

HIS11 Syllabus
History of Europe since 1945
States and people from division to integration
Mondays & Thursdays, 1–2 pm GMT
www.emmanuel-comte.eu

Instructor: Dr Emmanuel Comte
Office hours: Tuesdays, 2–3pm GMT

Course content with learning outcomes: As the raging war in Ukraine has led to the largest movement of populations in Europe since 1945, this course explores the impact of both state rivalries and population movements on the shaping of modern Europe. The course is divided into three sections that cover the division of Europe following World War II, the formation of the European Union, and the end of the Cold War with the unification of Europe. In the first section, learners will delve into the occupation of the continent, the beginning of the Cold War, and the rise of socialism in Eastern Europe. They will also study the growth and integration of Western Europe and the formation of the Iron Curtain. The second section of the course focuses on the formation of the European Union, as well as East-West diplomatic initiatives. In the final section, learners will examine the collapse of the Soviet Union, the reunification of Germany, and the EU's eastern enlargements. Upon completion of the course, learners will have gained a deep understanding of the dynamics of European history since the end of World War II. They will also have developed research skills and the ability to draw personal conclusions based on primary source material and historiography.

Prerequisite: Enrolment in this course requires basic knowledge of European history, which can be demonstrated through the completion of a high school programme.

Practicalities: The course is delivered through weekly lectures and discussion sessions, focusing on the topics and readings outlined below. Lectures last up to an hour and are conducted live every Monday at 1pm GMT. Participants are encouraged to submit questions via email, post questions in the course forum, and actively participate in the live discussion sessions held every Thursday at 1pm GMT. The course website provides access to readings, as well as audio recordings and full transcripts of weekly lectures. Upon purchasing the course, you will receive the website's address and password.

Requirements to earn the certificate of achievement:

You will dive deep into the course subject:

- ✓ Attend all discussion seminars with your camera on, showing your knowledge of the previous lectures and readings in the discussion.
- ✓ Choose a research question that is related to one of the course's weekly sessions or that you have identified with the instructor.
- ✓ Find 2,000 words of passages from 3 to 10 different primary sources relevant to your question, with at least 2 quantitative sources. Images, including graphs, are worth 200 words each. Report only the extracts that have intrigued you the most – rather than full documents. Write the complete reference of each document in bold, with author, title, date, depository, and URL to the document. Order sources chronologically. Sources can be in English, French, German, Italian, or Spanish.
- ✓ Write a one-page statement (650 words) that explains why your sources are important for your question and how they complement the lectures and readings of the course.

Refer with endnotes in your statement to all your sources and to readings they complement or challenge. Endnotes are not included in the required length.

- ✓ Submit your work by the end of Week 12.
- ✓ In Week 13, answer questions orally in 10 minutes about your work.

This concrete exercise will perfect your skills given that:

- Your work will be assessed based on your ability to produce:
 - ✓ organised and well-referenced notes,
 - ✓ primary information relevant to a given question,
 - ✓ new perspectives and information that go beyond the lectures and readings,
 - ✓ a one-page statement highlighting this previous point,
 - ✓ and pertinent answers about your work orally.
- You will receive in the first session a list of resources to find primary sources and a model of what to produce.
- You can send emails to the instructor and visit office hours during the term to discuss your progression and get feedback before the deadline.

The oral interview and work assessment are included in the full course package. However, if you opt to purchase the course on a weekly basis, you must purchase Week 13 too to access these components.

List of lectures and readings:

I/ The Division of Europe

Week 1: Post-War Europe: Occupation and Displacements

- Cohen, Gerard Daniel. 2012. [*In War's Wake: Europe's Displaced Persons in the Postwar Order*](#). Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Levi, Primo. 1995. [*The Reawakening*](#). New York: Simon and Schuster.
- Vonyó, Tamás. 2018. [*The Economic Consequences of the War: West Germany's Growth Miracle After 1945*](#). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Week 2: The Beginning of the Cold War: Stalemate and East-West Tensions, 1947–1956

- Comte, Emmanuel. 2020. '[Waging the Cold War: The Origins and Launch of Western Cooperation to Absorb Migrants from Eastern Europe, 1948–57](#).' *Cold War History* 20 (4): 461–81.
- Eisenberg, Carolyn Woods. 1996. [*Drawing the Line: The American Decision to Divide Germany, 1944-1949*](#). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 485–93.

Week 3: Rebuilding Western Europe: Growth and Integration, 1947–1954

- Comte, Emmanuel. 2018. [*The History of the European Migration Regime: Germany's Strategic Hegemony*](#). New York, NY: Routledge, Ch. I.
- Kindleberger, Charles P. 1967. [*Europe's Postwar Growth: The Role of Labor Supply*](#). Cambridge: Harvard University Press.
- Milward, Alan S. 1996. '[The Reconstruction of Western Europe](#).' In Maier, Charles S., ed. *The Cold War in Europe*. 2nd ed. New York: Markus Wiener Publishing, Inc., Ch. 9.
- Trachtenberg, Marc. 1999. [*A Constructed Peace: The Making of the European Settlement, 1945-1963*](#). Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Week 4: Eastern Europe: The Rise of Socialism and the Berlin Wall

- Harrison, Hope Millard. 2000. '[Driving the Soviets up the Wall: A Super-Ally, a Superpower, and the Building of the Berlin Wall, 1958–61.](#)' *Cold War History* 1(1): 53–74.
- [Nikita Khrushchev's 20th Party Congress Secret Speech.](#)

II/ The Formation of the European Union

Week 5: The Rise of the European Community

- Adenauer, Konrad. 1966. *Memoirs, 1945–1966*. Chicago: Henry Regnery.
- Comte, Emmanuel. 2018. [The History of the European Migration Regime: Germany's Strategic Hegemony](#). New York, NY: Routledge, Ch. II & III.
- Milward, Alan S. 1999. [The European Rescue of the Nation-State](#). 2nd ed. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Week 6: Instability and Expansion: Northern and Southern Enlargements

- Comte, Emmanuel. 2018. [The History of the European Migration Regime: Germany's Strategic Hegemony](#). New York, NY: Routledge, Ch. IV.
- McNamara, Kathleen R. 1998. [The Currency of Ideas: Monetary Politics in the European Union](#). Ithaca: Cornell University Press, Ch. I to VI.

Week 7: Détente and Diplomacy: Ostpolitik and the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe

- Bange, Oliver, and Gottfried Niedhart, eds. 2008. [Helsinki 1975 and the Transformation of Europe](#). New York, Oxford: Berghahn Books.
- [Conversation between Leonid Brezhnev and Alexander Dubcek](#), 13 August 1968.

Week 8: The Deepening of European Integration

- Comte, Emmanuel. 2018. [The History of the European Migration Regime: Germany's Strategic Hegemony](#). New York, NY: Routledge, Ch. V.
- James, Harold. 2012. [Making the European Monetary Union](#). Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press.

III/ The End of the Cold War and the Unification of Europe

Week 9: Foot-Voting, German Reunification, and the Collapse of the Soviet Union

- Bozo, Frédéric. 2007. '[Mitterrand's France, the End of the Cold War, and German Unification: A Reappraisal.](#)' *Cold War History* 7 (4): 455–78.
- Gorbachev, Mikhail Sergeevich. 1996. *Memoirs*. New York: Doubleday Books.
- Sarotte, Marie Elise. 2021. [Not One Inch: America, Russia, and the Making of Post-Cold War Stalemate](#). New Haven: Yale University Press.

Week 10: Eastern Europe Joins the EU: The Big Market and its External Borders

- Comte, Emmanuel. 2015. '[Migration and Regional Interdependence in the Mediterranean, from the Early 1980s to the Mid 1990s.](#)' *Journal of European Integration History* 41 (June): 109–23.
- Comte, Emmanuel. 2019. '[Promising More to Give Less: International Disputes between Core and Periphery around European Posted Labor, 1955–2018.](#)' *Labor History* 60 (6): 749–64.

- Connelly, John. 2020. [*From Peoples into Nations: A History of Eastern Europe*](#). Princeton: Princeton University Press, 763–86.

Week 11: East European Immigration and the UK's Brexit Decision

- Corrales, Mercedes. 2019. *Fear and Loathing in the UK: How the Fear of Immigration from Central and Eastern Europe Influenced the Brexit Referendum Result*. Master's Thesis, Universität Wien.
- Recchi, Ettore. 2015. [*Mobile Europe: The Theory and Practice of Free Movement in the EU*](#). London: Palgrave Macmillan, 49–77.

Week 12: The Origins and Course of the Ukraine War

- Comte, Emmanuel. 2022. '[German Strengths and Weaknesses in the Russo-Ukrainian War](#).' *ELIAMEP Policy Briefs* 164 (June).
- Katchanovski, Ivan. 2020. '[The far right, the Euromaidan, and the Maidan massacre in Ukraine](#).' *Journal of Labor and Society* 23(1): 5–36.
- Kuzio, Taras, Sergei I. Zhuk, and Paul D'Anieri, eds. 2022. [*Ukraine's Outpost: Dnipropetrovsk and the Russian-Ukrainian War*](#).