History 104

Europe from Napoleon to the PRESENT

21 April 2008

Europe in the Twenty-First Century

Ankara, Turkey
Final Exam: Wednesday, 30 April, 12:30-2:30 in this room

Part One: answer TWO out of SIX essay questions (30% each)
--these questions will cover the entire course; you should support your answer with reference to specific examples (people, events, texts, images); count on spending 35-40 minutes on each answer and writing at least five substantial paragraphs for each

these six questions will be selected from twelve which I will post on the course website on Friday morning (25 April 2008); after the questions are posted, you are “on your own”—Michael and I will not answer any questions after that point

Part Two: comment on FOUR out of EIGHT passages or images (10% each)
--these will be materials we have covered since the last midterm; format is identical to that on the first two exams for this course

Limits of Europe: Russia?
Holy Alliance and Europe
Challenged by:
  - liberalism (Britain)
  - nationalism (in Austrian Empire, German-speaking world, etc.)

Liberalism itself challenged by socialism

How does any political ideology change when it moves from being oppositional to being in power?

Return of liberalism: neo-liberalism and the “end of history”
Westernizers and Slavophiles in the Russian Empire

Peter the Great, 1672-1725
built new capital at St. Petersburg
introduced Dutch and British naval technology
mandated that aristocratic men shave their
beards and the women should wear
“French” fashions
made French and German the court languages

Slavophiles (reign of Nicholas I, 1825-1855)
denounced Europe as “corrupted” by
Enlightenment emphasis on reason
rejected European “individualism” and
praised communal organization of
Russian peasants (Mir)
emphasized role of Orthodox Church
Conformably to the words of the Holy Scriptures, the three contracting Monarchs will remain united by the bonds of a true and indissoluble fraternity, and, considering each other as fellow-countrymen, they will, on all occasions and in all places, lend each other aid and assistance; and, regarding themselves towards their subjects and armies as fathers of families, they will lead them... to protect Religion, Peace, and justice.

Holy Alliance, September 14/26, 1815
Nineteenth-Century Liberals and the Whig Philosophy of History

The laboring classes in England.. are occasionally in a state of great distress. Some of the causes of this distress are beyond the control of the Government. We know [that distress] makes even wise men irritable, unreasonable, eager for immediate relief. Distress blinds their judgment [and] it inflames their passions … For the sake, therefore, of the whole society, for the sake of the laboring classes themselves, it is clearly necessary that the right of suffrage should depend on a pecuniary qualification. …

To exclude those whom it is necessary to exclude, we must admit those whom it may be safe to admit. … All history is full of revolutions, produced by causes similar to those now operating in England. A portion of the community which had been of no account expands and becomes strong. It demands a place in the system, suited, not to its former weakness, but to its present power. If this is granted, all is well. If this is refused, then comes the struggle between the young energy of one class and the ancient privileges of another. …

Thomas Babington Macaulay, 1831.
Nineteenth-Century British Legislation and Social-Economic Change

1832  Great Reform Act
1834  New Poor Law
1844  Factory Act (8-13 year olds can only work 6½ hours/day; women, 10 hours/day)
1846  repeal of the Corn Laws
1867  Second Reform Act
1870  Married Women’s Property Act
1871  Trade Union Act
1880  Education Act (children 5-10 must attend school)
1884  Third Reform Act

The first step toward lightening the White Man’s Burden is through teaching the virtues of cleanliness. Pears’ Soap is a potent factor in brightening the dark corners of the earth as civilization advances…
## European Political Spectrum, 1815-1968?

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1815</td>
<td>republicanism</td>
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<td>1968</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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Background and Review: Changing Political Configurations
Russia, Future of the World

Hindu and Korean, Englishman, Persian, Frenchman, Chinese, Turk, and all the rest: they all spoke, and spoke of imperialism, which carried away by its greed has dug its own grave and now is drowning in the blood of nations. ... In this unanimous funeral dirge for the past, the real meaning was the joyous announcing of the future, summoning the nations to aid resurgent revolutionary Russia...

Maxim Gorky, “Soviet Russia and the Nations of the World” (1919)
Neo-Liberal Economic Theory and International Neoconservatism

"They are casting their problems at society. And, you know, there's no such thing as society. There are individual men and women and there are families. And no government can do anything except through people, and people must look after themselves first. It is our duty to look after ourselves and then, also, to look after our neighbours."

Margaret Thatcher 1987

1970s-1980s in the United Kingdom

1972  30 Jan.—Bloody Sunday; 21 July—Bloody Friday

1975  inflation peaks at 27% annually

1978-1979 “Winter of Discontent”

1979  Thatcher becomes Prime Minister

1982  Falklands War

1984-1985 coalminers’ strike

God save the queen,
'Cos tourists are money
Our figure's head
Is not what she seems.

“God Save the Queen,” Sex Pistols 1977
Neoliberalism and the End of History?
What we may be witnessing is not just the end of the Cold War, or the passing of a particular period of post-war history, but the end of history as such … That is, the end point of mankind's ideological evolution and the universalization of Western liberal democracy as the final form of human government.

Francis Fukuyama, *The End of History and the Last Man* (1992)