

HISTORY 343: EUROPE-US RELATIONS AFTER WWII

Syllabus
Gonzaga in Florence
Fall Semester 2006
Megan Metters

2 days a week Monday and Wednesday

Course Description

The recent conflict in Iraq has exposed fault lines in Transatlantic relations and has led some to claim that the United States and Europe are headed for a divorce. What would this mean for a world whose post-War stability was founded upon the Transatlantic alliance? As the fears of the Cold War subside and European Integration progresses, differences between the US and Europe are becoming ever more apparent. Will a stronger and more united Europe be an ally or a rival to the United States?

This course will present a detailed analysis of the development of US-Western European relations since World War II. A study of the role of the United States in early European integration, Europe's role as battleground during the Cold War, American participation in Europe's post-War de-colonization, Europe's oscillation between increasing integration and the pursuit of national self-interest, and, finally, the acceleration of European integration since the fall of the Berlin wall, set the stage for understanding the complexity that characterizes the Transatlantic relationship and, indeed, the often unstable "constellation" that Europe, in fact, is. September 11 and its aftermath have led to a reevaluation of the Transatlantic "partnership", one whose future is far from certain.

Taking advantage of our particular vantage point as Americans living in Europe, this course, in addition to the lectures, readings and class discussions concerning the historical dimensions of the relationship, will encourage students to investigate the local and international newspapers and to bring articles relevant to the themes developed each week to class for discussion. One main objective will be to use the historical understanding gained in this course to better understand some of the challenges that confront Europe-US relations today.

Course Requirements

- Mid-term exam and Final exam
- Readings
- One short and one medium-length paper
- Class participation

Course Grade

This course is graded on a 400 point scale as follows:

100 points mid-term

100 points final

100 points medium-length paper

50 points shorter paper

50 points class participation

Course Reading List

Gaddis, Lewis, *The Cold War*, New York: Penguin Press, 2005.

Judt, Tony, *A History of Europe since 1945*, New York: Penguin, 2005.

Lundestad, Geir, *The United States and Western Europe Since 1945*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003.

Reader of selected articles (listed below)

HISTORY 343: EUROPE-US RELATIONS AFTER WWII

Schedule: September 25 – December 18

Week 1 – Transatlantic Perceptions/Transatlantic Relations: A Love/Hate Relationship marked by Cooperation and Conflict

- 25 September Introduction, discussion of syllabus.
Transatlantic perceptions: What do we think about Europe? What does Europe think about us?
Discussion and presentation of public opinion poll data 1950-2006.
- 27 September Transatlantic relations and the complex constellation that is Europe: What do we know about Europe?
- Selections, Introduction to European Union
 - Kagan, Robert: “Power and Weakness: Why the United States and Europe see the World Differently”, *Policy Review*, n°113, The Hoover Institution, June & July 2002.
 - Hoffmann, Stanley, “US-European Relations: Past and Future”, *International Affairs* 79 (5), 1029-1036)

Week 2 – The Historical Setting: America becomes a European Power, or an “‘Empire’ by Invitation”?

- 02 October World War II – A Shift in the International Balance of Power, America becomes a European Power, or an “Empire by Invitation” (Lundestad)
- Roberts, J.M., “Europe in the Aftermath of the War”, *The Penguin History of Europe*, London: The Penguin Group, 1996, pp.579-598.
 - Lundestad, Geir, Chapter 2: “Cooperation Established: ‘Empire’ by Invitation, 1945-1950”, in *The United States and Western Europe Since 1945*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003.
- 04 October American Involvement in the Early Stages of European Integration: From the Marshall Plan (1947) to the European Coal and Steel Community (1951)
- “Text of the Marshall Plan Speech” 1947, The George C. Marshall Foundation.
 - Gimbel, John, *The Origins of the Marshall Plan* (1976)
 - “The Schuman Declaration” of May 1950 calling for the European Coal and Steel Community

- Romero, Federico, “U.S. Attitudes towards Integration and Interdependence: The 1950s”, in Heller, Francis H. and John R. Gillingham, *The United States and the Integration of Europe*, New York: The Harry S. Truman Library Institute, 1996

Week 3 – The Cold War and the European Battleground

- 09 October The Re-militarization of Europe: The Cold War and the Problem of Germany: The Berlin Airlift of 1948 (photos and first hand press accounts to be circulated in class) and the founding of NATO (1949)
- Hobsbawm, Eric, “Cold War”, in *Age of Extremes: The Short Twentieth Century 1914-1991*, London: Abacus, 1995, pp. 225-256 (or Introductory chapter from Gaddi’s *Cold War*)
 - Winston Churchill’s “Iron Curtain” Speech, *The Sinews of Peace* quoted in Kishlansky, Mark A. ed. *Sources of World History*, New York: Harper Collins, 1995, pp. 298-302.
 - Text NATO founding Charter, 1949
- 11 October Communism vs. Capitalism: European Communist Parties, the Soviet Union, and Transatlantic Relations: The Case of Italy
- Nuti, Leopoldo, “Italy and the Cold War: Introduction”, *Journal of Cold War Studies*, (4.3), Summer 2002.
 - Brogi, Alessandro, “Ike and Italy: The Eisenhower Administration and Italy’s ‘Neo-Atlanticist’ Agenda”, *Journal of Cold War Studies*, (4.3), Summer 2002.

Week 4 – Old Empires and New: Decolonization and “the Special Relationship”

- 16 October A Reconfiguration of Power, The Suez Crisis of 1956: France and Great Britain, The Cold War and tensions within the NATO alliance.
- Readings to be selected
- 18 October The United States and Great Britain’s “Special Relationship”: Between Atlanticism and European Integration
- Charles De Gaulle, “Le Grand ‘Non’: Britain’s Proposed Entry into the Common Market”, 1967.
 - Harris, Robin, “The State of the Special Relationship”, *Policy Review*, n° 113, June & July 2002.

Week 5 – Old Empires and New: France’s Challenge to American Hegemony

- 23 October De Gaulle, NATO and the issue of Nuclear Weapons in Europe 1954-1960s
- Selected speeches, newspaper articles Franco-British Discord 1954-1958
 - Lundestad, Geir, “De Gaulle’s Challenge to America’s Hegemony, 1962-1969”
 - Charles De Gaulle, “Europe and Its Role in World Affairs”, July 23, 1964

- 25 October From Indochina and Algeria to Vietnam: Crisis and the student movements of the 1960s
- Charles De Gaulle, “France’s Attitude towards US Policy in Vietnam”, Statement at His Tenth Press Conference in Paris, July 23, 1964
 - Simone de Beauvoir, “Reflections from a day at Smith College”

Week 6 – Mid-Term Exam

30 October **MID-TERM EXAMINATION**

01 November **TOUSSAINT**

Week 7 -- The United States and European Integration

- 06 November The History of European Integration from the Treaty of Rome 1957 to the Treaty of Maastricht (1992)
- Selected Readings from European Integration History basic text, to be selected
 - Preamble to the Treaty of Rome 1957
- 08 November The United States and European Integration: “The United States wants a strong Europe, but within the Transatlantic framework”
- Lundestad Chapter 6: “Conflict and Cooperation: American-Western European Relations (not) Redefined, 1969-1977
 - Lundestad Chapter 7: “From Bad to Worse: The United States and Western Europe, 1977-1984”
 - “The Year of Europe?”, *Foreign Affairs*, January 1974.

Week 8 – Europe-US Economic Relations: Oil, economic recession, competition, 1970s-1980s

- 13 November Economic Relations between the United States and Europe: Cooperation
- Readings to be selected
- 15 November Economic Relations between the United States and Europe: Conflict
- Readings to be selected

Week 9 -- The Americanization of Europe and Anti-Americanism

- 20 November The Americanization of Europe, selected newspaper headlines presented in class
- Selections, De Grazia, Victoria, "Irresistible Empire: America's Advance Through Twentieth-Century Europe, Cambridge Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2005.
 - Kuisel, Richard, "The American Temptation", in *Seducing the French*, London: University of California Press, 1996, pp.103-131.
- 22 November Anti-Americanism in Europe, selected newspaper headlines presented in class
- Kuisel, Richard, "Anti-Americanism and National Identity", in *Seducing the French*, London: University of California Press, 1996, pp. 1-15
 - Markovits, A., "Anti-Americanism and the Struggle for a West-German Identity", in Merkl, Peter, ed., *The Federal Republic of Germany at Forty*, New York: New York University Press, 1989, pp. 35-54.
 - Hoffmann, Stanley, "The U.S. and Western Europe: Wait and Worry", *Foreign Affairs: America and the World 1984*, vol. 63 n° 3, Winter 1984/85.

Week 10: The End of the Cold War: The Fall of the Berlin Wall

- 27 November The Fall of the Berlin Wall 1989, German Reunification and European Expansion
- Lundestad Chapter, "The End of the Cold War and Cooperation in the End, 1984-1993"
 - Duffield, John S., "Transatlantic Relations after the Cold War: Theory, Evidence, and the Future", *International Studies Perspectives*, Vol. 2, Issue 1, February 2001 pp. 93-115.

- Yost, D.S., “Transatlantic relations and peace in Europe”, *International Affairs*, Volume 78 Issue 2, April 2002, pp. 277-300.

29 November

The Transatlantic Declaration of 1990: A New Positioning of US-European Relations, the acceleration of European Integration -- towards independence?

- “Transatlantic Declaration on EC-US Relations, 1990”, from EU External Relations Website
- Michael Werz, “Anti-Americanism and Ambivalence in the New Germany,” U.S.-Europe Analysis Series, Brookings, January 2005

Week 11 – The Future of the Transatlantic Relationship: 9/11, Afghanistan and Iraq

04 December

9/11, Afghanistan and Iraq: An analysis of official discourse, UN speeches and declarations by American and European leaders. A review of newspaper articles (compiled during this period in personal archive), ask students to bring articles they have found in newspapers, in addition to:

- Colombani, Jean-Marie, “We are all American”, *Le Monde*, September 12, 2001.
- The Significance of the Transatlantic Partnership: An American Perspective, by Chuck Hagel, Remarks to The Konrad Adenauer Foundation (September 15, 2003)
- Address to Joint Session of U.S. Congress, by Tony Blair, Office of the British Prime Minister (July 17, 2003)

06 December

Continuation of discussion

Week 12 -- US-European Relations: Change, continuity?

11 December

The Future of the Transatlantic relationship

- Lundestad, Geir, Chapter: “Transatlantic Drift: The Present and Future”

13 December

Wrap up the seminar and prepare for the final examination.

18 December

FINAL EXAMINATION

