

Fall 2015

## HIST 4371

Mark D. Kuss  
*University of New Orleans*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.uno.edu/syllabi>

**This is an older syllabus and should not be used as a substitute for the syllabus for a current semester course.**

---

### Recommended Citation

Kuss, Mark D., "HIST 4371" (2015). *University of New Orleans Syllabi*. Paper 667.  
<https://scholarworks.uno.edu/syllabi/667>

This Syllabus is brought to you for free and open access by ScholarWorks@UNO. It has been accepted for inclusion in University of New Orleans Syllabi by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks@UNO. For more information, please contact [scholarworks@uno.edu](mailto:scholarworks@uno.edu).

HISTORY 4371  
MODERN GERMANY-1789-PRESENT  
UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS  
FALL 2015

Dr. Mark D. Kuss  
Department of History  
University of New Orleans  
Office-LA 133  
Office hours: Tuesday/Thursday 7:30-8:00A.M.-9:15-9:30A.M. and by appointment  
Phone:  
E-Mail: mkuss@uno.edu

The purpose of this course is to analyze the development of Germany's political, social, diplomatic, economic, and cultural characteristics during the period from 1789 to the present. We will follow the questions of continuity and change of this Central European nation from a mass of localities into a major power, the collapse into the abyss of National Socialism, and re-unification. Though these subjects are interesting in themselves, our larger objective is to gain an appreciation and better understanding of Germany's present position and role in the world community.

Class meetings will be devoted to both lectures and discussion of readings. In both instances, however, we will strive to analyze ideas and developments, and not merely grasp chronology and narrate events. The assigned readings are the heart of this process and you will be responsible to prepare each thoroughly so that you can participate in a thoughtful exchange.

Texts: All required.

1. Christopher Browning. *Ordinary Men: Reserve Police Battalion 101 and the Final Solution in Poland*. Harper Perennial, 1992-ISBN: 0-06-099506-8
2. Peter Gay. *Weimar Culture*-Norton Publishers-ISBN-0-393-32239-4
3. Martin Kitchen. *A History of Modern Germany, 1800-2000*. Second Edition. Blackwell Publishers, 2012-ISBN: 978-0-470-65581-8-referred to as the text
4. Charles Maier. *Dissolution*. Princeton University Press, ISBN-069-1007462
5. James Retallack. *Imperial Germany: 1871-1918*. Oxford University Press, 2010-ISBN-978-0-19-920487-8

Examinations:

One at mid-semester and one during the week of finals. Both will comprise questions requiring short or long essays. Exams will cover material from the readings, lectures, and class discussions. Emphasis will be placed on analysis and interpretation of events. Make up exams are optional with me. If you miss an exam, contact me immediately.

Final Grades will be determined on the basis of:

Mid-Semester Examination	30%
Final Examination	30%
Research Paper	30%
Class Participation	10%

Student Learning Objectives: Upon completion of this course the student will:

1. Understand the background and development of the German states in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.
2. Understand the challenges involved in the process of unification.
3. Understand the dynamics of the *Kaiserreich*.
4. Understand the development of a distinctive German culture.
5. Understand the Diplomatic Origins of World War I.
6. Understand the structure of the Weimar Republic.
7. Understand the rising threat of Fascism.
8. Understand the causes of World War II.
9. Understand the Cold War.
10. Analyze the challenges facing a divided Germany.
11. Understand the revolutions of 1989 and re-unification.
12. Understand the challenges facing Germany today.

Syllabus:

This Syllabus identifies the topics and appropriate texts we shall consider during the course of the semester. I expect you to read daily assignments before attending class so that you will be acquainted at least with some of the issues and personalities to be treated and be able to join in a discussion of them.

Week 1-August 20-INTRODUCTION

Week 2-August 24-THE SETTING

Reading: text, introduction, chapters 1 and 2

Week 3-August 31-REVOLUTIONARY EUROPE

Week 4-September 7-REVOLUTION AND REFORM-1815-1840

Reading: text chapters 3, and 4

Week 5-September 14-THE STRUGGLE FOR MASTERY AND UNIFICATION

Reading: text chapters 5 and 6

Week 6-September 21- BISMARCK'S GERMANY-1871-1890

Reading: text chapters 7 and 8 and *Imperial Germany*, chapters 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6

Week 7-September 28-WILHELMINE GERMANY AND WORLD WAR I

Reading: text, chapters 9 and 10 and *Imperial Germany*, chapters 2, 7-11

Week 8-October 5- MID-SEMESTER EXAMINATION

Week 9-October 12-THE WEIMAR REPUBLIC

Reading: text, chapters 11 and *Weimar Culture*

Week 10-October 19-THE NAZI DICTATORSHIP

Reading: text chapter 12

Week 11-October 26-WORLD WAR AND DEVASTATION

Reading: text chapter 13 and *Ordinary Men*

Week 12-November 2-THE ADENAUER ERA

Reading: text, chapter 14

Week 13-November 9-TWO GERMANIES

Reading: text, chapter 15

Week 14-November 16-REUNIFICATION

Reading: text chapter 16 and *Dissolution*

Week 15-November 23-THE CHALLENGES OF REUNIFICATION

Reading: text, chapters 19, 20 and 21-**RESEARCH PAPER DUE**

Week 15-November 30 THE FUTURE OF GERMANY TODAY

**FINAL EXAM-TUESDAY DECEMBER 8, 2015-7:30-9:30AM**

Research paper: one research paper of at least **TEN** (for graduate students at least 15) pages will be required, on any topic selected by you and approved by me. You should choose a topic by the third week. You must have at least **eight** (graduate students at least 10) substantial sources (i.e., not encyclopedias or reference works), but you may use as many sources as you like. Your finished paper should be of publishable quality, typed, double spaced, and properly footnoted. The paper is due on November 24, 2015 in class.

### **Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity is fundamental to the process of learning and evaluating academic performance. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following: cheating, plagiarism, tampering with academic records and examinations, falsifying identity, and being an accessory to acts of academic dishonesty. Refer to the Student Code of Conduct for further information. The Code is available online at <http://www.studentaffairs.uno.edu>.

### **Accommodations**

It is University policy to provide, on a flexible and individualized basis, reasonable accommodations to students who have disabilities that may affect their ability to participate in course activities or to meet course requirements. Students with disabilities should contact the Office of Disability Services as well as their instructors to discuss their individual needs for accommodations. For more information, please go to <http://www.ods.uno.edu>.

### **Attendance:**

Attendance is vital to success in this course. Excessive unexcused absences (more than 2) will result in the reduction of a grade level.