This course will treat major themes in the history of twentieth-century Europe, including the rapid, frequent, and radical movement of peoples and boundaries; continuities and ruptures in political regimes and social mores; modernity and post-modernity; nationalism and sub- and transnational allegiances; "peculiarities" and commonalities; transformation of mass consumer culture and varieties of mass politics; history and memory; colonization and decolonization; war and genocide; protest and complacency; "second world" status; citizenship, rights, and obligations; sources of present-day conflicts; and the future of Europe. We will also hold Europe up to ourselves as a mirror to think about assumptions, such as concerning the nature of human rights, the role of violence, and the functionality of the nation-state.

Required work for this course includes reading assigned texts, attending and participating in classroom sessions, and writing a take-home midterm, a final paper of 15-17 pages, and a short final quiz.