

# European Cultures and Identities

*Syllabus 2024*

*summerschool*  
**UTRECHT**



**Universiteit Utrecht**

## **Materials**

Reader, provided by the Utrecht Summer School

## **Period**

8 July – 19 July, 2024

## **Credits**

4.0 ECTS + Certificate of Attendance

## **Faculty**

Utrecht University, Course Coordinator

**Bas van Driel**, Teaching Assistant

Utrecht University, Faculty of Humanities

## **Utrecht Summer School**

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## **Location**

Janskerkhof 15A, 3512 BL Utrecht, The Netherlands

Room 001 & 004

Abbreviation: JA15A 001 & 004

# Contents

Introduction	4
Academic Programme	5
Overview of Reading Material	8
Assessments, Attendance and Grading	9
Online Education	11
Current Political Map of Europe	12

# Introduction

Welcome to the Utrecht Summer School and welcome to European Cultures & Identities. The aim of this course is to introduce you to Europe. This is a continent with many different countries that all maintain their own political systems, cultural traditions, and national identities. At the same time, a majority of the European countries have since the second half of the twentieth century been increasingly engaged in a joint project aimed at political and economic integration. We will explore how this mix of particularism and unity has developed historically.

Lecturers from Utrecht University will introduce various European topics in different educational formats: lectures, seminars, and excursions. The course can be divided into three general themes: 1) The idea of Europe; 2) European Culture and Identity materialized; 3) European Culture and Identity beyond the material. Within each theme there will be two or three lectures, accompanied by seminars, in which lecturers will address one of the following topics: The Idea of Europe (theme 1), Nationalism (theme 1), Heritage (theme 2), Art (theme 2), the History of Science (theme 3) and Imperialism (theme 3).

The learning objectives of the course are:

1. To obtain a grounding in European Culture and Identity on a conceptual level, and to think critically about these topics.
2. To learn to apply conceptual knowledge about the European Culture and Identity to understand cultural expressions (material and immaterial) and learn to think about the creation of cultures and identities on a deeper level.
3. To learn to apply this knowledge to case studies by practicing with writing assignments, a presentation, and an exam.

The course will conclude with three assessments, covering all the lectures and reading material. For the first assessment, you will hand in a portfolio consisting of the class assignments you have made during the summer school (deadline: Tuesday 12 July; 10% of your grade). For the second assessment, you will prepare a group presentation about one particular European state or nation, and discuss its relationship with the European Union and/or the concept of Europe at large. You will be asked to relate your case study to the lectures and to the reading material, and you will be challenged to formulate your own argument accordingly (40% of your grade). The third assessment will be an examination about the core themes of the course during which your knowledge of the material will be tested (50% of your grade).

# Overview of Reading Material (Readings TBC as soon as possible)

## Main literature

1. Anthony Pagden, 'Europe. Conceptualizing a Continent' (*The Idea of Europe*, chapter 1, pages 33-54) (2013).
2. Benedict Anderson, 'Old Languages, New Models' (*Imagined Communities. Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*, chapter 5, pages 67-82) (2006).
3. Sharon Macdonald, 'The European Memory Complex' (*Memorylands. Heritage and Identity in Europe Today*, Chapter 1, pages 1-26) (2013)
4. Elizabeth Buettner, 'Europe and Its Entangled Colonial Pasts: Europeanizing the 'Imperial Turn'', (*Decolonizing Colonial Heritage: New Agendas, Actors and Practices in and beyond Europe*, Pages 25-43) (2022)
5. Shane Weller, 'Introduction', (*The Idea of Europe: A Critical History, Introduction*, Pages 1-16) (2021)

# Academic Programme

3 July – 14 July 2023

## Week 1

Monday 8 July 2024		
Guest Lecture: Jeroen Koch		
Time and location	Activity	Description and readings
<b>Lecture</b> Location: JK15A Room 001 or 004  10:15-10:45	<b><u>Opening remarks:</u></b>  Lecturer	<b><i>Welcome and introduction to the course</i></b>
<b>Lecture</b> Location: JK15A Room 001 or 004  11:00-13:00	<b><u>Lecture #1:</u></b>  Jeroen Koch	<b><i>European Cultures and Identities: The Idea of Europe</i></b>  <b>Readings:</b> Anthony Pagden, 'Europe. Conceptualizing a Continent', <i>The Idea of Europe</i> (2013), chapter 1, pp. 33-54.

Tuesday 9 July 2024

**Guest Lecture:** Maarten Prak

Time and location	Activity	Description and readings
<p><b>Seminar</b> Location: Group 1: Group 2:  10:00-12:00</p>	<p><b><u>Seminar #1:</u></b> Group 1: Lecturer Group 2: SA</p>	<p><b><i>Contextualizing European States and State formation</i></b></p> <p><b>In class assignment (no preparation needed):</b> With the whole class together: analyse an early modern (c. 1500–1750) map of Europe and a modern map of Europe (c. 1780–1900). Write a 350-word text connecting the course material of today’s lecture and seminar with our analysis of the maps.</p> <p><b>Readings:</b> Benedict Anderson, 'Old Languages, New Models', <i>Imagined Communities. Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism</i> (2006), chapter 5, pp. 67-82.</p>
<p><b>Lecture</b> Location JK15A Room 001 or 004  13:00-15:00</p>	<p><b><u>Lecture #2:</u></b>  Maarten Prak</p>	<p><b><i>European States, Nations and Nationalism</i></b></p>

Wednesday 10 July 2024

**Guest Lecture:** Rachel Gillett

Time and location	Activity	Description and readings
<b>Lecture</b> Location JK15A Room 001 or 004  10:00-12:00	<b><u>Lecture #3:</u></b>  Rachel Gillett	<b><i>On the European history of Colonialism</i></b>  <b><i>Colonialism, imperialism and post-colonial history of Europe in a broad sense</i></b>  <b>Readings:</b> TBA
<b>Excursion</b> Location  13:00-15:00	<b><u>Excursion #1:</u></b>  Utrecht	<b><i>City Walk traces of Slavery</i></b>

Grand Opening Utrecht Summer School: register [here](#).

Thursday 11 July 2024

Time and location	Activity	Description and readings
<b>Excursion</b> Janskerkhof square  Bus  9:00-17:00	<b><u>Excursion #2:</u></b>  Amsterdam	<b>Programme:</b> 9:00 bus departure from Janskerkhof 10:30-11:30 Visit museum 14:00 Canal Tour 17:00 return to Utrecht  <b>In class assignment:</b> TBA



Friday 12 July 2024

**Guest Lecture:** Daan Wegener

Time and location	Activity	Description and readings
<b>Lecture</b> Location  10:00-12:00	<b><u>Lecture #5:</u></b>  Daan Wegener	<b><i>What's European about European Science?</i></b>  <b>Readings:</b> TBA

## Week 2

Monday 15 July 2024		
<b>Guest Lecture:</b> Onessa Novak		
Time and location	Activity	Description and readings
<b>Seminar</b>  Group 1: Group 2:  10:00-12:00	<u><b>Seminar #2:</b></u> Group 1: Lecturer Group 2: SA	<i><b>What's European about European Art?</b></i>  <b>In class assignment:</b> TBA  <b>Readings:</b> TBA
<b>Lecture</b> Location  13:00-15:00	<u><b>Lecture #4:</b></u> Onessa Novak	<i><b>Heritage, Memory and Identity in (Eastern) Europe</b></i>  <b>Readings:</b> TBA

Tuesday 16 July 2024		
Time and location	Activity	Description and readings
<b>Excursion</b> Janskerkhof square  Bus  9:00-17:00	<u><b>Excursion #4:</b></u> Den Haag	<b>Programme:</b> 9:00 bus departure from Janskerkhof 10:30-11:30 visit to the Mauritshuis 11:00-17:00 free time in Den Haag 17:00 return to Utrecht

Wednesday 17 July 2024

Time and location	Activity	Description and readings
<b>Exam</b> <b>Location</b> <b>10.00 – 12.00</b> <b>13.00 – 15.00</b>	<b><u>Assessment #1:</u></b>	<b>Assessment 1: Group presentations (40%)</b>

Thursday 18 July 2023

Time and location	Activity	Description and readings
<b>Exam</b> <b>Location</b> <b>10.00 – 12.00</b>	<b><u>Exam :</u></b> Lecturer	<b>Assessment 2: Exam (50%)</b>

Friday 19 July 2023

Time and location	Activity	Description and readings
<b>Lecture</b> <b>Location</b> <b>16:00-18:00</b>	<b><u>Closing remarks:</u></b> Lecturer	Closing remarks of the school, presentation of certificates, and farewell drinks at café Hofman Location Hofman: Janskerkhof 17A, 3512BM Utrecht, The Netherlands

# Assessments, Attendance and Grading

## Assessments

There will be two assessments that both test your knowledge and challenge you to formulate your own argument based on the course matter:

1. Class assignments: 10%
2. Group presentation: 40%
3. Final exam: 50%

Both assessments will take place at the end of week 2 and you need an average grade of at least 5,5 to pass the course.

## Attendance and Grading

Note that full attendance is expected in all lectures, seminar sessions, and excursions. Students who are absent beyond their fault (illness, accident, etc.) should submit a medical certificate to Timo Houtekamer as soon as possible. Make-up assignments are expected for all unexcused absences. Ten percentage points will be subtracted for all uncompensated absences. Students who fail more than two make-up assignments will be dropped from this course.

Your grades will be numerical grades according to the Dutch grading system. Dutch grades range from 0 (very bad) to 10 (excellent). At Utrecht University, a 5,5 is the lowest passing grade, though note that this might be different at other (Dutch) institutions. Also note that grade inflation has not affected the Dutch grading system as much as it has some American institutions. Grades of 9 and higher are rarely given, the most common grades are between 6 and 8. The Utrecht University student registration system (Osiris) that will produce your transcript will round off all grades to whole numerals for 5 and lower, and half numbers for 5.5 and higher. On course work and examinations, however, it is customary to receive a grade that has not been rounded off. Plusses and minuses are sometimes used, and count for one-fourth of a point, for instance: 8- = 7,75. Meaning of numerical grades:

9.00-10.00	Excellent
8.00-8.99	Very good
7.50-7.99	Good
7.00-7.49	Very satisfactory
6.50-6.99	Satisfactory
6.00-6.49	Sufficient
5.50-5.99	Acceptable; minimum pass
5.00-5.49	Insufficient; fail
4.00-4.99	Unsatisfactory
3.00-3.99	Very unsatisfactory

2.00-2.99	Bad
0.00-1.99	Very bad

Note that conversion of grades that you have received in the Netherlands to grades at your home institution is the responsibility of your home institution, not Utrecht University. This chart should be used as an indication; no rights can be drawn from it.

\* Any case of plagiarism will be reported to the home institution and results in a course failure, meaning 1.00 as final grade for this course.

## Online Education

You have received your Utrecht University login code (SOLIS-ID) from the Summer School administration. If this is not the case, send them an e-mail at [summerschool@uu.nl](mailto:summerschool@uu.nl) or contact them by phone: +31 (0)302534400. You can use this login code to gain access to the digital teaching environment on Microsoft Teams and to the digital environment of the university library.

## Current political map of Europe

