

## Ideas of Europe

### Science, Technology and the Shaping of Post-War Europe.

Special Problems: HTS 3803/ INTA 3803  
Georgia Tech-Lorraine

#### Course Description

What is Europe? How can we understand the contemporary history and politics of Europe in the global context? And finally, how and to what extent have science and technology been a part of the process of making Europe? In this course, we will work with these three questions on European history after the Second World War. We begin with the impossibility of the idea of Europe divided by fascism in the interwar period, and trace the transformation of this landscape in the postwar period shaped by Cold War politics and the converging interests of various international processes. We will also study the role of the legacy and continuities of colonialism in post-war Europe, seen through decolonisation and immigration.

#### Readings

1. Tony Judt, *Postwar: A History of Europe Since 1945*, (New York: Penguin, 2006)
2. John Krige, *American Hegemony and the Postwar Reconstruction of Science and Europe* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2006).
3. Erik van der Leuten and Arne Kaijser, eds., *Networking Europe: Transnational Infrastructures and the Shaping of Europe, 1850-2000* (Sagamore Beach, Mass., Science History Publications, 2006)

\*\*additional documents will be made available as needed.

#### Requirements

Although a significant portion of most class meetings will be devoted to lecture, students should submit, at the beginning of each class meeting, a written question pertaining to the assigned reading, along with a brief (1 or 2 paragraph) justification of the particular inquiry. These questions will provide a framework for class discussions. Students are encouraged to participate actively in class discussions and to raise questions about the material or point of view presented in the readings or lectures. Everyone, instructor and student alike, will benefit from an energetic and informed exchange of ideas.

### Grades

90-100 = A; 80-89 = B; 70-79 = C; 60-69 = D; < 59 = F

Grading will be based on two take-home papers that will test the students' mastery of the prescribed material. Students will be given 48 hours to answer two of four questions. One such exam will be administered near the mid-term break, the other during finals week.

### Lecture Topics:

1. What is Europe? Science, Technology and the Making of Europe
2. Legacies of Colonialism and the Idea of Europe
3. The Impossibility of Europe: Science, Technology and Fascisms of Inter-War Europe
4. Postwar Reorganisation of Europe: The USA and Western Europe
5. Postwar Reorganisation of Europe: The USSR and Eastern Europe
6. Postwar Reorganisation of Europe: The German Question
7. Europe and the Nuclear Age: National and International Histories (France and United Kingdom)
8. Europe and the Nuclear Age: CERN and EURATOM
9. Europe in the Space Age: ESRO, European Nationalisms and Colonialisms
10. NATO and the Military integration of Europe
11. Infrastructure and the Making of Europe: Roads, Railways and Electricity
12. Europe and its Discontents: Common Agriculture Policy
13. Europe in the World: Foreign Policy, Immigration and Aid
14. The End of Eurocentrism?

**The syllabus and schedule are subject to change as the course evolves in response to resources and students needs.**

**The Honor Code fully applies to this course. Knowing the provisions of the Honor Code is the student's responsibility. Violations will not be tolerated.**