SWA #1 Comments

Fri 9/2—Short Writing Assignment #1 – An Intro to Pre-War Europe – Due

- Short Writing Assignment #1 (required) Friday at 4:50pm.

- 2-3 ¶s.

- Your introduction to the world of Europe in 1900 (that is, pre-war Europe, 1880s to 1914). You may choose to start with an anecdote or an illustrative example or an interpretive framework or… something else. This assignment is more about story-telling than research. You can rely upon Paxton and Kershaw for details. You may use outside sources – whether encyclopedias or more – but are not required or expected to. Do, however, include citations (in any format). What else? Include your name, the date and a title.

- Upload to assignment on Moodle in pdf format

Comments

This was a chance to think about the European world before World War 1. The best responses will be clear, interesting, well-written. They'll draw upon Kershaw and Paxton but present your own synthesis. They might focus on a particular place, or on domestic concerns (class, gender, politics…) or on international relations – but they will present a thoughtful interpretive perspective that helps us understand Europe in this period. And they will flesh out this perspective with relevant and revealing examples.

Grading scale. I grade these out of 10 points.

7 points – you turned in the assignment and you address the subject

8 points – you have an interesting and relevant point about pre-war Europe

9 points – in addition you present your point with relevant and revealing details

10 points – you do all of the above with a strong organization and clear, compelling prose

I grade you down for: turning in your assignment more than 24 hours late, obvious errors of fact (that you should know from our common readings), not fully addressing the assignment, and not appropriately citing your sources.

Plagiarism is a special case. You *must* cite the source of your ideas and quotations. If you use more than three or four words in a row from another source you *must* put them in quotation marks and cite your source. The consequences for plagiarism are laid out in the Course Policies.