**Period 4: 1914 – Present**

**Key Concept 4.1: Total war and political instability in the first half of the 20th century gave way to a polarized state order during the Cold War, and eventually to efforts at transnational union.**

I . World War I, caused by a complex interaction of long-and short-term factors, resulted in immense losses and disruptions for both victors and vanquished.

1. A variety of factors – including nationalism, military plans, the alliance system, and imperial competition – turned a regional dispute in the Balkans into World War I.
2. New technologies confounded traditional military strategies and led to massive troop losses.
3. The effects of military stalemate and total war led to protest and insurrection in the belligerent nations and eventually to revolutions that changed the international balance of power.
4. The relationship of Europe to the world shifted significantly with the globalization of the conflict, the emergence of the United States as a world power, and the overthrow of European empires.

II. The conflicting goals of the peace negotiators in Paris pitted diplomatic idealism against the desire to punish Germany, producing a settlement that satisfied few.

1. Wilsonian idealism clashed with postwar realities in both the victorious and the defeated states. Democratic successor states emerged from former empires and eventually succumbed to significant political, economic, and diplomatic crises.
2. The Versailles settlement, particularly its provisions on the assignment of guilt and reparations for the war, hindered the German Weimar Republic’s ability to establish a stable and legitimate political and economic system.

III. In the interwar period, fascism, extreme nationalism, racist ideologies, and the failure of appeasement resulted in the catastrophe of World War II, presenting a grave challenge to European civilization.

1. French and British fears of another war, American isolationism, and deep distrust between Western democratic, capitalist nations and the communist Soviet Union allowed fascist states to rearm and expand their territory.
2. American and British industrial, scientific, and technological power and the all-out military commitment of the USSR contributed critically to the Allied victories.
3. Fueled by racism and anti-Semitism, German Nazism sought to establish a “new racial order” in Europe, which culminated with the Holocaust.

IV. As World War II ended, a Cold War between the liberal democratic West and the communist East began, lasting nearly half a century.

1. Despite efforts to maintain international cooperation through the newly created United Nations, deep-seated tensions between the USSR and the West led to the division of Europe, which was referred to in the West as the “Iron Curtain.”
2. The United States exerted a strong military, political, and economic influence in Western Europe, leading to the creation of world monetary and trade systems and geopolitical alliances such as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).
3. Countries east of the “Iron Curtain” came under the military, political, and economic domination of the Soviet Union within the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (COMECON) and the Warsaw Pact.
4. The collapse of the USSR in 1991 ended the Cold War, and led to the establishment of capitalist economies throughout Eastern Europe. Germany was reunited, the Czechs and Slovaks parted, Yugoslavia dissolved, and the European Union was enlarged through admission of former Eastern-bloc countries.

**Key Concept 4.2: The stresses of economic collapse and total war engendered internal conflicts within European states and created conflicting conceptions of the relationship between the individual and the state, as demonstrated in the ideological battle among liberal democracy, communism, and fascism.**

I. The Russian Revolution created a regime based on Marxist-Leninist theory.

1. In Russia, World War I exacerbated long-term problems of political stagnation, social inequality, incomplete industrialization, and food and land distribution, all while creating support for revolutionary change.
2. The Bolshevik takeover promoted a protracted civil war between communist forces and their opponents, who were aided by foreign powers.
3. In order to improve economic performance, Lenin compromised with free-market principles under the New Economic Policy, but after his death Stalin undertook a centralized program of rapid economic modernization.
4. Stalin’s economic modernization of the Soviet Union came at a high price, including the liquidation of the kulaks, famine in the Ukraine, purges of political rivals, unequal burdens placed on women, and the establishment of an oppressive political system.

II. The ideology of fascism, with roots in pre-World War I era, gained popularity in an environment of postwar bitterness, the rise of communism, uncertain transitions to democracy, and economic instability.

1. Fascist dictatorships used modern technology and propaganda that rejected democratic institutions, promoted charismatic leaders, and glorified war and nationalism to lure the disillusioned.
2. Mussolini and Hitler rose to power by exploiting postwar bitterness and economic instability, using terror and manipulating the fledgling and unpopular democracies in their countries.
3. Franco’s alliance with Italian and German Fascists in the Spanish Civil War – in which the Western democracies did not intervene – represented a testing ground for World War II and resulted in authoritarian rule in Spain from 1936 to the mid- 1970s.
4. After failures to establish functioning democracies, authoritarian dictatorships took power in Central and Eastern Europe during the interwar period.

III. The Great Depression, caused by weakness in international trade and monetary theories and practices, undermined Western European democracies and fomented radical political responses throughout Europe.

1. World War I debt, nationalistic tariff policies, overproduction, depreciated currencies, disrupted trade patterns, and speculation created weakness in economies worldwide.
2. Dependence on post- World War I American investment capital led to financial collapse when, following the 1929 stock market crash, the United States cut off capital flows to Europe.
3. Despite attempts to rethink economic theories and policies and forge political alliances, Western democracies failed to overcome the Great Depression and were weakened by extremist movements.

IV. Postwar economic growth supported an increase in welfare benefits; however, subsequent economic stagnation led to criticism and limitation of the welfare state.

1. Marshall Plan funds from the United States financed an extensive reconstruction of industry and infrastructure and stimulated an extended period of growth in Western and Central Europe, often referred to as an “economic miracle,” which increased the economic and cultural importance of consumerism.
2. The expansion of cradle-to-grave social welfare programs in the aftermath of World War II, accompanied by high taxes, became a contentious domestic issue as the budgets of European nations came under pressure in the late 20th century.

V. Eastern European nations were defined by their relationship with the Soviet Union, which oscillated between repression and limited reform, until Mikhail Gorbachev’s policies led to the collapse of communist governments in Eastern Europe and the fall of the Soviet Union.

1. Central and Eastern European nations within the Soviet bloc followed an economic model based on central planning, extensive social welfare, and specialized productions among bloc members.
2. After 1956, Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev’s de-Stalinization policies failed to meet their economic goals within the Soviet Union and promoted revolts in Eastern Europe.
3. Following a long period of economic stagnation, Mikhail Gorbachev’s internal reforms of perestroika and glasnost, designed to make the Soviet system more flexible, failed to stave off the collapse of the Soviet Union and the end of its hegemonic control over Eastern and Central European satellites.

**Key Concept 4.3: During the 20th century, diverse intellectual and cultural movements questioned the existence of objective knowledge, the ability of reason to arrive at truth, and the role of religion in determining moral standards.**

I. The widely held belief in progress characteristic of much of the 19th century thought began to break down before World War I; the experience of war intensified a sense of anxiety that permeated many facets of thought and culture, giving way by the century’s end to a plurality of intellectual frameworks.

1. When World War I began, Europeans were generally confident in the ability of science and technology to address human needs and problems despite the uncertainty created by the new scientific theories and psychology.
2. The effects of world war and economic depression undermined this confidence in science and human reason, giving impetus to existentialism and producing postmodernism in the post-1945 period.

II. Science and technology yielded impressive material benefits but also caused immense destruction and posed challenges to objective knowledge.

1. The challenge to the certainties of the Newtonian universe in physics opened the door to uncertainty in other fields by undermining faith in objective knowledge, while also providing the knowledge necessary for the development of nuclear weapons and power.
2. Medical theories and technologies extended life but posed social and moral questions that eluded consensus and crossed religious, political, and philosophical perspectives.
3. Military technologies made possible industrialized warfare, genocide, nuclear proliferation, and the risk of global nuclear war.

III. Organized religion continued to play a role in European social and cultural life, despite the challenges of military and ideological conflict, modern secularism, and rapid social changes.

1. The challenges of totalitarianism and communism in Central and Eastern Europe brought mixed responses from Christian churches.
2. Reform in the Catholic Church found expression in the Second Vatican Council, which redefined the Church’s dogma and practices and started to redefine its relations with other religious communities.

IV. During the 20th century, the arts were defined by experimentation, self-expression, subjectivity, and the increasing influence of the United States in both elite and popular culture.

A. New movements in the visual arts, architecture and music demolished existing aesthetic standards, explored subconscious and subjective states, and satirized Western society and its values.

B. Throughout the century, a number of writers challenged traditional literary conventions, questioned Western values, and addressed controversial social and political issues.

C. Increased imports of United States technology and popular culture after World War II generated both enthusiasm and criticism.

**Key Concept 4.4: Demographic changes, economic growth, total war, disruptions of traditional social patterns, and competing definitions of freedom and justice altered the experiences of everyday life.**

I. The 20th century was characterized by large-scale suffering brought on by warfare and genocide as well as tremendous improvements in the standard of living.

1. World War I created a “lost generation,” fostered disillusionment and cynicism, transformed the lives of women, and democratized societies.
2. Mass production, new food technologies, and industrial efficiency increased disposable income and created a consumer culture in which greater domestic comforts, such as electricity, indoor plumbing, plastics, and synthetic fibers became available.

II. The lives of women were defined by family and work responsibilities, economic changes, and feminism.

A. During world wars, women became increasingly involved in military and political mobilization, as well as in economic production.

B. In Western Europe through the efforts of feminists, and in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union through government policy, women finally gained the vote, greater educational opportunities, and access to professional careers, even while continuing to face social inequalities.

E. Women attained high political office and increased their representation in legislative bodies in many nations.

III. New voices gained prominence in political, intellectual, and social discourse.

A. Green parties in Western and Central Europe challenged consumerism, urged sustainable development, and by the late 20th century, cautioned against globalization.

C. Intellectuals and youth reacted against perceived bourgeois materialism and decadence, most significantly with the revolts of 1968.

D. Because of economic growth of the 1950s and 1960s, numerous “guest workers” from southern Europe, Asia, and Africa immigrated to Western and Central Europe; however, after the economic downturn on the 1970s, these workers and their families often became targets of anti-immigration agitation and extreme nationalist parties.

PERIOD 4 –1914 to the present

INTERACTION OF EUROPE AND THE WORLD

Learning Objectives – Students are able to... Topics in Concept Outline

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| INT-6: Assess the role of overseas trade, labor and technology in making Europe part of a global economic network and in encouraging the development of new economic theories and state policies. | 4.2.IV – Post-war reconstruction of industry and infrastructure; consumerism  4.4.I – New communication and transportation technologies |
| INT-7: Analyze how contact with non-European peoples increased European social and cultural diversity and affected attitudes toward race. | 4.1.VII – National self-determination  4.2.III – Increased immigration into Europe  4.4.III – Anti-immigrant agitation and extreme nationalist political parties |
| INT-8: Evaluate the United States’ economic and cultural influence on Europe and responses to this influence in Europe. | 4.1.I – Emergence of United States as a world power.  4.1.II – Wilsonian idealism  4.1.IV – Cold War; world monetary and trade systems and geopolitical alliances  4.2.III – 1929 Stock Market Crash  4.2.IV – Marshall Plan  4.3.IV – United States’ influence on elite and popular culture  4.4.III – Green parties; revolt of 1968. |
| INT-9: Assess the role of European contact on overseas territories through the introduction of disease, participation in the slave trade and slavery, effects on agricultural and manufacturing patters and global conflict. | 4.1.I – Cause of First World War  4.1.IV – Cold War Outside Europe  4.1.VII - Decolonization |
| INT10- Explain the extent of and causes for non-Europeans’ adoption of or resistance to European cultural, political or economic values and institutions, and explain the causes of their reactions. | 4.1.VII – Independence movements and mandates |
| INT-11: Explain how European expansion and colonization brought non-European societies into global economic, diplomatic, military and cultural networks. | 4.1.I – World War I outside Europe  4.1.IV – Cold War outside Europe  4.3.III – Colonial emigration to Europe  4.4.III – Guest workers |

PERIOD 4 –1914 to the present

POVERTY AND PROSPERITY

Learning Objectives – Students are able to... Topics in Concept Outline

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| PP-1: Explain how and why wealth generated from new trading, financial and manufacturing practices and institutions created a market and then a consumer economy. | 4.2.IV – Post-war economic growth  4.3.IV – Increased imports of United States technology and popular culture  4.4.I – Mass production, new food technologies and industrial efficiency |
| PP-4: Explain how the development of new technologies and industries – as well as new means of communication, marketing and transportation – contributed to expansion of consumerism and increased standards of living and quality of life in the 19th and 20th centuries. | 4.3.II – Medical technologies  4.4.I – Mass productions, food technologies, industrial efficiency, communication and transportation technologies.  4.4.II – New modes of reproduction. |
| PP-5: Analyze the origins, characteristics, and effects of the post-World War II “economic miracle” and the economic integration (the Euro zone.) | 4.1.IV – World monetary and trade systems  4.1. V – European economic and political integration  4.2.IV – Post-war economic growth and welfare benefits  4.4.I – Creation of a consumer culture  4.4.II – Professional careers for women; the Baby Boom  4.4.III – Increased immigration to Europe |
| PP-8: Analyze socialist, communist, and fascist efforts to develop responses to capitalism and why these efforts gained support during times of economic crisis. | 4.2.I – The Russian Revolution  4.2.II – The ideology of fascism  4.2.III – The Great Depression |
| PP-10: Explain the role of social inequality in contributing to and affecting the nature of the French Revolution and subsequent revolutions throughout the 19th and 20th centuries | 4.2.I – The Russian Revolution |
| PP-11: Analyze the social and economic causes and consequences of the Great Depression in Europe. | 4.2.II – Increased popularity of fascist ideology  4.2.III – The Great Depression  4.3.I – Belief in progress breaks down |
| PP-12: Evaluate how the expansion of a global consumer economy after World War II served as a catalyst to opposition movements in Easter and Western Europe. | 4.2.V – Collapse of the Soviet Union  4.3.IV – Criticism of United States’ technology and popular culture  4.4.III – Green parties; revolts of 1968 |
| PP-13: Analyze how cities and states have attempted to address the problems brought about by economic modernization, such as poverty and famine, through regulating morals, policing marginal populations and improving public health. | 4.2.IV – Expansion of social welfare programs |
| PP-16: Analyze how democratic, authoritarian and totalitarian governments of the left and right attempted to overcome the financial crises of the 1920s and 1930s. | 4.2.I – Lenin’s New Economic Policy; Stalin’s economic modernization  4.2.III – Dependence on American investment capital; attempts to rethink economic policies |

PERIOD 4 – 1914 to the present

OBJECTIVE KNOWLEDGE AND SUBJECTIVE VISIONS

Learning Objectives – Students are able to... Topics in Concept Outline

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| OS-3: Explain how political revolution and war from the 17th century on altered the role of the church in political and intellectual life and the response of religious authorities and intellectuals to such challenges. | 4.3.III – Continued role of organized religion |
| OS-9: Explain how new theories of government and political ideologies attempted to provide a coherent explanation for human behavior and the extent to which they adhered to or diverged from traditional explanations based on religious beliefs. | 4.2.II – Fascist rejection of democracy, glorification of war and nationalism |
| OS-10: Analyze the means by which individualism, subjectivity and emotion came to be considered a valid source of knowledge. | 4.3.I – Challenge to confidence in science and human reason  4.3.IV – Self-expression and subjectivity in the arts |
| OS-12: Analyze how artists used strong emotions to express individuality and political theorists encouraged emotional identification with the nation. | 4.2.II – Fascist Nationalism |
| OS-13: Explain how and why modern artists began to move away from realism and toward abstraction and the non-rational, rejecting traditional aesthetics | 4.3.IV – Experimentation, self-expression and subjectivity in the arts |

PERIOD 4 – 1914 to the present

STATES AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS OF POWER

Learning Objectives – Students are able to... Topics in Concept Outline

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| SP-1: Explain the emergence of civic humanism and new conceptions of political authority during the Renaissance, as well as subsequent theories and practices that stressed the political importance and rights of the individual | 4.3.II – Industrialized warfare  4.4.II – Women’s rights  4.4.III – Dissenting groups in politics |
| SP-3: Trace the changing relationship between states and ecclesiastical authority and the emergence of the principle of religious toleration. | 4.1.IV – Post World War II religious conflicts  4.3.III – Second Vatican Council and immigration |
| SP-5: Assess the role of colonization, the Industrial Revolution, total warfare and economic depressions in altering the government’s relationship to the economy, both in overseeing economic activity and in addressing its social impact. | 4.1.V – Post-1945 European unity  4.2.I – Russian Revolution  4.2.III – Great Depression  4.2.IV – Economic miracle and welfare state  4.2.V – Planned economies in Eastern Europe |
| SP-6: Explain how new ideas of political authority and the failure of diplomacy led to world wars, political revolutions and the establishment of totalitarian regimes in the 20th century. | 4.1.I – Causes of World War I  4.1.II – Versailles settlement  4.1.III – Appeasement and World War II  4.2.I – Bolshevik Revolution and Stalin  4.2.II - Fascism |
| SP-8: Explain how and why various groups, including communists and fascists, undermined parliamentary democracy through the establishment of regimes that maintained dictatorial control while manipulating democratic forms. | 4.1.III – Nazi aggression and *Blitzkrieg*  4.2.I – Bolshevik Revolution and Stalin  4.2.II – Rise of Fascism |
| SP-12: Assess the role of civic institutions in shaping the development of representative and democratic forms of government. | 4.4.II – Women and feminism  4.4.III Post-1945 dissenting groups |
| SP-17: Explain the role of nationalism in altering the European balance of power, and explain attempts made to limit nationalism as a means to ensure continental stability | 4.1.1 – Nationalism as a cause of World War I  4.1.II – National self-determination and League of Nations  4.1.III – Fascism and “new racial order.”  4.1.IV – Cold War and collapse of communism  4.1.V – European unity  4.1.VI – Colonial independence movements  4.2.II Fascism and extreme nationalism  4.2.V - Eastern European resistance to communism and Balkan conflicts  4.4.III – Immigration and anti-immigrant groups |

PERIOD 3 – 1914 to the present

INDIVIDUAL AND SOCIETY

Learning Objectives – Students are able to... Topics in Concept Outline

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| IS-3: Evaluate the role of technology, from the printing press to modern transportation and telecommunications, in forming and transforming society. | 4.4.I – Technology as destructive and improving standard of living |
| IS-4: Analyze how and why the nature and role of the family has changed over time. | 4.4.II – Women in workforce, feminism and Baby Boom  4.4.III – Feminism and gay/lesbian movements |
| IS-5: Explain why and how class emerged as a basis for identity and led to conflict in the 19th and 20th centuries. | 4.2.I – Russian and Bolshevik Revolutions. |
| IS-9: Assess the extent to which women participated in and benefitted from the shifting values of European society from the 15th century onwards. | 4.4.II – Military production, economic recovery and post-1945 feminism |
| IS-10: Analyze how and why Europeans have marginalized certain populations (defined as “other”) over the course of their history. | 4.1.III – Fascist racism and genocide  4.1.VI – Post-1945 nationalist and separatist movements  4.1.VII – Mandates and decolonization  4.2.I – Kulaks and Great Purges  4.2.II – Fascist propaganda  4.2.V – Balkan conflicts and wars  4.3.III – Guest workers and immigration  4.4.I – Total war and genocide  4.4.III – Post-1945 dissenting groups. |