The Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries:
1945-2013
An Interdisciplinary Introduction

Humanities 515 A, B, C, D
Spring 2013

Lectures: Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:40 - 11:00 in PCAC A218
Sections: alternate Thursdays 9:40 - 11:00 in various rooms

All students must enroll in one of the four sections and attend its meetings.

Section 515A (Art History): Professor Eleanor Hight. Meets in PCAC A218 and satisfies General Education category 6 and the Discovery category in Fine and Performing Arts.

Section 515B (Literature): Professor Michael Ferber. Meets in Hamilton Smith 126 and satisfies Gen. Ed. 8 and Discovery category in World Culture.

Section 515C (History): Professor Janet Polasky. Meets in MUB 332 and satisfies Gen. Ed. 4 and Discovery category in Historical Perspectives.

Section 515D (Philosophy): Professor Jen Armstrong. Meets in HS 18 and satisfies Gen. Ed. 7 and Discovery category in Humanities.

Half the grade for this course will depend on the three tests (given in the lecture room) and half will depend on the work assigned in section (e.g., papers, quizzes, regular attendance, participation, etc., as the professor chooses).

Books (available at Durham Book Exchange)

Samuel Beckett, Endgame (Grove Press)
Daniel Quinn, The Story of B (Bantam)
Tony Judt, Postwar: A History of Europe Since 1945 (Penguin)

Additional readings will be made available through on-line links.

The following is a schedule of topics. Specific reading assignments will be given in class.
Schedule

Tues 22 Jan  Introduction

Part One: Post-War and Cold-War Eras

Thur 24 Jan  Emerging from the Nightmare of the Holocaust (Polasky)
Tues 29 Jan  Existentialism (Armstrong)
Thur 31 Jan  Section 1

Tues 5 Feb  Abstract Expressionism and the New York Art Scene (Hight)
Thur 7 Feb  Pop Art and Media Culture (Hight)
Tues 12 Feb  Abstract Drama: Samuel Beckett’s Endgame (Ferber)
Thur 14 Feb  Section 2

Tues 19 Feb  The Possibilities of a European Union: From the Coal and Steel Community to Maastricht (Polasky)
Thur 21 Feb  Test 1

Part Two: Protest and Revolution

Tues 26 Feb  Civil Rights and Black Power (Armstrong)
Thur 28 Feb  Ce n’est qu’un début: May-June 1968 (Polasky)
Tues 5 Mar  “Mayflowers”: UNH, too! (Polasky)
Thur 7 Mar  Section 3

Spring Break

Tues 19 Mar  Noam Chomsky’s Revolution in Linguistics (Ferber)
Thur 21 Mar  Chomsky: Linguistics and Politics (2) (Ferber)
Tues 26 Mar  Art and Protest (Hight)
Thur 28 Mar  Section 4
Tues 2 Apr  Art in a Divided Europe (Hight)

Thur 4 Apr  **Test 2**

**Part Three: New Challenges, New Directions**

Tues 9 Apr  Post-War American Poetry (Ferber)

Thur 11 Apr  Architecture: Modern/Postmodern (Hight)

Tues 16 Apr  Eastern European Poetry (Ferber)

Thur 18 Apr  **Section 5**

Tues 23 Apr  The New Feminism (Armstrong)

Thur 25 Apr  Europe and its “Others” (Polasky)

Tues 30 Apr  The Environmental Movement (Armstrong)

Thur 2 May  **Section 6** (or joint review session)

Tues 14 May from 1:00 to 3:00  **Test 3**

Any student who feels he or she may need personal accommodation because of a disability should discuss it privately with one of the professors; we will do what we can to help you. Please also contact the Office for Disability Services for Students in room 118 of the Memorial Union Building (862-2607).

All students should be sure they understand the University Academic Honesty policy, described on pp. 21-23 of *Student Rights, Rules, and Responsibilities*. 