

GONZAGA-IN-FLORENCE SYLLABUS

Course: **EUROPE – US RELATIONS SINCE WW II** (HIST 327)
Credits: 3 Credits
Instructor: Dr. Olga Baranova, Ph.D



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Spring Semester 2010. Meeting Times: Monday 3:30 pm – 6:25 pm

OFFICE HOURS

By appointment. Available from Monday to Friday by e-mail olga.baranova@eui.eu or mobile phone: +39.329.804.7457

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides a detailed description and analysis of the most important events and processes, which have shaped the Transatlantic relations since the end of WWII. One of the objectives of the course is to examine the shifting balance between cooperation and conflict in US-European relations since 1945. It studies the role of the United States in the economic, political and social developments in Western Europe. It analyses such issues as the American post-war economic aid and the success of the Marshall Plan, the American involvement in European integration, the creation of a stable Atlantic structure, and the US security guarantees to Western Europe. The course offers the analyses of the Cold War period from 1945 to 1991 and examines the place of America in Europe during and after that age. It analyses American foreign policies and the impact of the changing relations between two superpowers, the US and the USSR, on Europe. In addition, the course covers political and social changes, economic forces, and cultural shifts in Western Europe that had impact on the Transatlantic relations. It discusses Europe's attitude towards American policies in out-of-area zones. Moreover, the course provides some brief analyses of the most important events in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union – the traditional rival of the US and Western Europe. It describes how Eastern European nations and some republics of the former Soviet Union, with the assistance from the United States, managed to shed Communism and traced the rise of the European Union. The course pays particular attention on the biographies of the most relevant political figures, and examines the creation and activities of the most important international organizations in the Transatlantic relationship (NATO, UN, Council of Europe, CSCE, WEU, EC, EU).

COURSE METHOD

The course adopts interdisciplinary approach and provides interweaving of the concepts and notions not only from historical position but using methods and theories of political sciences, international relations, sociology and cultural studies. The course is not a narrative of events and facts but rather their academic evaluation and interpretation. The framework of the classes will be chronological - problematic, examining some of the key issues and events as they unfolded. The course will be taught through a combination of lectures and seminars / workshops. Students will be provided with a variety of primary and secondary source materials and some extracts from films to discuss. A wide use of audio-visual sources will be made by instructor to illustrate various issues discussed during this course.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of the course are:

- to provide students with the necessary basic stable knowledge about the most important events and processes in US - European relations;
- to stimulate a better understanding of the main developments in the Transatlantic relations since WWII, as well as the challenges that confront US - European relations today;
- to encourage the interest of the students in the history of US - European relations.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

The main learning objectives are to develop students' critical thinking, analytical and research skills (through readings, internet and periodicals), presentation and writing skills (through written paper and exams and oral presentations).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

During this course students are expected not only to attend classes on regular basis, but also to actively participate through discussions of readings and presentations.

Apart from mid-term and final exams, students are expected to give one/two class presentations on key actor or to present and to discuss one historical document, and to write one analytical research paper on any of the issues discussed in class. The paper should be of about 3.000 words including footnotes and a short bibliography. Critical evaluation of the information is required for this paper, plagiarism is not acceptable.

GRADING SYSTEM AND POLICIES

Gonzaga University grading system.¹ The final grade will be the outcome of:

- class participation (including attendance and presentations) - 10%
- debate - 10%
- mid-term exam (written) - 30%
- paper - 20%:
- final exam (written): 30%.

REQUIRED READINGS ²:

- Lundestad, Geir. *The United States and Western Europe Since 1945: From Empire by Invitation to Transatlantic Drift*, Oxford University Press Inc., New York, 2005.
- Gaddis, John Lewis. *The Cold War. A New History*. New York: Penguin Press, 2005.
- Urwin, Derek W. *A Political History of Western Europe since 1945*. Longman, 1997.

SOME ENTRIES TO FURTHER READING (NOT REQUIRED):

- Ball, S. J. *The Cold War: An International History, 1947-1991*. New York St. Martin's Press, 1998
- Brogi, Alessandro. *Questions of Self-Esteem: The United States and the Cold War Choices in France and Italy, 1944 – 1958*. Westport: Praeger, 2002.
- De Grazia, Victoria. "A Descent Standard of Living: How Europeans Were Measured by the American Way of Life" in *Irresistible Empire: America's Advance through Twentieth Century Europe*. 2006, pp. 75-129.
- Dunbabin, John P. D. *International Relations since 1945: The Cold War: The Great Powers And Their Allies*. 1994.
- Grosser, Alfred. *The Western Alliance: European – American Relations Since 1945*. London: Macmillan, 1980.
- Hook, Steven W. and Spanier, John. *American Foreign Policy Since World War II*. 15th ed., CQ Press: Washington, 2000.
- Judt, Tony. *Postwar: A History of Europe since 1945*. New York: Penguin Press, 2006.
- Kagan, Robert. *Paradise and Power: America and Europe in the New World Order*. Atlantic Books, 2004.
- Kuisel, Richard. *Seducing the French*. London: University of California Press, 1996.
- Pells, Richard. *Not Like Us. How Europeans Have Loved, Hated and Trasformed American Culture Since World War II*. New York: Basic Books, 1997.
- Peterson, John, "America as a European Power: the End of Empire by Integration" in *International Affairs* vol. 80, no. 1, 2004.
- Sutcliffe, Anthony, *An Economic and Social History of Western Europe since 1945*. Longman: London & New York, 1996.

DOCUMENTS:

- Hanhimäki, Jussi M. & Westad, Odd Arne. *The Cold War. A History in Documents and Eyewitness Accounts*. OUP: Oxford, 2003.
- Hill, Christopher and Smith Karen E. *European Foreign Policy. Key Documents*. Routledge: London & New York, 2000.

¹ 0 - 59 = F, 60 - 69 = D, 70 - 72 = C-, 73 - 76 = C, 77 - 79 = C+, 80 - 82 = B-, 83 - 86 = B, 87 - 89 = B+, 90 - 92 = A-, 93 - 100 = A.

² Some materials will be presented as copies by the instructor. If you wish to purchase one of these books, I would highly recommend the book by Geir Lundestad .

INTERNET RESOURCES:

There are some websites that can be useful to prepare the presentation of key documents/actors, and to find multimedia material (interactive maps, audiovisual sources, etc.), all of which can also serve for the term paper and exams.

Two sites with a great deal of pictures, maps and witness accounts about the Cold War and its significance for Europe at:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/worldwars/coldwar/>

<http://www.wilsoncenter.org/coldwarfiles/index/>

Check also the following link to find historical documents on key events classified by the date they happened ('On This Day'): <http://news.bbc.co.uk/onthisday/>

COURSE OUTLINE & SCHEDULE

WEEK 1: Monday – 11 January

Introduction to the Class. Brief Historical Setting: US – Europe Relations Before 1945. The Consequences of the World War II for Western Europe and the US. War Conferences and the Division of Europe.

Readings:

- Lundestad, Geir. 'Chapter 1: The Historical Setting: The United States and Western Europe before 1945' *The United States and Western Europe Since 1945: From Empire by Invitation to Transatlantic Drift*, Oxford University Press Inc., New York, 2005, pp. 22-26.
- Urwin, Derek W. 'Chapter 3: Problems of Reconstruction' *A Political History of Western Europe since 1945*, Longman: London & New York, 1997, pp. 21-34.
- Grosser, Alfred. 'Introduction: No Year Zero' *The Western Alliance: European – American Relations Since 1945*. London: Macmillan, 1980. pp. 3-33.

Presentations³:

Key Documents:

Churchill on Meeting Stalin, October 1944 in Hanhimäki & Westad, 2003, p. 39.

George Kennan's Long Telegram, February 1946 in Hanhimäki & Westad, 2003, pp. 108-111.

Churchill's Iron Curtain Speech of March 1946 in Hanhimäki & Westad, 2003, pp. 47- 49.

Key Actors:

Franklin D. Roosevelt

Winston Churchill

Joseph Stalin

United Nations (UN)

WEEK 2: Monday – 18 January

Cooperation Established – America becomes an “Empire by Invitation”, 1945 – 1950: Economic, Political and Military Aspects.

The Role of the US in Economic Reconstruction and the Reestablishment of Democracy in Western Europe after the War. The US and the Early Stages of European Integration: From the Marshall Plan (1947) to the European Coal and Steel Community (1951).

Readings:

- Lundestad, Geir. 'Chapter 2: Cooperation Established: Empire by Invitation, 1945 – 1950' *The United States and Western Europe Since 1945: From Empire by Invitation to Transatlantic Drift*, Oxford University Press Inc., New York, 2005, pp. 27-62.
- Sutcliffe, Anthony, 'Chapter 1: The Reconstruction Challenge, Western Europe, 1945-1952' *An Economic and Social History of Western Europe Since 1945*. Longman: London & New York, 1996, pp. 1-29

Presentations:

Key Documents:

³ Depending on the total number of students participating in the course and their interests, both the number of presentations and the suggested topics are subject to change.

Marshall Plan (Harvard Speech, June 1947) in Hanhimäki & Westad, 2003, pp. 121 - 122.
Schuman Declaration, 2 May 1950 in Hill & Smith 2000, pp. 12-15.

Key Actors:

George Marshall
OEEC

WEEK 3: Monday – 25 January

The Crystallization of the Cold War. The Proclamation of the Truman Doctrine in 1947. The Rise of the Atlantic Alliance and the Creation of NATO. Western Europe's Security and the German Problem.

Readings:

- Urwin, Derek W. 'Chapter 5: Cold War and Atlantic Alliance' *A Political History of Western Europe since 1945*, Longman: London & New York, 1997, pp. 46-60.
- Gaddis, John Lewis. 'Chapter 1: The Return of Fear' *The Cold War. A New History*. New York: Penguin Press, 2005. pp. 5-47.
- Hanhimäki Jussi & Westad Odd A. 'The Marshall Plan and NATO' *The Cold War. A History in Documents and Eyewitness Accounts*, OUP: Oxford, 2003, pp. 105-108.

Presentations:

Key Documents:

Walt Disney on Un-American Activities, 1947 in Hanhimäki & Westad 2003, pp. 423-425.
The US State Department on NATO, 2 November 1948 in Hanhimäki & Westad, 2003, pp. 128-132.

Key Actors:

Harry S. Truman (& Truman Doctrine)
NATO

WEEK 4: Monday – 1 February

The Cold War and the Tensions within the NATO Alliance 1954 - 1960. A Reconfiguration of Power. Nuclear Race and the Issue of Nuclear Weapons in Europe. Hungarian Revolution of 1956.

Readings:

- Lundestad, Geir. 'Chapter 3: The Atlantic Community, Germany's Role, and Western Europe's Integration, 1950 - 1962' *The United States and Western Europe Since 1945: From Empire by Invitation to Transatlantic Drift*, Oxford University Press Inc., New York, 2005, pp. 63-110.
- Urwin, Derek W. 'Chapter 8: From Cold War to Thaw' *A Political History of Western Europe since 1945*, Longman: London & New York, 1997, pp. 85-98.

Presentations:

Key Documents:

Nikita Khrushchev's Secret Speech 1956 in Hanhimäki & Westad, 2003, pp. 247-249.
Revolt in Hungary, 1956 in Hanhimäki & Westad, 2003, pp. 249-253.
Kitchen Debate, 1959 in Hanhimäki & Westad, 2003, pp. 429-431.

Key Actors:

Dwight Eisenhower
Konrad Adenauer
Nikita Khrushchev

WEEK 5: Monday – 8 February

De Gaulle's Challenge to America's Hegemony in the 1960s. The Crises Years: the US, France, Germany and Great Britain in 1962 – 1967. The Politics of Kennedy Administration. Cuban Missile Crises, 1962.

Readings:

- Lundestad, Geir. 'Chapter 4: De Gaulle's Challenge to America's Hegemony, 1962-1969', *The United States and Western Europe since 1945*, Oxford University Press Inc., New York, 2005, pp. 111-137.

- Gaddis, John Lewis. 'Chapters 2: Deathboats and Lifeboats' and 'Chapter 3: Command versus Spontaneity' *The Cold War. A New History*. New York: Penguin Press, 2005. pp. 48-119.

Presentations:

Key Documents:

Charles de Gaulle's 'Velvet Veto', May 1967 in Hanhimäki & Westad 2003, pp. 334-336.

Key Actors:

Charles de Gaulle
John Kennedy
Leonid Brezhnev
Fidel Castro

WEEK 6: Monday – 15 February

The United States, Western Europe, and Out-of-Area Disputes: Middle East and South-Eastern Asia, 1945-1975:

The First Indochina War 1946 – 1954, The Algerian War (1954 – 1962).

The Korean War, 1950 – 1953.

The Suez Crisis of 1956: France and Great Britain.

American War in Vietnam 1959 - 1975.

Readings:

- Lundestad, Geir. 'Chapter 5: The United States, Western Europe, and Out-of-Area Disputes, 1945 - 1975', *The United States and Western Europe since 1945*, Oxford University Press Inc., New York, 2005, pp. 142-163.
- Gaddis, John Lewis. 'Chapters 4: The Emergence of Autonomy' *The Cold War. A New History*. New York: Penguin Press, 2005. pp. 119-155.

Presentations:

Key Documents:

The Geneva Conference: The American View, 1954 in Hanhimäki & Westad, 2003, pp. 213-214.

The American War, 1968 and The Vietnamese War, 1969 in Hanhimäki & Westad, 2003, pp. 223-225.

Film: Gillo Pontecorvo, *The Battle of Algiers (La Battaglia di Algeri)*, 1966 – screening and discussion in class.

WEEK 7: Monday – 22 February

- REVIEW OF MATERIAL
- MID-TERM CLASS EXAM (WRITTEN)

WEEK 8: Monday – 1 March

Redefinitions and Cooperation, 1969 – 1979: US – Europe Relations under the Nixon-Kissinger, Ford and Carter Administrations.

Détente and Ostpolitik.

Readings:

- Lundestad, Geir. 'Chapter 6: Conflict and Cooperation: American – western European Relations (not) Redefined, 1969 - 1977', *The United States and Western Europe since 1945*, Oxford University Press Inc., New York, 2005, pp. 168-197.
- Urwin, Derek W. 'Chapter 13: A Seesaw of Détente and Tension' *A Political History of Western Europe since 1945*, Longman: London & New York, 2005, pp. 149-164.
- Gaddis, John Lewis. 'Chapters 5: The Recovery of Equity' *The Cold War. A New History*. New York: Penguin Press, 2005. pp. 156-194.

Presentations:

Key Documents:

Willy Brandt and Henry Kissinger on West German *Ostpolitik* in Hanhimäki & Westad, 2003, pp. 336-338.

Address by the Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, Helmut Schmidt to the Helsinki Conference July-August 1975 (www.osce.org/documents/osce/1975/08/15773_en.pdf)

Key Actors:

Willy Brandt

Richard Nixon
Henry Kissinger
CSCE (Conference for security and Cooperation in Europe) and OSCE
Jimmy Carter

WEEK 9: Monday – 8 March

American Supremacy through Arms and Culture.

The American Involvement in the European Integration: from the Treaty of Rome 1957 to the Treaty of Maastricht (1992)

Readings:

- Lundestad, Geir. 'Chapter 7: From Bad to Worse: the United States and western Europe, 1977 – 1984', *The United States and Western Europe since 1945*, Oxford University Press Inc., New York, 2005, pp. 201-223.

Presentations:

Key Documents:

Ronald Reagan Attacks Détente, 1976 in Hanhimäki & Westad, 2003, pp. 533-535 and The Reagan Challenge, 1982 in Hanhimäki & Westad, 2003, pp. 573-575.

Nureyev Defects, 1961 in Hanhimäki & Westad, 2003, p. 431.

Key Actors:

Ronald Reagan
François Mitterrand
Helmut Kohl
Valéry Giscard d'Éstaing

WEEK 10: Monday – 15 March

Americanism and Anti-Americanism in Western Europe during the Cold War, 1945-1993: Historical Context, Origins and Nature.

Readings:

- De Grazia, Victoria, 'A Descent Standard of Living: How Europeans Were Measured by the American Way of Life' in *Irresistible Empire: America's Advance through Twentieth Century Europe*, 2006, pp. 75-129.
- Kuisel, Richard, 'Anti-Americanism and National Identity' in *Seducing the French*, London: University of California Press, 1996, pp. 1-15

Presentations:

Fast Food Industry (MacDonald)

Film Industry (Hollywood)

WEEK 11: Monday – 22 March

The Challenge for the US – Europe Cooperation, 1984-1991.

The End of the Cold War. The Fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, the Reunification of Germany and European Expansion. The Democratization Processes in Eastern Europe.

Readings:

- Lundestad, Geir. 'Chapter 8: The End of the Cold War and Cooperation in the End, 1984-1993' *The United States and Western Europe since 1945*, Oxford University Press Inc., New York, 2005, pp. 226-246.
- Urwin, Derek W. 'Chapter 21: The Improbable Decade. The Decline of the Soviet Empire' *A Political History of Western Europe since 1945*, Longman: London & New York, 1997, pp. 291-297.

Presentations:

Key Documents:

Declaration by the Western European Union Council of Ministers, Rome 27 Oct. 1984 in Hill & Smith, 2000, pp. 186-188.

The Fall of the Berlin Wall, November 1989 in Hanhimäki & Westad, 2003, pp. 602-605.

Key Actors:

Mikhail Gorbachev
Margaret Thatcher

George H. W. Bush (senior)

WEEK 12: Monday – 29 March

America's New Strong Role in Europe, 1993 – 2001.

US – Europe and the War in Yugoslavia. NATO Reform and Enlargement.

The Clinton Administration and the EU.

Readings:

- Lundestad, Geir. 'Chapter 9: America's New Strong Role in Europe, 1993 – 2001' *The United States and Western Europe since 1945*, Oxford University Press Inc., New York, 2005, pp. 249-267.

Presentations:

Key Documents:

Poland Joins NATO, December 1997 in Hanhimäki & Westad 2003, p. 646.

Council Decision on the Monitoring of the Situation in Kosovo, 13 November 1998 in Hill & Smith 2000, p. 391.

Key Actors:

Bill Clinton

Tony Blair

Gerhard Schröder

Jacques Chirac

*This session will be concluded by a research paper that should be submitted by **Friday 2 April**.*

WEEK 13: Monday – 5 April – NO CLASS – EASTER HOLIDAY

WEEK 14: Monday – 12 April

US – Europe Relations after 9/11. The Present and the Future of the Transatlantic Relations:

What are the Prospects of the US-Europe Cooperation.

Readings:

- Lundestad, Geir. 'Chapter 10: The Transatlantic Drift: The Present and the Future' *The United States and Western Europe since 1945*, Oxford University Press Inc., New York, 2005, pp. 269-293.

Presentations:

Key Actors:

George W. Bush (junior)

Angela Merkel

Nicolas Sarkozy

Vladimir Putin

Silvio Berlusconi

Barack Obama

WEEK 15: Monday – 19 April

- REVIEW OF MATERIAL
- **FINAL EXAM (WRITTEN)**