

## HIS 211: The rise of Europe to world dominance

Course outline: First semester, 2011–12.

Optional, 3 credits

Lecturer: Dr B. S. Bennett, office 242B/25, email [bennett@mopipi.ub.bw](mailto:bennett@mopipi.ub.bw)

The course will cover, on a broad scale, the rise of Europe to its position of world dominance at the end of the 19th century. Firstly it will look in outline at the origins, development and nature of the distinctive societies which arose in Europe from the Middle Ages onward. Then, a set of selected major subjects will be studied in more detail; for the latter independent reading in the Library will be required.

Assessment: CA (40%) and exam (60%). CA will include regular exercises; students should therefore attend all classes. Also note that for all assignments etc. you should ensure that you get the exact wording, requirements, etc. as announced in class. If you are absent when an assignment is given, do *not* rely on other students, but see the lecturer to get the details.

Textbook: W. Simpson *Europe 1783–1914* is the currently recommended book. However previous textbooks, notably Roberts *History of the World*, would also be useful.

### Course outline:

The course will be divided into two main parts:

#### **Part 1. Outline of the history of Europe in the world, to 1900**

Outline history. Students will be required to familiarize themselves with the information in this section as it forms the background to the rest of the course.

#### **Part 2. Selected major themes in European history 18th & 19th centuries**

**The Enlightenment**: in what ways were traditional European ideas challenged?

**The French Revolution and Napoleon**: how and why did a major challenge to Europe's traditional institutions arise in France, and how did this affect the rest of Europe?

**Nationalism in the 19th Century**: the new Italy and Germany: how and why were these new states created, and what was their nature?

**Russia**: reform, reaction: what was the nature of this empire, and how did it change?

**19th Century France**: how did it seek political stability, and with what success?

**Conclusion**: Europe and the world at the end of the century, including imperialism.

### Academic honesty:

1. Essays and other assessed work must be entirely your own work, unless collaboration is authorized.
2. If the words of a book or internet source are copied without acknowledgment (i.e. without indicating they are copied) this is *plagiarism*, which is a form of cheating.
3. The nature of *plagiarism* will be discussed in class. If you are not clear on the issue please see the lecturer for help.
4. Please refer to the University Policy on Academic Honesty for more information.