This course explores cultural systems and social structures in contemporary Europe, offering an introduction to anthropological approaches to the study of complex western societies. Drawing primarily on ethnographic case material (supplemented with a selection of European feature films), we will examine ways of thinking about Europe and European identities, focusing on the significance of old, new, or uncertain divisions within the continent and boundaries around it. Particular emphasis will be given to the impact on everyday life of large-scale economic, political, and social change, especially as these affect gender identities/relations, and workplace experience.

Class Website
Students should check the website regularly for any changes in assignments or other messages.

Required Written Work

1. Two 5-7 page assigned-ethnography papers (see guidelines attached)
   Based on any TWO of the assigned ethnographies; MUST be submitted by the due date listed for each ethnography. Students may write more than two papers for extra credit or to replace an unsatisfactory grade.
2. in-class midterm exam, Thurs Oct 17
3. EITHER final in-class exam Tues. Dec 17, 2:00 – 3:50 pm
   OR 15-18 page term paper
   --statement of topic and preliminary bibliography due by Fri Oct. 25
   --outline due by Mon Dec 9
   --paper due by Mon. Dec 16, 4:30 pm

   NB: The final exam is the default option and expected to be the preference of most students; those who have not had a term paper topic approved by Oct 25 AND turned in an outline by Dec 9/ paper by Dec 16 are required to take the final exam.

Grading

- Assigned-ethnography papers (2) 30 %
- Midterm exam 20%
- Final exam or term paper 40 %
- Class participation 10 % (inclu. map exercise)

Readings
The following 5 books have been ordered at the NYU bookstore:


**Films**

A series of European feature films will be assigned as *an integral part of the material covered in the course.* If there is sufficient interest, we can arrange for a collective screening of each. Otherwise, they are all available for individual screening at Bobst Library, and MOST should be reasonably easy to find through Netflix or online. Dates indicated are watch-by dates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Director</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/19</td>
<td><em>Goodbye Lenin!</em> (German, 2003)</td>
<td>Wolfgang Becker, dir.</td>
<td>121 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/3</td>
<td><em>Strike</em> (Polish, 2007)</td>
<td>Volker Schlondorff, dir.</td>
<td>104 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/24</td>
<td><em>Human Resources</em> (French, 1999)</td>
<td>Laurent Cantet</td>
<td>100 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/21</td>
<td><em>Swing</em> (French, 2002)</td>
<td>Tony Gatlif, dir</td>
<td>90 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/5</td>
<td><em>L’Auberge Espagnole</em> (French/Spanish, 2002)</td>
<td>Cedric Klapisch, dir</td>
<td>116 min</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Ethnography Paper due dates** (choose at least 2, including *at least 1 before mid-term*)

Berdahl: *Where the World Ended*
- Pre-paper: SEPTEMBER 17
- Paper: SEPTEMBER 26

Dunn: *Privatizing Poland*
- Pre-paper: OCTOBER 1
- Paper: OCTOBER 10

Mole: *Labor Disorders*
- Pre-paper: OCTOBER 22
- Paper: OCTOBER 31

Gay Y Blasco: *Gypsies in Madrid*
- Pre-paper: NOVEMBER 12
- Paper: NOVEMBER 21
Outline and Assignments

Sept 3 Introduction

I. FOUNDATIONS. Cultural categories: images, symbols, and stereotypes in/of Europe

Sept. 5
Susan C. Rogers: Good to Think: The peasant in contemporary France, Anthropological Quarterly 60: 56-63 (1987)
FILM CLIPS/POWER POINT (on NYUClasses):
   Europe and Italy
   Europe according to......
   Recommended for francophones: Arte Cliches
REC: Maryon McDonald: The construction of difference: an anthropological approach to stereotypes, IN S. MacDonald (ed): Inside European Identities (Berg, 1993), pp. 219-236

Sept. 10, 12

* * MAP EXERCISE  due 9/12* *

II. INCITING, MANAGING, EXPERIENCING CHANGE

Everyday life on shifting borders
Sept. 17, 19
Berdahl: Where the world ended, intro, epilogue, chaps 1-3 (pp. 1-103, 226-33)
FILM: Good bye Lenin! (for 9/19 discussion)

*****BERDAHL PRE-PAPER due 9/17*****

Sept. 24, 26
Berdahl: Where the world ended, chaps 4 – end (pp. 104-233)

*****BERDAHL PAPER due 9/26*****
Competing models of self and work in the post-socialist world

Oct. 1, 3
Elizabeth Dunn: *Privatizing Poland*, chaps 1, 6, 2, 3 (pp. 1-93, 162-74)
(http://www.ejumpcut.org/archive/onlinessays/JC27folder/ManMarbleIron.html)
FILM (for 10/3 discussion): *Strike*

*****DUNN PRE-PAPER due 10/1*****

Oct. 8, 10
Dunn, *Privatizing Poland* chaps 4 – end (pp. 94-174)

*****DUNN PAPER due 10/10*****

NO CLASS OCTOBER 15: HAPPY COLUMBUS DAY!

OCTOBER 17 MIDTERM EXAM

III. WORK AND IDENTITY IN A GLOBALIZING WORLD

Oct. 22, 24
Noelle Mole: *Labor Disorders in Neoliberal Italy*, chaps 1-3, 7; pp. 1-81, 150-68
FILM (for 10/24 discussion): *Human Resources*

MOLE PRE-PAPER due Oct. 22

Oct. 29, 31
Mole: *Labor Disorders*, chaps 4-7, pp. 82-167.

MOLE PAPER due Oct. 31

Nov 5, 7 Migrant workers and social order
Jeffrey E. Cole and Sally S. Booth: *Dirty Work: Immigrants in domestic service, agriculture and prostitution in Sicily*, chaps. 1, 2, 4, pp. 1-31, 67-105
Nov 12, 14  Avoiding social integration
Paloma Gay Y Blasco: *Gypsies in Madrid: Sex, gender and the performance of identity*, Chaps 1-4, 9 (pp. 3-85, 173-82)

*****GAY Y BLASCO PRE-PAPER due 11/12*****

Nov. 19. 21
Gay Y Blasco: *Gypsies in Madrid*, Chaps 5-9 (pp. 87-182)
FILM (for 11/21 discussion): *Swing*

****GAY Y BLASCO PAPER due 11/21****

Nov. 26
TBD

**No class 11/28 [Happy Thanksgiving!]

IV. BUILDING EUROPE: Social prospects and challenges

Dec. 3, 5
FILM: L’Auberge Espagnol (for 12/5 discussion)

Dec. 10, 12

Catch up and review

Final Exam
Tuesday December 17, 2:00 – 3:50

OR

Term paper due by Monday, December 16, 4:30 pm