**Modern Europe**

**Spring 2023**

**J Lewis, Instructor**

***Class Requirements and Goals***

This is a survey of modern European history over the two centuries from the French Revolution of 1789 to the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991. It will include study of political, economic, and cultural developments that have defined “modernity,” as well as oppositions to it. The course is designed to introduce students to broad trends and issues in European society and the larger world during this period and provide a foundation for those who choose to pursue more specialized study in modern history. Students should also take from this course concrete skills for analyzing, thinking about, and writing about how the world they live in took shape. Emphasis will be on discussion and analysis of assigned texts, critical writing about those texts, different theoretical understandings and interpretations of the issues we will be dealing with, and insights into how people in the past thought and lived as well as how the past continues to shape the present.

***Attendance***: Regular attendance is a requirement of the College. Unexcused absences will be calculated at a rate of minus .05 percent from the final grade for each two such absences; excused absences will not be applied to this. Students should notify the instructor in advance or provide documentation of reasons for missed classes.

**Classroom Etiquette:** Please make every effort to arrive on time so as not to disrupt class. Students of course may wish to take notes on laptops or tablets but please reframe from texting, etc., on phones in class.

**Evaluations**: Students are expected to complete and upload assignments on-time. Writing assignments will be evaluated on content, thoroughness, how well readings are integrated in responses, and how well papers are written. Each written assignment is worth one-quarter of the final grade with the final quarter based on attendance and class participation.

**Exams**: ***All assignments must be posted on the Blackboard page for this class on time in .doc, .docx or .pdf format. Papers uploaded in other formats such as .pages, google-docs, .txt or other formats cannot be reviewed. Also note that Blackboard will not allow late uploads***.

**Assignment #1 The Twin Revolutions**: a short essay assignment on readings related to the French Revolution and Industrialization due on Blackboard on Monday, March 4.

**Assignment #2 Socialism, War, and Fascism**: a writing assignment on readings related to Socialism, the First World War, and post-First World War Fascism due on Monday, April 15.

**Assignment #3 The Rise and Decline of 20th Century European Communism**: an essay on the syllabus readings on the context, rise and collapse of Communist regimes.