

HIST 510: 20th C Prob Hist Generations

20th C Prob Hist Generations (OPUS title)

Twentieth Century Europe and the Problem of Historical Generations (complete course title)

Instructor	Day(s)	Time(s)	Maximum Enrollment
Amdur	W	1:00 – 4:00 pm	12

Semester Description:

This course emphasizes the social and cultural dimensions of the major upheavals of the twentieth century. “Generational” interpretations argue that age influences how people experience the crucial events of their lifetimes, and that shared experiences cause people of similar age to behave politically in similar ways, even years after the events themselves. While examining tumultuous events from the turn of the past century to the contemporary era, we will consider how these events shaped generational consciousness, how issues of continuity and change can be interpreted generationally, and how generational identity intersects with such other forms of identity as gender, nation, and class.

All assigned books have been ordered for your purchase and are available in the bookstore. Supplementary readings will be available either in book form on library reserve or on online reserve or Blackboard where possible. These items are to be read and shared on a rotating basis, one student per item. Note that chapters in edited collections may be listed on reserve under the name of the editor, rather than the name of the chapter author, where these are not the same.

Required Textbooks, Articles, and Resources:

1. Stephen Kern, *The Culture of Time and Space, 1880-1918*.
2. Paul Fussell, *The Great War and Modern Memory*.
3. Wolfgang Schivelbusch, *The Culture of Defeat: On National Trauma, Mourning, and Recovery*.
4. Robert O. Paxton, *The Anatomy of Fascism*.
5. Sheila Fitzpatrick, *Everyday Stalinism: Ordinary Life in Extraordinary Times*.
6. Robert Moeller, *War Stories: The Search for a Usable Past in the Federal Republic of Germany*.
7. Todd Shepard, *The Invention of Decolonization*.

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8. Gerd-Rainer Horn, *The Spirit of '68*.
9. Robert D. English, *Russia and the Idea of the West: Gorbachev, Intellectuals, and the End of the Cold War*.
10. Mary Nolan, *The Transatlantic Century: Europe and America, 1890-2010*.

Additional short readings will be assigned on a rotating basis, to complement the book for each week.

Grading:

Writing assignments include a weekly response essay on class readings and a final historiographical essay based on two additional books of the student's choice. There will be no final exam.

Grading: 50% of the course grade will be based on weekly response essays and class discussion, and 50% on the final project.