

GONZAGA-IN-FLORENCE SYLLABUS

Course: HIST 323: Europe in the Nineteenth Century (1815-1914)
FALL 2007
Instructor: Steve Shouten (Gonzaga-in-Florence)



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Europe in the Nineteenth Century (1815-1914)

This course sticks to the description offered in the prospectus of Gonzaga University (History: 342-INST 386). It offers, in other words, a general course on European history in the widest sense, with attention to the central topics that characterize the history of that century (the industrial revolution; the revolutions of 1848; the unifications of Germany and Italy; the rise of mass society; the First World War; etc.). Every lecture shall deal with a particular topic of the period.

In order to integrate the course into the specific program for the graduate students of the university, and to give the students a feeling for the importance of the 19th century for European society in the 20th and 21st century, the course shall also relate the overall development of the 19th century to the tragedy of Nazi Germany and the Holocaust, as well as to its post-1945 implications. In doing so, the course will show the students how the social, economic and political development of European history during the 19th century provided the context of a particular cultural space in which nationalism, Anti-Semitism, and racism came to play an important and crucial role at the end of that century, exploding in the period after World War I with both the Nazi regime and the Holocaust during World War II. As the students will be introduced to the remnants of the Jewish tragedy at the beginning of the fall seminar, the course thus seeks to understand that trip from the perspective of the European 19th century as a whole and its German and Jewish context in particular.