

History 510:370:01

Fall 2015

Laurie Bernstein

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Office hours: TTh 1:30-2:45, and by appointment

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## **Syllabus for Women in Modern Europe**

In this course, we shall examine women's roles in modern European history to discover how concepts of gender have affected our understanding of Europe's past and influenced the fates of European women and men. Although we begin by looking at women in pre-industrial Europe, our focus will be on the ways that liberalism, feminism, industrialization, socialism, and urbanization contributed to the transformation of European society, and on how women went from chattels to citizens.

### **Required reading:**

Lisa DiCaprio and Merry E. Wiesner, *Lives and Voices: Sources in European Women's History* (Boston, MA and New York: Houghton Mifflin, 2001) ISBN 0395970520. This book will be available at the University District Bookstore.

All other required readings are available on Sakai

### **Strongly recommended, especially if you have not taken a course in modern European history**

A recent, reputable textbook on post-1700 European history. I recommend Lynn Hunt, Thomas R. Martin, Barbara H. Rosenwein, Bonnie G. Smith, *The Making of the West*, Volume C: Since 1750, but you may also use a recent edition of the text you used in Western or World Civilization, e.g., Jackson J. Spielvogel, *Western Civilization*, Volume II: Since 1500. Please do not hesitate to check with me about the suitability of the text you choose.

### **Requirements:**

#### *Conduct, attendance, and participation (10 points)*

Students are expected to attend each and every scheduled class, to arrive on time, to come prepared in terms of the reading and writing assignments, and to participate in class discussions. If students use mobile devices in class, they are expected to use them *only* for taking notes or viewing materials for the course that are posted on Sakai. There are no excused absences. Courtesy dictates that students who cannot attend a scheduled class should let me know via email or voicemail prior to that class.

#### *Written comments on each week's assigned secondary source (50 points)*

One peer-reviewed secondary source is part of each week's required reading. Students will show their familiarity with each week's assigned

essay by writing a 2-3-page paper that (1) places the author's main argument in their own words; (2) comments on the primary sources mined by the author; and (3) steps back from the article in order to put it in perspective with regard to issues of gender and history. Only papers submitted via Sakai prior to the class on which they are due will count. Students can earn up to 5 points for each paper. There are 12 opportunities to write comments; the 10 papers with the highest grades will count towards the final grade. Detailed instructions for this paper will be posted on Sakai.

*Midterm examination (15 points)*

An exam on the first part of the course midway through the semester.

*Final examination (25 points)*

An exam on the course as a whole.

**When you complete this course you will have learned:**

How historians treat primary and secondary sources

The basic contours of modern European history

How gender affects the historical experience

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**Introduction: Gender and history**

Tuesday, September 1

**Constructing the role of women in modern Europe**

Thursday, September 3

Read: *Lives and Voices*, 1-8 and sources #72 and 81

**No class**

Tuesday, September 8

**Women in pre-industrial Europe**

Thursday, September 10

Read: *Lives and Voices*, sources #75, 77, and 80

Tuesday, September 15

Read: Essay posted on Sakai - Fraser Easton, "Gender's Two Bodies: Women Warriors, Female Husbands and Plebeian Life," *Past and Present*, No. 180 (August 2003): 131-174

\*Prior to the start of class, turn in comments on Easton via Sakai

**Women and the Enlightenment**

Thursday, September 17

Read: *Lives and Voices*, sources #89, 90, and 91

Recommended: *Making of the West*, chapter 18, or equivalent reading in Spielvogel, or another recent text on the Enlightenment

Tuesday, September 22

Read: Essay posted on Sakai – Dena Goodman, “Enlightenment Salons: The Conversion of Female and Philosophic Ambitions,” *Eighteenth-Century Studies*, Vol. 22, No. 3, (Spring 1989): 329-350

\*Prior to the start of class, turn in comments on Goodman via Sakai

### **Women and the French Revolution**

Thursday, September 24 - **From home because of papal visit**

Read: Essay posted on Sakai - Lisa DiCaprio, “Women Workers, State-Sponsored Work, and the Right to Subsistence during the French Revolution,” *The Journal of Modern History*, Vol. 71, No. 3 (September 1999): 519-551

\*Prior to 3 pm, turn in comments on DiCaprio via Sakai

Tuesday, September 29

Read: *Lives and Voices*, sources #92, 94, 95, and 98

Recommended: *Making of the West*, chapter 19, or equivalent reading in Spielvogel, or another recent text on the French Revolution

### **Women, work, and the Industrial Revolution**

Thursday, October 1

Read: *Lives and Voices*, sources #100, 102, and 104

Recommended: *Making of the West*, chapter 21, or equivalent reading in Spielvogel, or another recent text on the Industrial Revolution

Tuesday, October 6

Read: Essay posted on Sakai – Douglas A. Galbi, “Through eyes in the storm: aspects of the personal history of women workers in the Industrial Revolution,” *Social History*, Vol. 21, No. 2 (May 1996): 142-159

\*Prior to the start of class, turn in comments on Galbi via Sakai

### **Domesticity and its discontents**

Thursday, October 8

Read: *Lives and Voices*, sources #111, 112, and 118

Tuesday, October 13

Read: Essay posted on Sakai – Lynette Russell, “Dirty Domesticity and Worse Cooks’: Aboriginal Women’s Agency and Domestic Frontiers, Southern Australia, 1800-1850,” *Frontiers*, Vol. 28, Nos. 1-2 (2007): 18-46

\*Prior to the start of class, turn in comments on Russell via Sakai

### **The rise of a citizenry**

Thursday, October 15

Read: *Lives and Voices*, sources #107, 108, and 121

Recommended: *Making of the West*, chapter 22, or equivalent reading in Spielvogel, or another recent text on the rise of the nation-state

Tuesday, October 20

Read: Essay posted on Sakai - Malgorzata Fidelis, “‘Participation in the Creative Work of the Nation’: Polish Women Intellectuals in the

Cultural Construction of Gender Roles, 1864-1890," *Journal of Women's History*, Vol. 13, No. 1 (Spring 2001): 108-131  
\*Prior to the start of class, turn in comments on Fidelis via Sakai

### **Midterm examination**

Thursday, October 22

### **Socialism and feminism**

Tuesday, October 27

Read: *Lives and Voices*, sources #125, 126, and 127

Recommended: *Making of the West*, chapter 23, or equivalent reading in Spielvogel, or another recent text on imperialism and mass politics

Thursday, October 29

Read: Essay posted on Sakai – Carolyn J. Eichner, "'Vive la commune!': Feminism, Socialism, and Revolutionary Revival in the Aftermath of the 1871 Paris Commune," *Journal of Women's History*, Vol. 15, no. 2 (Summer 2003): 68-98

\*Prior to the start of class, turn in comments on Eichner via Sakai

### **Fin-de-siècle challenges**

Tuesday, November 3

Read: *Lives and Voices*, sources #119, 123, 124, and 129

Recommended: *Making of the West*, chapter 24, or equivalent reading in Spielvogel, or another recent text on modernity and turn-of-the-20<sup>th</sup>-century culture and society

Thursday, November 5

Read: Essay posted on Sakai – Tracie Matysik, "In the Name of the Law: The 'Female Homosexual' and the Criminal Code in Fin de Siècle Germany," *Journal of the History of Sexuality*, Vol. 13, No. 1 (January 2004): 26-48

\*Prior to the start of class, turn in comments on Matysik via Sakai

### **Women and the cataclysm**

Tuesday, November 10

Read: *Lives and Voices*, sources #133, 134, and 135

Recommended: *Making of the West*, chapter 25, pp. 836-844, or equivalent section in Spielvogel, or another recent text on the Great War (World War I)

Thursday, November 12

Read: Essay posted on Sakai – Daniela Rossini, "Feminism and Nationalism: The National Council of Italian Women, the World War, and the Rise of Fascism, 1911-1922," *Journal of Women's History*, Vol. 26, No. 3 (Fall 2014): 36-58

\*Prior to the start of class, turn in comments on Rossini via Sakai

### **Women in the wake of war**

Tuesday, November 17

Read: *Lives and Voices*, sources #141, 153, and 154

Recommended: *Making of the West*, chapter 25, pp. 845-872, or equivalent reading in Spielvogel, or another text on the Treaty of Versailles and the revolutions in Russia

Thursday, November 19

Read: Essay posted on Sakai - Diane P. Koenker, "Men against Women on the Shop Floor in Early Soviet Russia: Gender and Class in the Soviet Workplace," *American Historical Review*, Vol. 100, No. 5 (December 1995): 1438-1464

\*Prior to the start of class, turn in comments on Koenker via Sakai

### **Women and Nazism**

Tuesday, November 24

Read: *Lives and Voices*, sources 155, 157, 158, and 159

Recommended: *Making of the West*, chapter 26, pp. 873-890, or equivalent reading in Spielvogel, or another text on the rise of fascism and Nazism

### **Thanksgiving** – no class

Thursday, November 26

### **Women and Nazism (cont'd)**

Tuesday, December 1

Read: Essay posted on Sakai – Annette F. Timm, "Sex with a Purpose: Prostitution, Venereal Disease, and Militarized Masculinity in the Third Reich," *Journal of the History of Sexuality*, Vol. 11, No. 1/2 (Jan.-Apr. 2002): 223-255

\*Prior to the start of class, turn in comments on Timm via Sakai

### **Women and the Second World War**

Thursday, December 3

Read: *Lives and Voices*, sources #164, 166, and 169

Recommended: *Making of the West*, chapter 26, pp. 890-901, or equivalent reading in Spielvogel, or another text on World War II

Tuesday, December 8

Read: Essay posted on Sakai - Margarete Myers Feinstein, "Jewish Women Survivors in the Displaced Persons Camps of Occupied Germany: Transmitters of the Past, Caretakers of the Present, and Builders of the Future," *Shofar*, Vol. 24, No. 4 (2006) 67-89

\*Prior to the start of class, turn in comments on Feinstein via Sakai

### **Considering women in modern Europe**

Thursday, December 10

### **Final exam**

Tuesday, December 15 from 2:45-5:45 pm in 429 Cooper Street, #104