

Modern Europe 301
110 Fenton T/Th 1400-1520

Instructor: P. Wanke

Office hours: 340 W McKenzie 6-4820 pwanke33@gmail.com, T/Th 3:330-4:30

Texts: Raymond Birn, *Crisis, Absolutism, Revolution: Europe and the World 1648-1789*, 3rd ed.

Jack Censer and Lynn Hunt, *Liberty, Equality, Fraternity: Exploring the French Revolution*

Course goals and objectives: this class covers European history from the 1648 Treaty of Westphalia to the defeat of Napoleon. The texts will cover much of the factual information required for the class. Lecture will emphasize the intellectual backing behind the events and will provide close-ups of certain concepts in political, military and scientific history of the period.

Format: This will be primarily a large lecture format class.

Grades: There will be a total of 1000 points to be earned in this class divided in the following manner:

1) Midterm	250
2) Final	250
3) Essay 1: Birn	250
4) Essay 2: Censer/Hunt	250

A: 1000-930

B-: 829-800

D+: 699-670

A-: 929-900

C+: 799-770

D: 669-630

B+: 899-870

C: 769-730

D-: 629-600

B: 869-830

C-: 729-700

F: 599 or below

Midterm and Final: The midterm and final exam will be short IDs and two essay questions from a choice of five possible ones. **Unless there is a medical emergency, the final exam will be taken at the scheduled time.**

Essay 1 – Birn: the first essay is due Thursday, week 7. It is 5-7 pgs, standard margins, font, double spaced. Your job is to evaluate the author's main conclusions (p 524) which states that the book is about "...the long term political, social and cultural conditions in Europe and regions of the world affected by Europe, that yielded up the revolution." Your job is to summarize the conditions that Birn describes then analyze these conditions then determine if these conditions indeed led to the French revolution and was that revolution or something like it – inevitable. The emphasis of this essay should be on analysis.

Essay 2 – Censer/Hunt: This essay is also 5-7 pages. It is due on Thursday, week 10. Read the quote on p 171 by Hegel regarding the legacy of the French revolution. Your job is to briefly describe the political legacy and the various scholarly interpretations of the French revolution. But the bulk of your essay should be your critical analysis of the different scholarly interpretations. Much of your analysis should revolve around the numerous primary documents found throughout the book and how they may support or reject these various interpretations. Conclude with your own interpretation.

Essays are graded based on proper grammar, spelling, basic writing mechanics. Most importantly, your essays should be clear, concise, well documented argument, leading the reader to clearly see your point of view.

Please feel free to e-mail or give rough drafts to me for help, but all papers must be handed in on time and as hard copies, not via e-mail.

Students with documented disabilities who may need accommodations, who have any emergency medical information the instructor should know of, or who need special arrangements in the event of evacuation, should make an appointment with the instructor as early as possible, no later than the first week of the term.

Please turn off cell phones!

Schedule

Week	Readings/Assignments
1	Birn 1-2
2	Birn 3
3	Birn 4
4	Birn 5
5	Birn 6, midterm in class Thursday, bring Green book
6	Birn 7-8
7	Birn 9-10
8	Censer/Hunt 1-2
9	Censer/Hunt 3-4
10	Censer/Hunt 5-6

Final Exam: Thursday Dec 10, 1pm