REGIONS AND CULTURES OF EUROPE

REE 345 #44695                             Fall 2012
Meets with GRG 326 and EUS 346

Instructor: Dr. Bella Bychkova Jordan           e-mail: belka@mail.utexas.edu

Office hours: Wednesday from 1:00 till 3:00 in Calhoun 3 and by appointment

Course description: This course is a systematic introduction to geography of all regions of Europe, from Iceland to Sicily and European Russia and Finland to Bretagne and Galicia. The course is based on a renowned textbook by Alexander B. Murphy, Terry G. Jordan-Bychkov and Bella Bychkova Jordan and focuses on all the major aspects of the European makeup: its physical, economic, political, and cultural geography, geolinguistics and environmental issues. A special attention is given to such issues as expansion of the European Union and NATO, problems associated with immigration and ethnic tensions, challenges of multiculturalism and integration. A significant portion of the class is dedicated to the analysis of demographic, urban and agricultural patterns. The historical perspective allows the analysis of the evolution of the European civilization during the last two millennia and resulting geographical patterns in modern Europe.

Course grading policy: students must take 3 exams, each worth 33.3% of the final grade. Make-up exams will be allowed only in cases of medical emergency with the written proof from the doctor’s office. There will not be a final exam.


Course schedule

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 30</td>
<td>Introduction to the course</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 4</td>
<td>Europe Defined/ Ch.1: 1-24</td>
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<td>September 6</td>
<td>Habitat: Terrain/ Ch.2: 25-35</td>
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<td>September 11</td>
<td>Habitat: Hydrogeography/ Ch.2: 35-44</td>
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<td>September 13</td>
<td>Habitat: Climate types/ Ch.2: 45-54/</td>
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<td>Habitat: Vegetation and Soils/ Ch.2: 54-69</td>
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<td>September 18</td>
<td>Major Demographic Patterns/Ch.3: 71-84</td>
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<td>September 20</td>
<td>Geolinguistics/ Ch.4: 95-123</td>
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September 25  Geography of Religion/ Ch.5: 125-160
September 27  Migration & Integration Challenges/ Ch.3: 85-93

October 2     EXAM 1
October 4     Evolution of the European State/ Ch.6: 161-174

October 9     European State System: Case Studies/ Ch.6: 174-191
October 11    European Agriculture/ Ch.7: 201-233

October 16    Modern Rural Patterns/ Ch.7: 233-236
October 18    Industrial Revolution/ Ch.8: 237-252

October 23    Modern Industries/ Ch.8: 252-261
October 25    Service & Information Economy/ Ch.9: 263-294

October 30    EXAM 2
November 1    Rise of the European City/ Ch.10: 295-316

November 13   Modern European Cities/ Ch.10: 316-339
November 15   Green Europe/ Handout materials

November 20   Social and Political Geography/ Ch.11: 341-373
November 22   THANKSGIVING – NO CLASS

November 27   EU and NATO Enlargement/ Ch.6: 191-199
November 29   Exam 3

December 4    Epilogue

This syllabus is subject to change