Course Title : EUROPE AND EUROPEANS IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

Course Code : HST266

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 : a) to develop analytical and critical thinking by exploring long-term historical causation and change

b) to increase students’ awareness of interconnectivity between European cultures through time.

c) to understand European cultures, ideologies
and value systems from a historical perspective
d) to increase political and cultural awareness,
   thereby heightening the students’ adaptability
   within the socio-economic and political climate
e) to increase understanding of important
   European issues, such as human rights,
   democracy, and social equality
f) to develop students’ written English

Indicative Content

1) Origins
   A) Historical roots
   B) The Mediterranean
   C) Civilizational boundaries
   D) Christianity

2) World Systems
   A) Cultural flows
   B) A world with a non-European center
   C) The idea of a sixteenth century Euro-centered system.

3) Pre-modern communities
   A) The Power of clans
   B) Communes
   C) Minorities
   D) Subjects
   E) Urban and rural life

4) European exceptionalism?
   A) The Enlightenment
   B) New historical trajectories
   C) Encounters in the new world

5) Nation-states
   A) Absolutism
   B) Centralizing Power
   C) Citizens
   D) Revolution

6) The Rise of Capitalism
   A) The Weberian view
   B) Markets and materials
   C) Industrialization
   D) Secularism

7) Colonialism
A) Forms of domination  
B) Strategies  
C) Ideology  

8) Nineteenth century Europe  
A) Core  
B) Periphery  
C) Internal-conflicts  

9) New Ideologies  
A) Communism  
B) Socialism  
C) Fascism  

10) Non-Europeans  
A) Theories of Race  
B) Cultural hegemony  
C) Immigration  

11) Shifting Power  
A) The Cold War  
B) American power and culture  
C) The Rise of China and India  
D) Globalization  

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) integrative essay examinations  
b) class discussions using group work and the Socratic method  
c) written assignments such as term papers and book reviews  

Assessment : Continuous Assessment 100%  

Required Reading:  

Supplementary Readings:  