Course Title: EUROPE AND EUROPEANS IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE
Course Code: HST3266
No. of Credits/Term: 3
Mode of Tuition: Sectional
Class Contact Hours: 3 hours per week
Category in Major Prog.: Elective
Pre-requisites: None
Co-requisites: None
Exclusions: None

Brief Course Description
This course's principal function will be to examine the notion of Europe and Europeans as continuous and stable historical concepts. Different issues will be explored such as the question of origins, the role of Christianity, myths about the Renaissance, the rise of the nation state, colonization in creating a non-European other and the establishment of the EEC. In this regard, the intention of the course will be to help students understand Europe within a number of different thematic frameworks. A comparative approach will also be taken to allow students to understand the social and political aspects of geography, identity and perceived cultural boundaries.

Aims
The objective of this course will be to give students an understanding of the different ways that Europe and Europeans have and continue to define themselves, historically, socially and culturally.

Learning Outcomes
Through taking this course, students should
a) Demonstrate an understanding of the major themes of European history since the Renaissance;
b) Demonstrate an understanding of historical causation;c) Demonstrate the ability to understand and analyze difficult primary sources (including fiction) within their historical context;d) Demonstrate the ability to discuss primary and secondary texts orally;e) Demonstrate the ability to write a clear and well-organized essay.

Indicative Content
I. Introduction: Europe on the cusp of modernity
   A. By way of background: Medieval Europe, Christendom and Feudal Society
   B. The Renaissance
   C. The Reformation
   D. Friday: Individual Salvation/ Political Fragmentation
   E. The Scientific Revolution
   F. The Wars of Religion and the Rise of Absolutism

II. Age of Enlightenment
   A. The Age of Reason and Universalism
   B. The French Revolution
   C. Napoleon and the Concert of Europe
III. Capitalism and Mass Society  
   A. The Industrial Revolution  
   B. The Marxist Response  
   C. Nationalism  

IV. Modernity and Totalitarianism  
   A. The Mass Media and Mass Society  
   B. The Russian Revolution  
   C. The Great War  
   D. Totalitarianism  
   E. World War II  
   F. The Holocaust  

V. Race, Empire, and the European Idea  
   A. The New Imperialism: Nationalisms and White Man’s Burden (late 19th century)  
   B. The Cold War, Decolonization and the rise of the European Union  
   C. Fortress Europe and the Challenge of the Developing World  
   D. Contemporary Europe  
   E. “The European Dream”?  

Teaching Method  
Lectures will be designed to give students a basic background on different ways of perceiving Europe over time. Primary source readings, methodological issues and comparative approaches will be discussed in class.

Measurement of Learning Outcomes  
a) Occasional quizzes to test reading comprehension;  
b) Three essays in which students analyze primary or secondary sources (or both);  
c) Regular class discussions that focus on primary sources within the context of specific themes and periods in modern European history.

Assessment  
Continuous Assessment 100%

Required Reading  
James J. Sheehan, Where Have All the Soldiers Gone? The Transformation of Modern Europe, Houghton Mifflin (2008), ISBN 0618353968  
Various short primary source readings.

Supplementary Readings  


