tutors as an e-mail attachment (by 5 pm on the due date).

In the final weeks of the semester, the Sophomore Oral Exam will test your ability to analyze and discuss texts orally, while helping you to prepare for the oral component of the Junior Tutorial. This 30-minute exam will be based on a topic that you will design yourself, drawn from our assigned course readings.

Grading:

Participation	15%
Oral Exam	10%
Three Close Reading Papers	10% each
Research Paper	45% (of which the annotated bibliography is 5%; rough draft is 10%; and final draft is 30%)

Schedule:

Week 1 (Jan. 28): **What is Europe?**

- Anthony Pagden, "Europe: Conceptualizing a Continent," in *The Idea of Europe: from Antiquity to the European Union*
- Jean-Jacques Rousseau, excerpts from "The Plan for Perpetual Peace" (1761).
- Choose a recent newspaper or magazine article that raises questions about the boundaries and/or the meaning of "Europe," and bring a copy to class for discussion. (Some of many possible topics: the European Union, European vs. American films, European dining, European reactions to the US inauguration, illegal immigrants in Europe, etc.)

Week 2 (Feb. 4): **Eastern Borderlands, Part I: Enlightenment to Romanticism**

- Larry Wolff, *Inventing Eastern Europe*, Ch. 1 and 4
- Immanuel Kant, "What is Enlightenment?" (1784)
- Voltaire, excerpts from *Russia Under Peter the Great* (1759-63)
- Denis Diderot, excerpt from editors' Introduction and from "Observations on the Nakaz" (circa 1780), in *Political Writings*
- Lord Byron, *Don Juan* (1819-24), excerpts from Cantos I, IX, and X
- Aleksandr Pushkin, "The Bronze Horseman" (1833)

** Friday, Feb. 6: First close reading paper due (2-3 pp.). E-mail copies to both tutors by 5 pm.

Week 3 (Feb. 11): **Nineteenth-Century Realism**

- George Eliot, *Daniel Deronda* (1876), Books I and II
- excerpts from contemporary reviews of *Daniel Deronda*
- Roland Barthes, "The Reality Effect," in *The Rustle of Language*
- Raymond Williams, entries on "History," "Literature," and "Realism," in *Keywords*
- Mark W. Turner, "'Telling of My Weekly Doings': The Material Culture of the Victorian Novel," in *A Concise Companion to the Victorian Novel*
- Rosemarie Bodenheimer, "A Woman of Many Names," in *The Cambridge Companion to George Eliot*

** Friday, Feb. 13, 1-3 pm: Hist & Lit concentrators meet with Drew Faust. Reading selection from Faust's *This Republic of Suffering*. (We will discuss Faust's work in sophomore tutorial on March 11.)

Week 4 (Feb. 18): **The "Woman Question"**

- Eliot, *Daniel Deronda*, Books III and IV
- Eliot, "Silly Novels by Lady Novelists" (1856)
- J.S. Mill, excerpts from *On the Subjection of Women* (1869)
- Susan Kingsley Kent, *Gender and Power in Britain*, Ch. 8
- Sharon Marcus, *Between Women*, Ch. 3 [pdf on Hist & Lit department website]

Week 5 (Feb. 25): **The "Jewish Question"**

- Eliot, *Daniel Deronda*, Books V and VI
- Eliot, diary excerpts (1875-6)
- Wendy Brown, *Regulating Aversion*, Ch. 3: "Tolerance as Supplement: The 'Jewish Question' and the 'Woman Question'"

-- David Feldman, *Englishmen and Jews*, Part I Introduction, Ch. 1
 -- Rabbi Hermann Adler, "Can Jews be Patriots?" and reply by Prof. Goldwin Smith, in *The Nineteenth Century*, Vol. 3, 1878, pp. 637-646 and pp. 875-887.

Available online through Google Books at:

http://books.google.com/books?id=7rMCAAAAIAAJ&pg=PP9&source=gbs_selected_pages&cad=0_1-PPP9,M1

** Friday, Feb. 27: Second close reading paper due (2-3 pp.). E-mail by 5 pm.

Week 6 (March 4): **Nationalism or Cosmopolitanism?**

-- Eliot, *Daniel Deronda*, Books VII and VIII

-- James Picciotto, "Deronda the Jew" (1876)

-- Henry James, "*Daniel Deronda*: A Conversation" (1876)

-- Susan Meyer, "'Safely to Their Own Borders': Proto-Zionism, Feminism, and Nationalism in *Daniel Deronda*", *ELH* Vol. 60, n. 3 (Fall 1993), pp. 733-58 [**Harvard library online**]

-- Amanda Anderson, "George Eliot and the Jewish Question", *Yale Journal of Criticism* Vol. 10, n. 1 (Spring 1997), pp. 39-61 [**Harvard library online**]

** In-class presentations on Meyer and Anderson

Week 7 (March 11): **Writing The First World War**

-- Louis-Ferdinand Céline, *Journey to the End of the Night* (1932), pp. 1-95

-- Henri Barbusse, *Under Fire* (1917), Ch. 20: "Under Fire." Available online at:

<http://books.google.com/books?id=31ULAAAAYAAJ>

-- Siegfried Sassoon, "The General," "Blighters," "Sick Leave" (1917)

-- Wilfred Owen, "Preface," "Anthem for Doomed Youth," "Dulce Et Decorum Est," "Strange Meeting" (1917-18)

-- Julia Kristeva, "Céline," in *Columbia History of Twentieth-Century French Thought*

-- Leonard V. Smith, et. al, *France and the Great War*, Ch. 1 and 3

-- Look back at the selection from Drew Faust, *This Republic of Suffering*.

** Friday, March 13: Research paper proposal due (1-2 paragraphs and list of possible primary readings). E-mail by 5 pm.

** Friday, March 13: Modern Europe concentrators meet with Sharon Marcus.

Week 8 (March 18): **Interwar France: Imperialism and Anxiety**

-- Céline, *Journey*, pp. 93-286

-- André Gide, excerpt from *Travels in the Congo* (1927)

-- Robert Aldrich, "Colonial Man," in *French Masculinities*

-- Eugen Weber, *The Hollow Years*, Ch. 1 and 3

** Friday, March 20: Third close reading paper due (4-5 pp). E-mail by 5 pm.

March 21-29: Spring Recess

Week 9 (April 1): **Literary Fascism**

-- Céline, *Journey*, pp. 287 to end

-- Julia Kristeva, *Powers of Horror*, Ch. 6, 7, 9

-- David Carroll, "The Poetics of Race," in *French Literary Fascism*

** In-class presentations on Kristeva and Carroll

** Friday, April 3: Annotated bibliography for research paper due. E-mail by 5 pm.

Week 10 (April 8): Eastern Borderlands, Part II: Twentieth-Century Germany

-- Günter Grass, *The Tin Drum* (1959), Book I

-- Historical documents on Kristallnacht

-- Tara Zahra, "Looking East: East Central European 'Borderlands' in German History and Historiography," *History Compass* 3 (2005) EU 175: 1-23 [**Harvard library online**]

-- Karl Tighe, *Gdańsk: National Identity in the Polish-German Borderlands*, Ch. 3 (pp. 59-64) and Ch. 5

Week 11 (April 15): Writing the Second World War

-- Grass, *The Tin Drum*, Book II

-- Grass, "How I Spent the War: A Recruit in the Waffen SS," *The New Yorker*, June 4, 2007.

Available online at: http://www.newyorker.com/reporting/2007/06/04/070604fa_fact_grass

-- Excerpts from the German controversy over Grass's SS service. Online at:

<http://www.signandsight.com/features/899.html>

-- Andreas Huyssen, "I'm Not the Man I Used to Be," *The Nation*, July 26, 2007.

Available online at: <http://www.thenation.com/doc/20070813/huyssen>

-- Paul Celan, "Deathsfugue" (circa 1945)

-- John Felstiner, "Translating Paul Celan's 'Todesfugue'", in *Probing the Limits of Representation*

**Friday, April 17: Orals topics due. E-mail by 5 pm.

Week 12 (April 22): Forms of War Memory

-- Grass, *The Tin Drum*, Book III

-- Todd Kontje, "The Tin Drum as Historical Fiction," in *Approaches to Teaching Grass's The Tin Drum*

-- Atina Grossman, "A Question of Silence: The Rape of German Women by Occupation Soldiers," *October* Vol. 72 (Spring 1995), pp. 42-63 [**Harvard library online**]

-- Robert G. Moeller, "Germans as Victims: Thoughts on a Post-Cold War History of World War II's Legacies," *History and Memory*, Vol. 17, n. 1-2 (Spring/Summer 2005) pp. 147-194 [**Harvard library online**]

**Friday, April 24: First draft of research paper due (minimum 8 pp.). E-mail by 5 pm.

Week 13 (April 29): Eastern Borderlands, III: Turkey and the European Union

-- Fatih Akin (writer and director), *Head-On* (2004)

-- Nilüfer Göle, "Europe: An Identity or a Project?," in the *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, Nov. 26, 2005.

Online at: <http://www.signandsight.com/features/514.html>

** Orals to be scheduled individually in final week of classes.

**Research paper final draft due during reading period (12-15 pp.). Date TBA.