

Fall 2015

Instructor: Ian Grimmer

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:15–2:30 p.m., University Heights North 16

Office Hours: Mondays, 9:45–11:00 a.m., and Tuesdays, 9:45–11:00 a.m.,

Living and Learning D170

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HCOL 185D Cultural Crisis in Fin-de-Siècle Europe



European culture expressed a paradoxical quality at the end of the nineteenth century: while the lives of most Europeans were improving materially, the same conditions that gave rise to this well being also contributed to profound anxieties and feelings of malaise, suggesting to many that the world they had always known was coming to an end. This course will explore this interrelationship of European consciousness and society during the *fin de siècle* and *belle époque*, covering themes such the experience of the metropolis, new conceptions of gender and sexuality, the discovery of psychoanalysis, fears of degeneration, and the growth of new political ideologies including socialism, nationalism, and modern anti-Semitism. Although adopting a pan-European perspective, we will place a particular emphasis on German-speaking Central Europe.

Requirements

1. Regular and active class participation
2. An in-class presentation on one of the required readings
3. A short essay due on **September 22**
4. A draft of the seminar paper due on **November 17**
5. A final draft of the seminar paper due on **December 17**

Required Books (available for purchase in the campus bookstore)

Modris Eksteins, *Rites of Spring*, Mariner, 978-0395937587

Sigmund Freud, *Dora: An Analysis of a Case of Hysteria*, Touchstone, 978-0684829463

William Morris, *News from Nowhere*, Oxford, 978-0199539192

Friedrich Nietzsche, *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*, Penguin, 978-0140047486

Carl Schorske, *Fin-de-Siècle Vienna*, Vintage, 978-0394744780

Eugen Weber, *France, Fin de Siecle*, Belknap, 978-0674318137

Additional Required Readings

available on Blackboard

Final grades will be based on:

Participation	20%
Short Essay	10%
Seminar Paper Draft	20%
Research Presentation	10%
Final Draft of Seminar Paper	40%

Course Policies:

Regular attendance is required. More than two unexcused absences will result in your final grade being lowered by one letter grade (10%).

I have a strict policy of no laptops and iPads in class. Please take notes on paper.

All assignments are to be submitted electronically following the procedure outlined below.

The Process for Submitting Papers

Electronic grading allows me to maintain a file of your writing to track your improvement, return your work sooner to you, and provide comments that are easier to read. To make this process work smoothly, please follow this procedure as closely as possible:

1. All documents must be saved as a Word document (.docx) and should have the following title: Your Last Name_Assignment Name.docx. I will give you the assignment name in class. If it is the first draft of the assignment, please mark it as Draft1, following the assignment name.

Example: Jones_Nietzsche.docx

2. Please submit all written work to me using UVM's file transfer service (rather than email). The file transfer address is: <https://filetransfer.uvm.edu>
You will receive an automatic confirmation email from the system when I have downloaded the paper. This will typically take place within 48 hours.

3. It is your responsibility to maintain a virus-free computer and send me a document that I can open. I will consider any corrupted files that I receive as not having met the deadline and will grade the paper as late, one letter grade a day.

COURSE SCHEDULE

September 1	Introduction
September 3	Weber, <i>France Fin de Siècle</i> , 8–26 Nordau, <i>Degeneration</i> , 13–17
September 8	Nietzsche, <i>Thus Spoke Zarathustra</i> , 3–78
September 10	Nietzsche, <i>Thus Spoke Zarathustra</i> , 79–147
September 15	Nietzsche, <i>Thus Spoke Zarathustra</i> , 148–230
September 17	Nietzsche, <i>Thus Spoke Zarathustra</i> , 231–324

- September 22** Film: *The Young Doctor Freud*
- September 22** **First Essay Due**
- September 24** Schorske, "Introduction," xvii–xxix
- September 29** Schorske, "Politics and Patricide in Freud's *Interpretation of Dreams*," 181–207
- October 1** Freud, *Dora*, 1–55
- October 6** Freud, *Dora*, 56–112
- October 8** Schorske, "Gustav Klimt, Painting and the Crisis of the Liberal Ego," 208–278
- October 13** Schorske, "Explosion in the Garden," 322–66
- October 15** Schorske, "Politics in a New Key," 116–80
- October 20** Schorske, "The Ring Strasse, Its Critics, and the Birth of Urban Modernism," 24–72
- October 22** Schorske, "The Ring Strasse, Its Critics, and the Birth of Urban Modernism," 72–115
Film: *The Post Office Savings Bank in Vienna*
- October 22** **Research Proposals Due**

- October 27** Morris, *News from Nowhere*, 3–88
- October 29** Morris, *News from Nowhere*, 89–182
- November 3** Readings on the “New Woman,” 75–96
- November 5** Chamberlain, “The True Conception of Empire,” 137–41
Rhodes, “Speech at Drill Hall,” 141–44
Lenin, *Imperialism*, 162–66
- November 10** Film: *Namibia: Genocide and the Second Reich*
- November 10** **Annotated Bibliography Due**
- November 12** Sorel, “The Ethics of the Producers”
- November 17** Lecture on WWI
- November 17** **First Draft of Seminar Papers Due**
- November 19** Eksteins, *Rites of Spring*, xii–138
- November 23–27** **Thanksgiving Recess**

December 1 Eksteins, *Rites of Spring*, 139–240

December 3 Eksteins, *Rites of Spring*, 241–334

December 8 Student Research Presentations

December 17 **Final Papers Due at noon**