Weekly Readings

References:

Twentieth-Century Europe: Ivan T. Berend, *An Economic History of Twentieth-Century Europe*

European Economy since 1945: Barry Eichengreen, *The European Economy since 1945*

Course Packet

Blackboard

Weekly Topics and Required Readings:

Oct. 1, 3 European Industrialization and the Global Economy Before 1914

Twentieth-Century Europe, Introduction and ch. 1 (pp. 1-41)

Oct. 8, 10 World War I and the European Economic System

Twentieth-Century Europe, ch. 2 (pp. 42-61)
[Course Packet]

Oct. 15, 17 Depression Economies

Twentieth-Century Europe, ch. 2 (pp. 61-74), ch. 3 (entire chapter)

Oct. 22, 24 Wartime Economies

October 22 (Tuesday): First Paper Due

Twentieth-Century Europe, ch. 2 (pp. 74-91)
Oct. 29, 31 Postwar Recovery, Midterm Exam

Twentieth-Century Europe, ch. 5 (pp. 190-197)
European Economy since 1945, chs. One, Two, Three

October 31 (Thursday): Midterm Examination

Nov. 5, 7 Postwar Growth: Western Europe

Twentieth-Century Europe, ch. 5 (pp. 212-226)
European Economy since 1945, chs. Four, Seven, Eight

Nov. 12, 14 Postwar Growth: Soviet Union and Eastern Europe

Twentieth-Century Europe, ch. 4 (entire chapter)
European Economy since 1945, chs. Five, Ten

Nov. 19, 21 European Integration

Twentieth-Century Europe, ch. 5 (pp. 197-212)
European Economy since 1945, chs. Six, Nine, Eleven

Nov. 26 Welfare States and Employment Challenges

Twentieth-Century Europe, ch. 5 (pp. 226-262)
European Economy since 1945, ch. Twelve
“European Welfare States” [Blackboard]

Dec. 3, 5 European and American Models

European Economy since 1945, ch. Thirteen

December 5 (Thursday): Second Paper Due

FINAL EXAM Thursday December 12 1:00 – 3:00 pm
HIST 425/525
European Economies in the 20th Century
Fall 2013

CRN 17311/17313
Tuesday, Thursday 2:00-3:20 pm  185 Lillis

Prof. George Sheridan  541 346-4832  gjs@uoregon.edu
Office Hours Tuesday, 3:45-4:45 pm 359 McKenzie Hall

Description of Course

This is a course about the development, crises, and transformations of the economies of Europe in the twentieth century. The course addresses economies in both Western and Eastern Europe. Beginning with an overview of the pre-1914 system of global economy in which Europe and, to a lesser degree, the United States were the center, the course progresses through the economics of World War I, economic recovery in the 1920s, and the Depression of the 1930s for which the failed or fragile economic policies adopted in the 1920s were in large part responsible. Responses of the Nazi and Soviet policies and systems are compared to those of the West in this period. The course then addresses different topics for the second half of the twentieth century; economic planning and Keynesian inspired government intervention to foster recovery and growth in the years following World War II, the institutions and course of development of Communist economies, European integration, and the European welfare states.

Although economic history is emphasized in lectures and readings, students with interest in social history may pursue this interest in the course papers.

The course requires no background knowledge of European history or economics. Basic lessons in essential concepts and technical relationships will be provided for topics that involve close analysis of economic processes. This is a course that combines analysis at a rather high level with less familiar empirical detail about major events, personalities, institutions, and policies. Students should therefore be prepared to devote close attention to the material of both lectures and readings throughout the entire term.

Course Requirements

The course grade will be based on the following elements:

- Two course papers
- Two examinations (mid-term and final exams)

The two course papers will count for 50% of the course grade, and the two examinations for the remaining 50%. Respective weights of each paper and of each exam are described in further detail below.
Course Papers

Two course papers will be required. Topic and requirements for each paper are described below. The papers will be weighted as follows:

- First course paper (due October 22): 20%
- Second course paper (due December 5): 30%

First course paper: topic and requirements

The first course paper must use at least one book chosen from the bibliography distributed for the course. The book must pertain to the period prior to 1940. In the paper the student will develop a theme that is significantly addressed in the book, in a manner that reflects the student’s independent use of the content of the book. This should include some analysis (such as explanations, cause and effect relationships, concepts) as well as supporting empirical detail (description). Lecture material and assigned readings may be used to develop particular points, as long as the core of the paper relies on the book.

The required length of the paper is a minimum of 7 pages (double-spaced, 12-point type), or 2100 words.

Second course paper: topic and requirements

The second course paper may be on any topic related to the subject matter of this course, with an emphasis on economic and social themes for Europe of the twentieth century. The paper must use substantially at least two scholarly books, or one scholarly book plus three scholarly articles or chapters of books. None of these may be a book, article or chapter assigned for the weekly readings. The bibliography for the course provides ample suggestions of books acceptable for this paper. Other books and articles are acceptable as long as they are scholarly in content and approach. Students should consult the instructor if they are not certain about the status of sources they wish to use. The paper may not make use of online (internet) materials other than scholarly books available online, except to provide occasional supporting detail.

The required length of the paper is a minimum of 10 pages (double-spaced, 12-point type), or 3000 words.

Examinations

There will be two examinations, weighted as follows:

- Mid-term examination 20%
- Final examination 30%

The mid-term examination will take place in class on October 31 (Thursday). It will cover all assigned readings and lecture material from the beginning of the term through the week of Oct 22, 24. The exam will include essay questions along with identifications.
or short response questions; a study guide will be distributed during the week preceding the exam.

The final examination will take place on **Thursday December 12 at 1:00 – 3:00 pm**

The exam will also consist of essays and identifications and/or short answers. A study guide for the exam will be distributed during the final week of classes (“dead week”).

**Course Materials**

The following books are available for purchase at the University of Oregon Bookstore. One copy of each book will be made available on Reserve in Knight Library:

Ivan T. Berend, *An Economic History of Twentieth-Century Europe*
Barry Eichengreen, *The European Economy since 1945*

In addition, a course packet of photocopied readings will be made available for purchase at the Bookstore. Some of the readings are available on Blackboard site for the course.

**HIST 525: Graduate Student Requirements**

Students taking the course as HIST 525 have special requirements. These include additional readings for discussion in extra sessions, and different specifications for the two papers. Please gather after class to discuss arrangements for the extra sessions.