HIST21112 A Transnational History of Europe in the Short Twentieth Century, c. 1917-1991

Dr Christian Goeschel

I will be available on 12 June from 2-3pm via Zoom: https://zoom.us/j/94232320250



A Transnational History of Europe in the Short Twentieth Century explores the devastations of the short twentieth century in Europe and asks how Europeans experienced this rollercoaster century. The course's chronology is framed by events including the Russian revolution, the emergence of totalitarian dictatorships, the Second World War, post-war reconstruction, the Cold War, European integration and the fall of the Iron Curtain. Instead of simply offering a conventional narrative, the course highlights overarching themes in the history of Europe that cut across national boundaries, including migration, decolonisation, and globalisation. Exploring the close links between political ideas and social developments, the course surveys how changing and conflicting political ideologies – fascism, state socialism or the welfare state – and population movements caused by armed conflict have shaped European society at different times.

(Weekly topics are subject to change depending on the teaching team's expertise)

Assessment methods

Method Weighting

Written exam 70%

Written assignment (inc essay) 30%

Suggested reading

Garavini, G., After Empires: European Integration, Decolonization, and the challenge from the Global South 1957-1986 (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012).

Hobsbawm, Eric, *The Age of Extremes: The Short Twentieth Century, 1914–1991* (London: Penguin, 1994).

Jarausch, K. H., Out of Ashes: A New History of Europe in the Twentieth Century (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2015).

Judt, Tony, Postwar: A History of Europe since 1945 (London: Penguin, 2005).

Kershaw, I., To Hell and Back: Europe 1914-1949 (London: Allen Lane, 2015).

Kershaw, I., Rollercoaster: Europe, 1950-2017 (London: Allen Lane, 2018).

Mazower, M., Dark Continent: Europe's Twentieth Century (London: Penguin, 1999).