

**CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY**

Cleveland, Ohio

Fall 2009

**HSTY 334: History of 19<sup>th</sup> Century Germany**

Clark 104

Monday-Wednesday 12:30-1:45 p.m.

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**Office Hours:**

Monday, Wednesday: 10:30 a.m.-Noon; 2:00-3:45 p.m.

Tuesday: 8:00 a.m.-Noon

Other hours by appointment

The German nineteenth century stretched from the French Revolution of 1789 to the outbreak of the First World War in August 1914, and it saw profound transformations in German society, economics, and polity. From a politically-fragmented, agrarian society of estates, Germany grew into a politically-unified, industrial power, aspiring to empire and world importance and plagued by the tensions of class struggle. This course will explore the emergence of the German middle class, the *Bürgertum*, the “failure” of the Revolutions of 1848, the unification of Germany around the Kingdom of Prussia, industrialization and the rise of a Social Democratic working class movement and political party. Social relations, including the rise of the women’s movement, the class and gender basis of the bourgeois rule of law, and the contradictions between political system and social reality, will provide the primary focus of the course. This class will be of interest not only to history majors but to all students interested in the historical context of Prussian militarism, Marxist economic and social thought, industrial development, and the coming of World War I.

**BOOKS TO PURCHASE:**

The following six (6) required textbooks are available at the bookstore, used and new, and *must* be purchased *at the beginning of the term*:

David Blackbourn, *History of Germany, 1790-1918: The Long Nineteenth Century* (2002)

Helmut Walser Smith, *The Continuities of German History: Nation, Religion, and Race Across the Long Nineteenth Century* (2008)

Gustav Freytag, *Debit and Credit* (2007; 1855)

Isabel V. Hull, *Absolute Destruction: Military Culture and the Practices of War in Imperial Germany* (2006)

Michael B. Gross, *The War Against Catholicism: Liberalism and the Anti-Catholic Imagination in Nineteenth-Century Germany* (2005)

Thomas Mann, *The Magic Mountain* (1996; 1924)

**REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING**

There will be one (1) mid-term examination, two (2) short papers, and one (1) final examination required in this course. Together with preparation, participation, and attendance, these will constitute

the entire grade.

### **A. Papers:**

Two (2) short papers are required in this course. Each should be approximately eight to ten (8 to 10) typed pages in length (2,000-2,500 words). Papers *must* be typed. Please also do me the courtesy of proof-reading and spell-checking. Papers **must** be handed in on time and in person. Deadline extensions will be granted **only in extraordinarily exigent** circumstances and then only if a request is made in advance, by e-mail or in writing, stating a good reason, and receiving approval in advance. All late papers will be penalized a letter grade for each day, or fraction thereof, late, **without exception**. Students know the due dates now and should plan their semesters accordingly.

**Each** paper is worth **twenty** percent (**20%**) of the final grade.

1) For the first paper, students will use the novel by Gustav Freytag, *Debit and Credit*, as a piece of historical evidence to discuss the structure of German society between 1815 and roughly 1860 and the changes that it underwent over time. The particular focus of this paper will be the depiction of national, class and estate, religious, and value differences in the novel. What are the national, social, gender, and religious attitudes and relations portrayed in the novel, and how did they change over time? What do these stratifications and faults portend for Germany? Your own insight into and synthesis of the information that you have learned is what I wish to see. You are to read the novel **on your own and in addition to the weekly assigned readings for lecture**, and novels cannot be skimmed, so I recommend that you begin this reading immediately.

**The first paper is due at the beginning of class, Wednesday, September 30.**

2) For the second paper, students will use the novel by Thomas Mann, *The Magic Mountain*, as a piece of historical evidence to discuss the structure of German society between 1900 and 1914 and the changes that it underwent over time. The particular focus of this paper will be the depiction social, political, philosophical, and cultural relations as depicted in the microcosm of the Alpine resort that is the scene of the action of the novels. How did the aristocrats and Bürger who could afford to stay at the spa interact along social, political, philosophical, cultural, and gendered lines? Your own insight into and synthesis of the information that you have learned to analyze the relations depicted in the novel are what I wish to see. You are to read the novel **on your own and in addition to the weekly assigned readings for lecture**, and novels cannot be skimmed, so I recommend that you begin this reading immediately.

**The second paper is due at the beginning of class, Monday, November 23.**

### **B. Exams:**

1) There will be a mid-term examination, fifty (50) minutes long, in class, on **Monday, October 12**. Its format will include four (4) identifications in twenty (20) minutes and a thirty (30) minute essay, and the student will have a choice of which identifications and essay to answer. The mid-term exam will represent **twenty** percent (**20%**) of the student's final grade.

2) There will be a final examination, 3 (three) hours long, during the period prescribed by the Registrar for this course, on **Wednesday, December 16, 8:30-11:30 a.m.** It will follow the same

format as the mid-term exam **and it will be comprehensive**, covering the entire semester's work. I reserve the right to offer a final examination that is shorter than 3 hours; a final announcement will be made later in the semester. The final examination will represent **thirty percent (30%)** of the student's final grade.

### **C. Preparation, Participation, Attendance:**

**Ten percent (10%)** of the student's final grade will derive from her/his degree of preparation, participation, and attendance. Remember that attendance is a requirement of the course **apart from** its role in calculating the grade.

### **POLICIES TO NOTE**

1. This class will **start on time** and finish on time. The instructor will expect students to be just as courteous **by arriving on time and being ready to begin at 12:30 p.m.** The instructor will make all announcements important to the course at the **beginning** of class and will **not** repeat them, so it will benefit the student to arrive on time. Tardiness will count as non-attendance.

2. Please turn off cellular telephones, PDAs, and other objects that ring, beep, vibrate, or otherwise distract during class time. Students whose devices distract will be asked to leave.

3. **Attendance, participation, and preparation policy.** Students are expected to attend all classes, unless excused by an appropriate note from the University Health Service or the Office of Undergraduate Studies. All students should participate fully in the discussions. Students are also expected to come to class having completed the readings for the week. In other words, attendance and preparation **are mandatory**; a failing grade in the course may be assigned for failure to attend. Attendance is an **additional** requirement of the course and is as important as a student's performance on tests, papers, and in discussion.

4. In accordance with University policy, grades of **incomplete** will be granted only in truly extenuating cases.

5. **Plagiarism.** Students should have learned what plagiarism is and how to avoid it long before they seek and obtain admission to a university. Lest there be any confusion, however, I provide the following guidelines, which I adapt from Prof. Vernon Lidtke of The Johns Hopkins University:

The term plagiarism covers a multitude of sins. It involves the theft of words, ideas or conclusions from another writer. If an academic paper gives the impression that the writer is himself or herself the author of words, ideas or conclusions that are in fact the product of another person's work, the writer of that paper is guilty of plagiarism. In the following cases, such a misleading impression is given:

1. Failure to give credit in a footnote for ideas, statements of fact, or conclusions derived from another writer.
2. Failure to use quotation marks when quoting directly from another writer, whether an entire sentence or only a phrase is quoted. In

- addition, all quotations must *always* be footnoted.
3. Close and extended paraphrase of another writer even if credit is given in a footnote.
  4. Footnoting directly to a source that is quoted or cited by another author but that has not been examined by the writer of the term paper, unless proper credit is given in a footnote.

These examples do not exhaust the forms that plagiarism may take. Plagiarism is committed whenever and however a writer appears to take credit for work done by another. An entire paper may be plagiarized, as when a student submits a paper written by someone else, or plagiarism may be limited to a single page. While plagiarism may be more or less extensive in a paper, it is always a fraud, and it is always a most serious offense.

Plagiarism need not be deliberate; it may be committed unintentionally through carelessness or ignorance. Since accidental plagiarism in a paper is indistinguishable from deliberate dishonesty, a student must be alert to avoid the sort of carelessness or ignorance that may leave him or her open to a charge of having plagiarized another's work. The safest rule to follow is: *When in doubt, footnote.*

The penalty in this course for plagiarism is a grade of "F" on the paper, and it will be calculated as a zero ("0") into the student's final grade. All cases of plagiarism will be reported to the Dean of Undergraduate Studies as prescribed in the current *General Bulletin* and *Student Handbook*.

6. If you **encounter difficulties or have a complaint**, talk to me. I cannot help you if you do not ask!

## **SCHEDULE OF CLASS MEETINGS AND READINGS**

### **Week 1 (Aug.24, 26): "What is Germany?"**

Readings: Blackbourn, *The Long Nineteenth Century*, Prefaces, xiv-xxiii; Prologue, 1-33; Smith, *Continuities*, 1-38.

### **Week 2 (Aug. 31, Sept. 2): The Challenge from France.**

Readings: Blackbourn, *The Long Nineteenth Century*, Ch. 1, 37-68.

### **Week 3 (Sept. 9): German Answers: Reform and Reaction.**

#### **Monday, Sept. 7: Labor Day Holiday, Class Will Not Meet**

Readings: Blackbourn, *The Long Nineteenth Century*, Ch. 2, 69-103.

### **Week 4 (Sept. 14, 16): Social Structure and Economic Change, 1815-48.**

Readings: Smith, *Continuities*, 39-73.

### **Week 5 (Sept. 21, 23): Culture and Ideas, 1815-48.**

Readings: Gross, *War Against Catholicism*, 1-73.

**Week 6 (Sept. 28, 30): Liberalism and Nationalism: The Revolutions of 1848.**  
Readings: Blackbourn, *The Long Nineteenth Century*, Ch. 3, 104-31.

**FIRST ESSAY DUE, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, BEGINNING OF CLASS!**

**Week 7 (Oct. 5, 7): Political Rivalry and Economic Take-Off.**  
Readings: Blackbourn, *The Long Nineteenth Century*, Ch. 4, 135-70;

**Week 8 (Oct. 12, 14): The “Other” Germany.**  
Readings: Gross, *War Against Catholicism*, 74-184.

**MID-TERM EXAMINATION, MONDAY, OCTOBER 12**

**Week 9 (Oct. 21): Getting Prussia Ready.**  
**Monday, Oct. 19: Fall Break Holiday, Class Will Not Meet**  
Readings: Blackbourn, *The Long Nineteenth Century*, Ch. 5, 171-203.

**Week 10 (Oct. 26, 28): Unification.**  
Readings: Blackbourn, *The Long Nineteenth Century*, Ch. 6, 204-33.

**Week 11 (Nov. 2, 4): Building a Nation.**  
Readings: Gross, *War Against Catholicism*, 185-302.

**Week 12 (Nov. 9, 11): Economic and Social Change.**  
Readings: Blackbourn, *The Long Nineteenth Century*, Ch. 7, 237-64; Ch. 8, 265-303;

**Week 13 (Nov. 16, 18): Challenges of Universal Manhood Suffrage.**  
Readings: Hull, *Absolute Destruction*, 1-196..

**Week 14 (Nov. 23): Foreign Policy and Crises.**  
**Wednesday, Nov. 25: Thanksgiving Holiday, Class Will Not Meet**  
Readings: Blackbourn, *The Long Nineteenth Century*, Ch. 9, 304-47;

**SECOND PAPER DUE, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, BEGINNING OF CLASS!**

**Week 15 (Nov. 30, Dec. 2): The Decision for War.**  
Readings: Blackbourn, *The Long Nineteenth Century*, 348-74; Hull, *Absolute Destruction*, 197-333.

**FINAL EXAMINATION, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 8:30-11:30 A.M.**