

HISTORY 369
Europe, 1900-1950
Fall 2015

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TERM PAPER ASSIGNMENT

In this assignment you are asked to *discuss and compare how one historically significant event or episode that took place in Europe between January 1900 and August 1939 is described in a variety of primary and secondary sources*. Your paper must include some consideration of how the event you have chosen is discussed in the following types of sources:

- (a) at least two articles published in a *newspaper or other periodical* within a few days of the event;
- (b) a description or discussion of the event in at least one *diary, autobiography or memoir* written by somebody who participated in, witnessed, observed, remembered, or was impacted by the event;
- (c) at least two treatments of the event in *scholarly books or articles* published since 1980.

In addition to these sources, if you wish you may also consider other types of sources, such as government publications, books and articles published before 1980, visual material (e.g. political cartoons) or even fictional treatments of this event.

Remember that the purpose of this paper is not to analyse or explain the event as such, but to discuss and compare how the event was described and understood from different points of view.

Some examples of events you may wish to choose are listed on the next page. You are free to deal with a different event as long as you obtain your tutorial instructor's approval before you submit the topic statement. Do ***not*** choose an event which is the subject of an entire chapter in the assigned text by David Clay Large, *Between Two Fires* (e.g. the Stavisky Affair, the "Night of the Long Knives," the Jarrow Crusade, etc.).

Suggestions about how to locate appropriate sources are provided on p. 3 of this handout.

A short topic statement and preliminary bibliography should be submitted to your tutorial instructor by October 29/30. The statement is not expected to summarize what you will say in your paper. You must simply specify the event you will consider and list at least one source from each category (a, b and c) that you have already looked at and plan to use in writing your paper.

The paper itself is due in the lecture on **Monday, November 30**.

The text of the paper should be approximately **2,000 words** in length. (Maximum accepted length: 2,500 words.) The paper should have footnotes and a bibliography. Please pay close attention to the guidelines for writing this paper which are provided below. Except in the case of a medical or family emergency, there will be a late penalty of 1% a day.

Examples of Possible Topics

The Battle of Waterberg in German South-West Africa and its aftermath (August-October 1904)
 "Bloody Sunday" in Russia (January 1905)
 Granting of universal adult suffrage in Finland/participation by women in Finnish elections (1906/1907)
 The second Hague Peace Conference (June-October 1907)
 Annexation of Bosnia by Austria-Hungary (October 1908)
 Agitation against the British Parliament by suffragettes (Oct. 1908 or Nov. 1910, etc.)
 The suicide and funeral of the suffragette Emily Davison (June 1913)
 Failure of the Dardanelles campaign (1915)
 The Easter Rebellion in Ireland (April 1916)
 The outbreak of the Russian Revolution (March 1917)
 Alexander Kerensky's appointment as premier of Russia (August 1917)
 First Battle of Passchendaele (October 1917)
 Cancellation of the elected Constituent Assembly by the Bolsheviki (January 1918)
 The Treaty of Brest-Litovsk (March 1918)
 Extension of the franchise to most women in Britain (Representation of the People Act) (1918)
 The Spartacist Uprising in Berlin (January 1919)
 The publication and signing of the Treaty of Versailles (May-June 1919)
 Election and seating of the first female Member of Parliament in Britain (Dec. 1919-Jan. 1920)
 Introduction of the New Economic Policy in the Soviet Union (March 1921)
 The establishment of the Irish Free State (December 1921-January 1922)
 Mussolini's March on Rome (October 1922)
 The beer-hall putsch in Munich (November 1923)
 The death of Lenin (January 1924)
 The first socialist government in Britain (January 1924)
 The murder of Matteotti and the political crisis in Italy (June 1924-January 1925)
 Coup d'état and seizure of power by Marshal Józef Piłsudski in Poland (May 1926)
 The British General Strike (May 1926)
 Germany's admission into the League of Nations (September 1926)
 Signing of the Kellogg-Briand Pact outlawing aggressive war (August 1928)
 Establishment of a personal dictatorship by King Alexander I of Yugoslavia (January 1929)
 Leon Trotsky's banishment from Russia (January 1929)
 The Lateran Treaties between Mussolini and the Pope (February 1929)
 Forced collectivization program in the Soviet Union (January-March 1930)
 Adoption of new constitution granting women's suffrage and other civil rights in Spain (December 1931)
 Mass starvation in the Ukraine (Fall 1932-Spring 1933)
 Death of Josef Stalin's wife Nadezhda Alliluyeva, possibly by suicide (November 1932)
 Adolf Hitler's appointment as Chancellor of Germany (January 1933)
 Passage of the Enabling Act in Germany (March 1933)
 Burning of "un-German" books by Nazis in Berlin (May 1933)
 Promulgation of the Nuremberg racial laws in Germany (September 1935)
 The German reoccupation of the Rhineland (March 1936)
 The formation of the Popular Front government in France (June 1936)
 The outbreak of the Spanish Civil War (Summer 1936)
 The Berlin Olympics (Summer 1936)
 Promulgation of an encyclical by Pope Pius XI criticizing the Nazi regime (March 1937)
 The "May Days" in Barcelona (conflict between communists, anarchists and other leftists) (May 1937)
 Hitler's reorganization of the German army leadership (January-February 1938)
 The Anschluss of Austria (March 1938)
 The Évian conference on the refugee crisis in Europe (July 1938)
 Kristallnacht (November 1938)
 The end of the Czechoslovak state (March 1939)
 The Nazi-Soviet Pact (August 1939)

How to Locate Appropriate Sources

(a) Contemporary Newspaper Accounts

Make sure to look at articles *as they originally appeared* in the newspapers concerned, not as summarized by later accounts. Keep in mind that major events were normally covered not just on the day immediately following the event but for many days thereafter. You may use European newspapers or North American newspapers that covered European events. Useful sources might include:

- *The Times of London*, available on microfilm in Koerner Library or from the UBC Library website under Indexes and Databases/*Times Digital Archive*.
- *The New York Times*, available on microfilm in Koerner Library or from the UBC Library website under Indexes and Databases/*ProQuest Historical Newspapers*.

(b) Diaries and Memoirs

Begin by looking for diaries, memoirs or autobiographies written by people who were directly involved in the event concerned. For example, for Alexander Kerensky's appointment as premier of Russia, you might consult his own memoir, *The Catastrophe*. However, you can also use diaries and memoirs by people who were not directly involved with the event you are discussing but were careful observers of contemporary affairs, such as John Reed in Russia in 1917, Harold Nicolson in interwar Britain, Bella Fromm or Victor Klemperer in Germany during the 1930s, etc.

(c) Scholarly Works Published since 1980

In some cases you will find books dealing entirely with the event concerned. But it is also acceptable to use books that deal only in part with the event, as long as the coverage of the event is substantial. For certain topics biographies may be particularly useful, but make sure to use only serious research-based biographies.

In addition to books, you may want to use articles from scholarly history journals. Many such journals are available in Koerner Library or can be accessed online through the UBC Library website.

If you are in doubt as to whether a book or journal is considered a scholarly publication, consult your tutorial instructor.

GUIDELINES FOR WRITING THIS PAPER

1. Structure

Most well-written history papers have an introduction, a body and a conclusion. The *introduction* explains why the topic of the paper is of interest and indicates what questions the paper will examine. It may also briefly summarize the basic findings of the paper. The *body* of the paper presents the evidence in an orderly and systematic fashion, answering the questions posed in the introduction or demonstrating the validity of the paper's findings. The *conclusion* summarizes the findings of the paper and may also include some generalizations about the broader significance of these findings.

2. Style

Correctness of grammar, spelling and punctuation as well as overall clarity of expression are essential ingredients of all historical writing. Grammar, spelling and style will therefore count significantly in the instructor's evaluation of your paper. Be especially careful to avoid misplaced modifiers, sentence fragments and non-parallel phrasing.

Make sure to **proofread your paper** carefully before submitting it.

3. Using Source Material in a Responsible Manner

The basic principle in writing any research essay, whether long or short, is to use appropriate source material to get whatever information you need in order to write about the topic in your own words.

When it is important to demonstrate exactly how your source worded something, use a *direct quotation* and provide a footnote. Occasionally it is useful to *paraphrase* something; this is acceptable if you indicate the source clearly in a footnote. But it is even better to express things in your own words.

Remember that only direct quotations should be put in quotation marks. If you *paraphrase* something from your source, do not put it in quotation marks—but of course *any paraphrase, like any direct quotation, must be properly footnoted.*

4. Footnotes

Footnotes are used to give credit where credit is due. The basic rule is this: *all quotations, paraphrases, statistics, interpretations and significant phrases taken from books and articles must be carefully and correctly cited in footnotes.* On the other hand, obvious facts on which all authors would agree do not have to be footnoted.

There are many styles of footnoting, but generally in writing history papers you should use the form of footnoting most frequently used in writing about history. In this style, you put a superscript like this² in the text and put the publication data in a numbered footnote at the bottom of the page. (Putting all the references at the end of the paper as endnotes is acceptable, but footnotes are preferred.)

The *first time* you refer to any book or article, give the author, complete title, and other publication data. But *do not repeat the full publication data over and over again* each time you refer to the same source. After the first time, simply give the author's last name, a short version of the title, and the page number. If the note refers to the source cited in the immediately preceding note, just write *ibid.* and the page number.

If you use an article or chapter from a book that includes selections by many authors, you must give the author and title of that article or chapter *and also* the publication data for the book as a whole. See example 5 below.

Always show where *you* got the information. If you are quoting a source that quotes another source, the most important thing is to show where *you* got it from. See example 11 below.

Here are some examples of **standard footnoting style** for writing about history:

1. Susan Naquin, *Peking: Temples and City Life, 1400-1800* (Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 2000), 183.
2. *Ibid.*, 187.
3. Donatella Calabi, *The Market and the City: Square, Street and Architecture in Early Modern Europe*, trans. by Marlene Klein (Aldershot, U.K.: Ashgate, 2004), 206.
4. Naquin, *Peking*, 194-96.
5. Ian Kershaw, "Hitler and the Germans," in Richard Bessel, ed., *Life in the Third Reich* (Oxford University Press, 1987), 43-44.
6. Calabi, *The Market and the City*, 208.
7. *Ibid.*, 209.
8. Laura McGough, "Women, Private Property and the Limitations of State Authority in Early Modern Venice," *Journal of Women's History*, 14 (2002), 35-37.
9. Anon., "Assassination of President Lincoln: The House of Commons and the News from America," *The Times* (London), April 27, 1865, 7.
10. Museum of London website: "The Great Fire of London 1666," <http://collections.museumoflondon.org.uk/online/group/23219.html> (accessed October 1, 2015)
11. A. Hochschild, *King Leopold's Ghost* (Boston, 1998), 132-33, as quoted by Volker R. Berghahn, *Europe in the Era of the Two World Wars: From Militarism and Genocide to Civil Society, 1900-1950* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2006), 20.

For even more detailed information about footnotes, see the instructor's **Footnote Guide** on the course website at <http://www.history.ubc.ca/faculty/friedrichs>

6. Bibliography

Your paper should have a bibliography listing all the sources you actually used, including those you did not refer to in any footnotes. Bibliographies are arranged in alphabetical order. Therefore a bibliography, in contrast to footnotes, lists each author by last name first.

Always give the *full title* of each book, *including the subtitle* if there is one.

If you are listing an article from a book or journal, include the page numbers of the whole article.

Here are some examples of the **standard style for bibliographies**:

Calabi, Donatella. *The Market and the City: Square, Street and Architecture in Early Modern Europe*, trans. by Marlene Klein (Aldershot, U.K.: Ashgate, 2004).

Kershaw, Ian. "Hitler and the Germans," in Richard Bessel, ed., *Life in the Third Reich* (Oxford University Press, 1987), 41-55.

McGough, Laura. "Women, Private Property and the Limitations of State Authority in Early Modern Venice," *Journal of Women's History*, 14 (2002), 32-52.

Museum of London website: "The Great Fire of London 1666,"
<http://collections.museumoflondon.org.uk/online/group/23219.html> (accessed Oct. 1, 2015).

Naquin, Susan. *Peking: Temples and City Life, 1400-1800* (Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 2000).

7. Legibility, Orderliness and Backup Copies

- Your paper should be submitted as a hard copy, not by e-mail.
- The text should be double-spaced.
- Last-minute corrections should be made neatly in ink.
- ***Number the pages of your paper***, beginning with the first page after the title page.
- ***Staple or otherwise securely fasten the paper***. Don't use paper clips!
- Until the paper has been graded and returned, you must ***save the text on your computer***.

Additional guidelines or instructions for preparing this paper may be provided by your tutorial instructor. Please pay close attention to any such guidelines or instructions.