

## CONFLICT AND CRISIS IN CONTEMPORARY EUROPE

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### Description

The news from Europe these days is seldom good. Europe appears to be facing multiple crises all at once: the eurozone crisis, the refugee/migrant crisis, and a crisis of political legitimacy and identity at both the national level and at the level of the European Union. In this course, we will situate this current crisis moment in a longer narrative of political, socioeconomic, and cultural conflicts and upheavals in Europe since the late nineteenth century. By focusing on the connections and contrasts between the past and the present, we will think deeply about how taking a longer historical view can deepen our understanding of what is happening in Europe today. As a 200-level class, this course emphasizes the development of a set of skills that are important for critical reflection about the past and the present as much as the acquisition of historical knowledge about twentieth-century Europe. We will devote a significant portion of class time to working on how to read primary sources and historical scholarship; how to interpret historical events and construct historical narratives; and how to convey your own historical interpretations and historical arguments orally and in writing.