

FU/BEST Program

Name: Dr. Bernd Fischer

E-Mail: fubest@fu-berlin.de

Course title: History of European Diplomacy

Course number: FU-BEST 23

Language of instruction: English

Contact hours: 45

ECTS-Credits: 5 **U.S. semester credits:** 3

Course description:

1. This course surveys the history of German diplomacy in the context of European diplomacy from the involvement of European diplomacy in the U.S. revolutionary war from 1776 to 1783 until today. The course will examine the continued relationship between European diplomacy and U.S. diplomacy and the influence of other players on the world scene.

2. Soon after American independence the French Revolution came in 1789. Soon thereafter Napoleon's conquests created a French Empire that, at its height in 1813, stretched from Seville to Moscow. Following the final defeat of Napoleon at the Battle of Waterloo in 1815, diplomats and statesmen created the new structure of Europe at the Congress of Vienna in 1815. This structure was called the Concert of Europe, and was based on a set of informal norms that should henceforth govern relations between states.

The strength of this new regime was put to a test by liberal national movements that proved difficult to contain as well as various crises caused by the instability of the Ottoman Empire and the creation of a new form of European nation-states, Italy in 1866 and Germany in 1871. Europe at that time took a close look at the American Civil War from 1861 to 1865. The character of European diplomacy was profoundly altered, especially by Bismarck's particular brand of foreign policy from 1871 to 1890 and a new wave of colonial imperialism, but also by the idea of internationalism.

In 1914, a minor crisis in Sarajevo turned into the First World War, which in 1917 also involved the United States. In response, the statesmen taking part in the Paris Peace Conferences in 1919 sought to institutionalize a system of collective security, however without U.S. participation. With the advent of new aggressive and belligerent regimes

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in Italy, Japan, and Germany, this endeavor soon failed. Western democracies could not appease Hitler. The consequence was the Second World War from 1939 to 1945, with the United States taking part from 1941 onward.

As a consequence of its defeat in the Second World War Germany became a divided nation. West Germany was occupied by the U.S., Great Britain and France until 1955. Great Britain and France both lost their colonial empires in the 1960s. From 1951 onward, Western Europe tried to pursue integration on a regional level which, at first, focused on economic integration. Only in 1992 did European states intensify integration on a political and diplomatic level as well. The violent break-up of Yugoslavia starting in 1991 with its ensuing ethnic tensions and the embarrassing display of European disunity hastened this process.

Tensions between the Soviet Union and its allies focused mainly on Europe. It led to the violent uprising in Hungary in 1956, the creation of the Berlin Wall in 1961, and the suppression of the Prague Spring in 1968. The pursuit of Ostpolitik, mainly instituted by the West German Government from 1972 onward, the so-called Helsinki Process of the Conference for Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), starting in 1975, and especially the subsequent slowly developing economic and moral collapse of the Soviet system eventually led to the fall of the Berlin Wall on 9 November 1989 and German Unification on 3 October 1990, the creation of democratically elected regimes in Central and Eastern Europe, and the demise of the Soviet Union at the end of 1991.

The accelerated integration of the European Union (EU), especially the creation of the Euro currency in 1999, expansion of EU membership to the new democracies of Central and Eastern Europe from 2004 onward, the military conflict in the Ukraine and the annexation of the Crimea by Russia in 2014 have combined to set the stage for diplomacy in Europe in 2018 and the years to come.

3. The course will show that it is essential to focus on the past as a basis for understanding the present and making intelligent guesses about the future. The most current issues of diplomacy in Europe and the world and their potential impact on the future, also in light of the events of the past, will be discussed in the context of press surveys (student presentations) at the beginning of each session. The instructor and students will jointly identify possible relevant diplomatic developments for today and the short- as well as long-term future, based on the topics of each session and the reading assignments for each session.

Student profile

Second-semester sophomore or above.

Prerequisites

None

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Course Requirements:

- Midterm exam (covering sessions 1 to 5): 20%
- Term-Paper: 30%
- Final exam (covering sessions 7 to 12): 20%
- Student presentations / press surveys of topical issues of diplomacy / Independent Project Report/ participation in class discussion: 30%

Literature:

Henry Kissinger: *Diplomacy* (Touchstone Publishers, 1995).

Christopher Clark: *The Sleepwalkers: How Europe went to war in 1914* (Penguin Paperback, 2013) (for term-paper)

Photocopied course reader.

Course schedule

(Please note: aside from sections from the Kissinger book, all other readings are to be found in the course reader)

Session 1	<p>Introduction</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction of the instructor, including an overview of his career of more than 40 years in public service 2. Introduction of the students, including their motivation to choose the course 3. Presentation by the instructor of the „road map“ for the course and the goals of the course 4. Introduction to the presentations, the Independent Project, the term-paper, and the two exams 5. Structure, function and methods of diplomacy (instructor presentation). <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M. Moesslang/ T. Riotte Introduction: The Diplomats'
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	<p>World, in <i>ibid.</i> Diplomats' world a Cultural history of Diplomacy 1815 - 1914, OUP 208, 1-19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R. Blessing, A Changing Diplomatic World, Martel, Companion to International History, 65-77 <p>6. Model of Diplomacy I : The cycle of diplomacy (instructor presentation).</p> <p>7. Definition of the "Topical Issues of Diplomacy" as of Thursday, 8 February 2018 (instructor presentation with students' participation).</p> <p>8. A brief history of diplomacy (instructor presentation).</p> <p>9. Instructor introduction of the course textbook and reading: Kissinger, <i>Diplomacy</i>, pp. 17 - 28 (1 The New World Order).</p>
<p>Session 2</p>	<p>European diplomacy from 1776 until the creation of nation-states in Europe (e.g. the Second German Empire in 1871)</p> <p>Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kissinger, <i>Diplomacy</i>: pp. 74 - 77 (3 From Universality to Equilibrium: Richelieu, William of Orange, and Pitt -ex-erpts), 78 -102 (4 The concert of Europe: Great Britain, Austria, and Russia), 103 - 136 (5 Two Revolutionaries: Napoleon III and Bismarck) <p>1. Press Survey on the topical issues of diplomacy in the week from 8 to 15 February 2018 (student presentation, comments by the instructor)</p> <p>2. European diplomacy and U.S. Independence (instructor presentation, discussion)</p> <p>3. The French Revolution (instructor presentation, discussion)</p> <p>4. The Congress of Vienna</p> <p>Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N. Atkin, et.al.-The Wiley Blackwell Dictionary of Modern European History Since 1798-2011, 280-283 <p>Comments by the instructor, discussion</p>

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	<p>5. European diplomacy and the U.S. Civil War (instructor presentation, discussion)</p> <p>6. The unifications of Germany and Italy</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A. Briggs/ P. Clavin, <i>Restoration: Idea or Reality</i>, in <i>Modern Europe 1789 - Present</i>, Pearson Longman, 2003, 39-48 (student presentation) • A. Cassels, <i>Ideology and International Relations</i>, Routledge 1996, 75-82. (student presentation) <p>Comments by the instructor, discussion</p> <p>7. Video: <i>Congress of Vienna and Concert of Europe</i></p>
<p>Session 3</p>	<p>European Diplomacy from 1871 until the „Year of the Three Emperors“ in Germany in 1888</p> <p>Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kissinger, <i>Diplomacy</i>, pp. 137 - 167 (5 Realpolitik Turns on Itself) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Press Survey of the topical Issues of Diplomacy in the week of 22 February to 1 March (student presentation) 2. Bismarck's Alliance System <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • F.R. Bridge/R. Bullen, <i>A Decade of Loose Alignment</i>, in <i>The Great Powers and the European States system</i>, Pearson Education, 2004, 1814 -1914, pp. 182-187 (student presentation) • F.R. Bridge/R. Bullen, <i>The Testing of the New Order</i> in <i>ibid.</i>, pp. 175-179 (student presentation) • D. Calleo, <i>The Rise of the German Problem: Bismarck's Foreign Policy</i> in <i>ibid.</i> <i>The German Problem Reconsidered.</i>, Germany and the World Order, 1870 to the Present, 1980, pp. 9-12 (student presentation) • D. Calleo, <i>Bismarck's diplomacy</i>, in <i>ibid.</i>, pp. 22-25 (student presentation)

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	<p>Comments by the instructor, discussion</p> <p>3. British and French Imperialism and the German Reaction</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imperialism, Merriam,, John Winter/ Jay Winter ed., in Europe 1789 - 1914: Encyclopedia of the Ages of Industry and empire, pp. 1114-1125 (student presentation) • Berlin Conference, in ibid., pp. 220-223 (student presentation) <p>Comments by the instructor, discussion</p> <p>4. Video: <i>Franco-Prussian War</i></p>
<p>Session 4</p>	<p>European Diplomacy from 1888 until the end of World War I in 1919</p> <p>Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kissinger, <i>Diplomacy</i>, pp. 168-200 (7 A Political Doomsday Machine: European Diplomacy before the First World War) <p>1. Press Survey of topical issues of diplomacy in the week from 1 to 8 March (student presentation)</p> <p>2. European diplomacy until the eve of World War I (especially last minute attempts to preserve peace)</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S.R. Williamson, The July Crisis, in G. Martel, ed. A Companion to International History, 1900 - 2001, 2007, pp. 105 – 117 (student presentation) • A. Mombauer, 1The Debate after the Second World War: Towards a Comfortable Consensus and Fritz Fischer's New Challenges to an Old Consensus, in ibid. The Origins of the First World War. Controversies and Consensus, 2002, pp. 121-132 (student presentation) • J. V. Keiger, The War Explained: 1914 to the Present, in

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	<p>J. Horne ed. A Companion to World War I, Wiley- Blackwell, 2010, pp.19 - 31 (student presentation)</p> <p>Comments by the instructor, discussion</p> <p>Video: <i>World History: Causes of World War I</i></p>
<p>Session 5</p>	<p>Notify your choice of subject for term-paper European Diplomacy from 1919 until the Munich Conference in 1938</p> <p>Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kissinger, <i>Diplomacy</i>, pp. 288-331 (12 The End of Illusion: Hitler and the Destruction of Versailles) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Press Survey of the Topical Issues of Diplomacy in the two weeks from 15 to 29 March (student presentation) 2. European Diplomacy after the End of World War I, especially the Paris Peace Conferences <p>Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E.Kolb, The Paris Peace conference and the treaty of Versailles, in <i>ibid.</i> The Weimar Republic, 2004, pp. 23 - 34 (student presentation) <p>Comments by the instructor, discussion</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Internationalism and Alliance Systems in the 1920s and 1930s <p>Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E. Goldstein, The Versailles System, in G. Martel, ed., A companion to International history, 1900 -2001, 2007, pp.154 - 165 (student presentation) <p>Comments by the instructor, discussion</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Appeasing Hitler, especially the Munich Conference <p>Reading:</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Was Appeasement the Right policy for Great Britain and the Other Western Powers to follow in the 1930s?, in D. Showalter ed., History in Dispute, Vol. 4, World War II, 1939 - 1943, 1999, pp. 16 - 22 (student presentation) <p>Comments by the instructor, discussion</p> <p>5. Video: <i>League of Nations</i></p>
Session 6	Midterm Exam
Session 7	<p>Visit to the German Federal Foreign Office</p> <p>Policy discussion on German-American relations</p> <p>(instructions/directions will be circulated in advance)Term-paper outline due in class</p> <p>Independent Project Report due</p>
Session 8	<p>European Diplomacy from 1938 until the end of World War II and its immediate aftermath in 1945</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Press Survey of the Topical Issues of Diplomacy in the week from 29 March to 5 April (student presentation) The path to the Second World War <p>Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> N.Frei/ P. Hayes, The German Foreign Office and the Past, in N. Frei et al. Forum: The German Foreign Office and the Nazi Past, GHI Bulletin 49, 2011,pp. 55 - 69 (student presentation) A.P. Adamthwaite, The approach of War, 1938-9, in ibid. The Making of the Second World War; George Allen and Unwin 1977, pp. 76 - 95 (student presentation) <p>Comments by the instructor, discussion</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> European Diplomacy in the Second World War <p>Presentation by the instructor</p>

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	<p>4. Video: <i>Britain and Appeasement</i></p>
<p>Session 9</p>	<p>Postwar Western European Diplomacy until 1992, especially the development of the European Community until the Maastricht Treaty</p> <p>Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kissinger, <i>Diplomacy</i>, pp. 493-521 (20 Negotiating with the Communists: Adenauer, Churchill and Eisenhower) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Press Survey of the Topical Issues of Diplomacy in the week from 5 to 12 April (student presentation) 2. From the European Authority for Coal and Steel to the European Union <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M. Görtemaker, The Failure of EDC and European Integration, in L. Kuehnhardt ed., <i>Crisis in European Integration, Challenge and Response, 1945- 2005</i>; Berghahn 2009, pp. 33 – 45 (student Presentation) • W. Loth, The Emergence of the Coal and Steel Community, in <i>ibid.</i> ed., <i>Building Europe. A History of European Unification</i>; 2015, pp. 28 - 36 (student presentation) <p>Comments by the instructor, discussion</p> <p>3.. British and French Decolonization</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D. R. Devereux, The End of Empires: Decolonization and its Repercussions, in K. Larres ed., <i>A Companion to Europe Since 1945</i>; 2009, pp.113 – 124 (student presentation) • N. J. White, Suez 1956: Did it Matter? in <i>ibid</i>, <i>Decolonisation. The British Experience Since 1945</i>; 2014, pp. 106 - 120 (student presentation) <p>Comments by the instructor, discussion</p>

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	<p>4. Video 1: <i>Treaty of Rome: 60 Year Anniversary</i></p> <p>5. Video 2: <i>British Empire 20th Century in Color: Geographical Height and Ends</i> (excerpts)</p>
Session 10	<p>Western European Diplomacy from 1992 until today, especially the development of the European Union</p> <p>Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kissinger, <i>Diplomacy</i>, pp. 804-836 (31 the New World Order Reconsidered) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Press Survey of the Topical Issues of Diplomacy in the week from 12 to 19 April (student presentation) 2. The European Union and the unification of the European Continent <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M. Gilbert, The Treaty on European Union, in <i>ibid.</i> European Integration. A Concise History; 2012, pp. 164 – 171 (student presentation) • W. Loth, The Path to Maastricht, in <i>ibid.</i>, Building Europe. A History of European Unification; 2015, pp. 310 – 322 (student presentation) • S. Rosato, The Post-Cold War Area, 1991-2010, in <i>ibid.</i>, Europe's Troubles. Power Politics and the State of the Power Project, in <i>International Security</i> 35, no 4; 2011, pp. 68 - 77 (student presentation) <p>Comments by the instructor, discussion</p> <p>3. Video: <i>Imperfect Union: The Eurozone in Crisis</i></p>
Session 11	<p>European Diplomacy from 1945 via the fall of the Soviet System in 1992 until the End of the Yugoslav War in 1995</p> <p>Reading:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kissinger, <i>Diplomacy</i>, pp. 762-801 (30 the End of the Cold War: Reagan and Gorbachev)

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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Presentation by a visitor: Simon B. Wells, Head of Communications and Bilateral Relations, British Embassy Berlin, will present the latest about the BREXIT negotiations (student questions to the instructor) 2. Press Survey of the Topical Issues of diplomacy in the two weeks from 19 April until 3 May (student presentation) 3. 2+4, the Diplomacy of German Unification (instructor presentation) 4. Video1: <i>Berlin Wall speech – President Reagan’s address at the Brandenburg Gate, 6/12/87</i> <p style="text-align: center;">Video 2: <i>The Berlin Wall Falls – 1989 NBC Documentary, Part 1</i></p>
<p>Session 12</p>	<p>European Diplomacy from 1989 until today</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The War in Yugoslavia <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • T. Judt, <i>The Reckoning</i>, in <i>ibid.</i>, <i>Postwar. A History Europe Since 1945</i>; 2005, pp. 665- 685 (student presentation) • M. Jopp/ U. Diedrichs, <i>Learning from Failure: The Evolution of the EU’s Foreign , Security and Defense Policy in the Course of the Yugoslav Crisis</i>, in I. Kuehnhardt ed., <i>Crisis in European Integration: Challenge and Response 1945 - 2005</i>; Berghahn 2009, pp. 95 - 108 (student presentation) <p>Comments by the instructor, discussion</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Diplomacy of the United Germany <p>Readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H. Kundnani, <i>Introduction The Return of History?</i>, in <i>ibid.</i>, <i>The Paradox of German Power</i>; 2014, pp.1-6 (student presentation)

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H. Kundnani, Conclusion Geo-Economic Semi-Hegemony, in <i>ibid.</i>, <i>The Paradox of German Power</i>; 2014, pp. 107 - 114 (student presentation) <p>Conclusion:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Definition of the Topical Issues of Diplomacy as of Thursday, 8 February 2018 (instructor presentation) 2. Diplomacy in Europe and the world and the contribution of European diplomacy (instructor presentation with student participation) 3. Course evaluation by the students 4. Model of Diplomacy II: The Diplomatic Service (instructor presentation).
Session 13	Final Exam