INTRODUCTION

Our course will focus on three critical eras that dominate the history of Europe since the mid-eighteenth century: the era of the Enlightenment, French Revolution and Napoleon; the nineteenth-century era of industrialization and Victorian culture, and the era of total war and tyranny, 1914-45.

We will read the work of some leading contemporary historians, make use of a range of primary sources, and focus on some of the pivotal individuals who have helped determine the direction of modern history: Robespierre, Napoleon, Marx, Lenin, Stalin, Churchill, Hitler and Franklin Roosevelt. We will also consider the historical insights revealed by some of the most celebrated documentary films of the twentieth century.

SYLLABUS

PART ONE: ENLIGHTENMENT, FRENCH REVOLUTION AND NAPOLEON

July 5  
Introduction.

The Enlightenment

July 9  
The Enlightenment, concluded.


July 10  
The French Revolution: Outbreak and Liberal Phase

William Doyle, The French Revolution, pp. 1-80
Course Pak, ch. 2. Posted at the same address

July 11  
Robespierre and the Terror

Doyle, pp. 81-108
Course Pak, ch.3.

July 12  
Napoleon

Course Pak, ch. 4 (selections to be announced)
PART TWO: THE VICTORIAN ERA

July 17
The First Industrial Revolution and Its Consequences

Course Pak, ch. 5,6 (selections to be announced)
Marx and Engels, The Communist Manifesto, all but ch. 3, parts 1 and 2.

July 18
Part One: Midterm Examination
Part Two: Women in the Victorian Era

Hendrik Ibsen, A Doll’s House

PART THREE: TOTAL WAR AND TYRANNY, 1914-1945

July 19
The First World War: Outbreak to 1916

Michael Howard, The First World War, ch 1-4
Course Pak, ch. 8, 9

July 24
The War Concluded

Howard, ch. 5-9, appendices
Course Pak, ch 10
extra and voluntary: Watch “Funeral of the Unknown Warrior”, 1919 Pathe newsreel, UTUBE (5 mins.

July 25
The Russian Revolution: Lenin to Stalin
Course Pak, ch.11

July 26
Fascism and National Socialism: Hitler and Mussolini

Course Pak, ch. 12
Watch 30 minutes of “Triumph of the Will”, UTUBE.

July 31
The Second World War: Churchill and Hitler

Course Pak, ch.13
Watch Humphrey Jennings, “London Can Take It” (9 mins) UTUBE

Aug 1                   Total War and Nazi Defeat
Assignment continued

Aug 2                   The Holocaust
Wladyslaw Szpilman, The Pianist

Aug 6                   Final Examination

Purchase:
--Course Pak. This is a collection of maps, documents, short reviews of important books, short articles by leading historians and narrative accounts of major events. It is available by phone at 800-254-PAKS, or by internet order at www.ccpaks.com. Delivery takes about three business days. While you are waiting for delivery, you can read the first two assignments online at www.ccpaks.com/bristol.pdf
--Marx and Engels, The Communist Manifesto. 0-7178-0241-8
--Hendrik Ibsen, A Doll’s House. 978-0199536191
--John Lukacs, The Duel. 0-89919-967-4
--Wladyslaw Szpilman, The Pianist. 978-0312263768

Attendance and Class Policy:
In summer, with classwork compressed, ONE unexplained absence is excused. Inform the instructor if you miss class because of illness or another contingency which may be excusable.

Grading:
Class participation. Be ready to ask and answer questions about the reading. 20%
Midterm examination, 40%.
Final examination, 40%