History 104

Europe from Napoleon to the PRESENT

Guggenheim Museum
Bilbao, Spain (detail)
Frank Gehry, 1997
Final Exam: Wednesday, 6 May, 10:15-12:15 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 Thursday (30 April 2009); after the questions are posted, you are “on your own”—Jennifer 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?

Turkey?

the world?

where or what is Europe?
Restoration Europe (1815-1848)

Hyacinthe Rigaud, *Louis XIV* (1701)
{oil painting, approx. 9’ x 6’}

official coronation portrait
Charles X (1824)
Holy Alliance, 1815, signed by Alexander I of Russia, Frederick William III of Prussia and Francis I of Austria. 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. …

Thomas Babington Macaulay, 1831.


Queen Victoria opening the Great Exhibition of 1851 (Crystal Palace) in London

progress and improvement
Karl Marx (1818-1883) and Friedrich Engels (1820-1895)

“All hitherto existing history is the history of class struggle”

“In bourgeois society, living labor is only a means of increasing accumulated labor; in Communist society, living labor will be a means of enriching and promoting the existence of the worker. … In bourgeois society, therefore, the past dominates the present; in Communist society, the present dominates the past.”

Class defined by relation to the means of production; as forms of production change through time, so too do classes

“dialectics”—change in history is not simple progress: the bourgeoisie overthrows the aristocracy, but that is not the end of class conflict; instead, the bourgeoisie itself becomes a dominant class, oppressing the proletariat

“In every era, the dominant ideas are the ideas of the dominant class”

“Subscribe to Nowy Mir [New World],” Soviet poster 1927. Most significant challenge to liberalism
1968: A Revival of the Revolutionary Tradition?

It is forbidden to forbid.

UNDER THE PAVING STONES: THE BEACH!!

Humanity will only be happy, when one day the last capitalist is strangled with the guts of the last leftist.

The basic problem is the position of man in socialism… If we try to keep people, either as individuals or as members of a certain group in the position of objects overwhelmingly directed from above, one tendency will be more and more evident: People will begin to separate the pursuit of their own private interests from the pursuit of the collective, group, and social interests.

Zdenek Mlynar, Toward a Democratic Political Organization of Society (1968).
States and Nations in Europe, 1815-present

**State**
- political, administrative entity; formed through law and bureaucracy

**Nation**
- group of people who are believed to have something in common ("ethnicity," language, culture, history)

**Nation-State**
- ideal of making political and "ethnic" boundaries coincide

Nationalism = ideology that argues that a "nation" has the right to political self-determination

(please note) this is *not* necessarily the same thing as "patriotism" or xenophobia (hatred/fear of foreigners)

1. Men are born and remain free and equal in rights
3. The principle of sovereignty resides in the nation

Rights of Man and Citizen, 1789
Revolution in Europe, 1789-1945

French Revolution
  nationalism
  participation of ordinary people in public-political life

revolutionary tradition
  violence as legitimate political tool
  possibility that people can re-make this world

review of major course themes