

Global Seminar in Berlin
MMW15 GS: The Making of the Modern World -- The Contemporary Era: Conflict and Aspirations in a Globalized World, 20th-21st Century

Instructor: Frank Biess

Place: Berlin

Time: Summer Session 1, Mon 1-4, Tue, Th 9-12

Excursions: Tue, Th pm, Wednesday.

Course Description: The course begins with a consideration of the causes and consequences of World War I, and then looks at post-war efforts at establishing a liberal peace. We will then consider internal and external challenges to this liberal order. This includes an examination of "revolutions" inside and outside of the West as well as different anti-imperialist movements. We will then address the deepening crisis within Europe in the interwar period, especially evident in the emergence of collectivist responses to the worldwide depression. This period of crisis provides the background for understanding World War II. The second part of the course discusses the consequences of this global conflict, especially the process of decolonization and the global antagonism between communism and capitalism during the Cold War. The last segment of the course analyzes global challenges to the Cold War order. We will end with the collapse of communism and an assessment of the prospect for human rights and democracy in the 21st century.

Course Format: Meetings will entail a mixture of lecture and discussion. Since students will also be enrolled in HIEU 154 Modern Germany, the themes covered in this course (for example the rise of Nazism in Germany and World War II in Europe) will be de-emphasized. Instead, we will place particular attention to the themes that relate to Berlin, such as, for example, the Cold War and the fall of Communism.

Course Readings:

Merry Wiesner-Hanks et al. *History of World Societies*, Value Edition, Combined Volume. 11th ed. New York: Bedford/Macmillan, 2018. 6.

Ruth Kluger, *Still Alive. A Holocaust Girlhood Remembered*

Course Requirement: Participation, Midterm, Final, two 4-5 page papers due at the beginning of weeks 3 and 5.

Week 1: WAR AND REVOLUTION

Tue : WWI. Modernist Revolution

A History of World Societies, 820-26, 840-47

Listen to Rupert Brooke, *The Soldier* (1914)

Compare Wilfred Owen, "Dulce et Decorum Est" (1920) and Ernst Jünger, "Fire" (1922)

Compare Woodrow Wilson, "The 14 Points" (1917) and Lothrop Stoddard, "The Rising Tide of Color Against White World Supremacy" (1920)

Sigmund Freud, "Why War? Letter to Albert Einstein" (1932)
Tristan Tzara, "Dadaism"

Th : Comparative Revolutions: Russia and Mexico

A History of World Societies, 804-805, 831-38.
Vladimir I. Lenin, "The Transition from Capitalism to Communism"
Vladimir I. Lenin, "Marxism and Insurrection"

Plan de Ayala

Week 2: ANTI-IMPERIALISM/CRISIS OF DEMOCRACY

Tue: Anti-Imperialism

A History of World Societies, 858-869, 872-78

Sun-Yat Sen, "Fundamentals of National Reconstruction"
Deng Yingchao, "The Spirit of the May 4th Movement" (4 pages)
Mao Zedong, "Chinese Revolution and Chinese Communist Party" (9 pages)
Mohandas Gandhi, "Second Letter to Lord Irwin"
Mohandas K. Gandhi, "Autobiography"
Pan African Congress, "To the World" Manifesto of the Second Pan African Congress
Theodor Herzl, "On the Jewish State"
Resolution of the General Syrian Congress, July 2, 1919
Mustafa Kemal (Atatürk) Outlines His Vision of the Recent Nationalist Past of Turkey and the Future of the Country, 1927

Th: The Crisis of Democracy

A History of World Societies, 886-904

W.H. Auden, "The Unknown Citizen"
Theodor W. Adorno and Max Horkheimer, "The Culture Industry"
J.M. Keynes, "Am I a Liberal?"
Benito Mussolini, "The Doctrine of Fascism"
Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf*
Joseph Stalin, "A Year of Great Changes"

Ruth Kluger, *Still Alive*, Part 1

Week 3: WORLD WAR AND COLD WAR

Th: World War And Cold War

A History of World Societies, 905-915, 922-24, 934-36, 947

Ruth Kluger, *Still Alive*, Part 2-4
Albert Speer and Wilhelm Keitel, Testimony at Nuremberg
Jean-Paul Sartre, "Existentialism Is a Humanism"
John McNeill, "Fuels, Tools, and Economic

Week 4: PATHS TO LIBERATION

Tue: Decolonization and Projects of Development

A History of World Societies, 932-33, 927-28, 938-940, 947-48, 961-62, 966-68, 972

Jean Dreze and Amaryta Sen, "India and China"
Frantz Fanon, "The Wretched of the Earth"
Kwame Nkrumah, "Neo-Colonialism, the last Stage of Imperialism"
Ho Chi Minh, "Declaration of Independence of Vietnam"

Th: Social Movements and Fundamentalisms

Students for a Democratic Society, "The Port Huron Statement"
Simone de Beauvoir, "The Second Sex" (1949)
Martin Luther King, "Letter from Birmingham Jail"
Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, "The Incompatibility of Monarchy with Islam"

Week 5: DEMOCRACY, GLOBALIZATION, HUMAN RIGHTS

Tue: The Fall of Communism. Globalization and Human Rights

A History of World Societies, 978-81, 990-1010

"Founding Appeal of the New Forum" (September 1989)
Vaclav Havel, "The Power of the Powerless"
Chai Ling, "I am still alive" (1989)
Universal Declaration of Human Rights 1948
Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Summary for Policymakers

Th: Th: Histories of the Present

Fr: Final Exam