# *European Modernity I. An Introduction: History – Concepts - Definitions*

# Instructor: N. Papadimitriou Course number: ΝΕΠ01 Course type: Compulsory course (C) Course level: Teaching language: Greek and/or English Term: 7th ECTS: 2.00 Teaching credits: 2.00

***Short description****:*

On European Modernity. Art, philosophy, political thought. Vital questions about the presence or the absence of a common European culture. In Greek (for Erasmus students in  English and/or in French).

***Objectives – intended learning outcome****:*

To help students understand the evolution of European culture from Renaissance το the 21st century. Also to help the understanding of European arts, philosophy and politics.

***Syllabus****:*

**Week 1**: About *Modernity*, it’s symbols and myths. An introduction to European values.

**Week 2**: The Renaissance. Humanism and the Enlightenment.The French Revolution. The development of the Modern State.

**Week 3**: The emergence of the Economy. Changing social structures. Class, Gender, and Industrialization.

**Week 4**: The cultural formations of Modern Society. Culture and Social Change. The Capitalism.

**Week 5**: Religion, Values and Ideology. Secularization sand Community. The triumph of liberalism. Modernity and Globalization.

**Week 6:** OnModern Art. Music, Literature, Visual Arts. Modernity, Time and Space. Abstract Systems and the transformation of Intimacy.

**Week 7**: The modern State and Totalitarianism. How innocent is Modernity?

**Week 8**: The passage from modernity to postmodernity in contemporary culture. Modernity and Modernism.

**Week 9**: Postmodernism and Architecture. Contemporary cities and urban design. Is Modernity a Western Project?

**Week 10**: Radicalized Modernity and Post-Modernity.

**Week 11**: The condition of postmodernity, as a historical one.

**Week 12**: The work of art in the age of electronic reproduction and image banks. Postmodernism as the mirror of mirrors.

**Week 13:** Working on different projects based on above, preparing final essay.

***Recommended reading - Bibliography****:*

**Papadimitriou, N.** *Modernity, the European Identity in the Contemporary World*, Gutenberg, Athens 2013.

**Giddens, A.** *The Consequences of Modernity*, Polity Press, London 2010.

**Williams, Gilda**, *How to Write about Contemporary Art*, Thames & Hudson, London 2014.

**Instructional and learning methods**:

Films and music.

*Films*

*Battleship Potemkin*, 1925. Sergei M. Eisenstein.

*Metropolis*, 1927. Fritz Lang.

*Citizen Kane*, 1941. Orson Welles.

*Through a Glass Darkly*, 1961. Ingmar Bergman.

*Sympathy for the Devil*, 1968. Jean-Luc Godard.

*Music*

Obrecht J., 1503 (?). *Missa Fortuna Desperata*. Messe.

Tallis Th., 1556 or 1573. *Spem in alium*. Motet.

Mozart W. A., 1787. *Don Giovanni*. Opera.

Debussy C., 1902. *Pelléas et Mélisande*. Opera.

Schönberg A., 1909/1912. *Fünf Orchesterstücke* op. 16. *Pierrot lunaire* op. 21.

Berg A., 1926. *Wozzeck*. Opera.

The Rolling Stones, 1968. *Beggars Banquet*. London : ABKCO, Decca.

**Assessment/grading method(s)**:

Written essays and oral presentations. Final written project.