**4 Periods of Modern European History - Timeline**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **PERIOD I : 1450-1648** | | | | |
| **TOP TIER** | | | **ADDITIONAL** | |
| Year | Event(s) | significance | Year | event |
| **476 C.E.** | **End of the Roman Empire/** | **(Beginning of the Middle Ages)** |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **1347** | **Black Death appears in Europe** | **Severe depopulation** |  |  |
|  |  |  | 1378 | Beginning of Great Western Schism |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 1417 – | end of Great Western Schism |
| **1450** | **Printing press in Europe** | **Major increase in literacy** | 1450 – | Fall of Constantinople |
| **1453** | **End of 100 years war** | **Rise of sovereign states** |  |  |
| **1492** | **Columbus’s voyage** | **Expansion of European influence** |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 1509 | Praise of Folly (Erasmus) |
|  |  |  | 1513 | The Prince ( Machiavelli) |
| **1517** | **95 Theses** | **start of Reformation** |  |  |
|  |  |  | 1524 | Peasant Rebellions |
| **1534** | **Act of Supremacy** | **start of English Reformation** |  |  |
|  |  |  | 1536 | Institutes of the Christian Religion (Calvin) |
| **1543** | ***On the Revolution [de Revolutione] of Heavenly Spheres* (Copernicus)** | **start of Scientific Revolution** |  |  |
| **1545** | **Council of Trent begins** | **Start of Catholic and Counter-reformation** |  |  |
| **1555** | **Peace of Augsburg** | **Recognized Lutheranism as a religion** |  |  |
|  |  |  | 1558 | Elizabeth’s Act of Uniformity |
|  |  |  | 1562 | Beginning of French Wars of Religion |
|  |  |  | 1572 | St. Bartholomew Day Massacre |
| **1588** | **Defeat of the Spanish armada** | **Beginning of Spanish Decline** |  |  |
| **1598** | **Edict of Nantes** | **End of French Wars of Religion** |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **1603** | **End of Elizabeth I’s reign/** | **Beginning of Stuart rule in England** |  |  |
|  |  |  | 1618 | Beginning of 30 years war |
|  |  |  | 1632 | *Dialogues (****Dialoga****) Concerning 2 Chief World Systems* (Galileo) |
|  |  |  | 1642 | Beginning of English Civil War |
| **1648** | **Peace of Westphalia** | **End of 30 years War** |  |  |
| **PERIOD 2 : 1648-1815** | | | | |
| **Top Tier** | | | **ADDITIONAL** | |
| **Year** | **Event(s)** | **significance** | Year | event |
|  |  |  | 1649 | Execution of Charles I |
|  |  |  | 1651 | *Leviathan* (Thomas Hobbes) |
| **1653** | **End of the Fronde** | **Firmly establish reign of Louis xiv** |  |  |
|  |  |  | 1683 | Battle of Vienna |
|  |  |  | 1685 | Edict of Nantes revoked by Louis XIV |
|  |  |  | 1687 | *Mathematical Principles [****Principia****] of Natural Philosophy* (Newton) |
| **1688** | **Glorious Revolution** | **End of English absolutism** |  |  |
|  |  |  | 1689 | *Two Treatises on Gov’t* (Locke)/ English Bill of Rights |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 1701 | Act of Settlement |
| **1715** | **Death Louis XIV** | **Beginning of decline of French Absolutism** | 1715 | End of the War of Spanish Succession |
|  |  |  | 1720 | Mississippi Bubble scandal |
|  |  |  | 1725 | Death of Peter the Great |
| **1740** | **War of Austrian Succession** | **Beginning Austro/Prussian Rivalry** |  |  |
|  |  |  | 1748 | *Spirit of the Laws* (Montesquieu) |
|  |  |  | 1756 | Diplomatic Revolution |
| **1763** | **End of 7-years War** | **Britain established as world Power (over France)** |  |  |
| **1776** | **Declaration of Independence** | **American Colonies establish democracy** | 1776 | *Wealth of Nations* (Smith) |
| **1787** | **U.S. Constitution written** | **American federal government established** |  |  |
| **1789** | **Storming of the Bastille** | **Beginning of French Revolution** |  |  |
|  |  |  | 1792 | Execution of Louis XVI |
| **1799** | **Napoleon becomes Consul** | **Rise of Napoleon** |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 1804 | Napoleon crowns himself Emperor |
| **1815** | **Congress of Vienna** | **end of Napoleonic Wars** | 1815 | Beginning of **Concert of Europe** |
| **PERIOD 3 : 1815 - 1914** | | | | |
| **Top Tier** | | | **ADDITIONAL** | |
| **Year** | **Event(s)** | **significance** | Year | event |
| **1817** | **Ricardo’s Iron Law of Wages** | **Conservatives embrace classical economic policies** |  |  |
|  |  |  | 1821 | Greek Revolution |
|  |  |  | 1830 | July Revolution in France |
|  |  |  | 1832 | Great Reform Bill (Britain) |
|  |  |  | 1845 | Beginning of Great Hunger in Ireland |
| **1848** | **Revolutions across Europe** | **Rise of Nationalist and Democratic movements** | 1848 | Communist Manifesto written (Marx) |
| **1856** | **Crimean War ends** | **End of Concert of Europe** |  |  |
|  |  |  | 1858 | On The Origin of the Species (Darwin) |
| **1871** | **End of Franco-Prussian War** | **Unification of Germany** |  |  |
|  |  |  | 1894 | Dreyfus affair |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **1904** | **Russo-Japanese War** | **Russian loss encourages revolution in Russia** |  |  |
|  |  |  | 1905 | Einstein’s Theory of Special Relativity |
| **1914** | **Assassination of Austrian Archduke Franz Ferdinand** | **Beginning of WWI** |  |  |
| **PERIOD 4 – 1914-present** | | | | |
| **Top Tier** | | | **ADDITIONAL** | |
| **Year** | **Event(s)** | **Significance** | Year | event |
|  |  |  | 1915 | Sinking of Lusitania |
|  |  |  | 1916 | Easter Rising (Ireland) |
| **1917** | **Russian Revolutions** | **Russia exits WW1/ begins Communism** | 1917 | US enters WWI |
| **1918** | **WW1 armistice** | **End of WW1 fighting** |  |  |
| **1919** | **Treaty of Versailles** | **Germany is blamed for WWI** |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **1922** | **Mussolini elected Prime Minister of Italy** | **Rise of Fascism** | 1922 | End of Russian Civil War |
| **1923** | **Occupation of the Ruhr begins** | **Hyperinflation encourages fascism in Germany** | 1923 | Hitler attempts Beer Hall Putsch (Munich) |
|  |  |  | 1924 | Death of Lenin |
| **1929** | **US Stock Market crash** | **Beginning of Great Depression** |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 1931 | Japan invades Manchuria (China) |
| **1933** | **Hitler elected German Chancellor** | **Nazi party takes control of Germany** |  |  |
|  |  |  | 1934 | Night of Long Knives eliminates Hitler’s enemies |
|  |  |  | 1935 | Italy invades Ethiopia |
|  |  |  | 1936 | Stalin’s Great Purge Begins |
| **1938** | **Munich Pact** | **Appeasement fails** | 1938 | Kristallnacht riot against German Jews |
| **1939** | **German Invasion of Poland** | **Beginning of WW 2** |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 1940 | Fall of France |
| **1941** | **Germans start Operation Barbarossa** | **Russia enters WW2/ Britain is spared** | 1941 | US enters WW2 |
| **1943** | **Italy Surrenders** | **Italy switches sides** | 1943 | Tehran Conference |
|  |  |  | 1944 | D-Day |
| **1945** | **German, then Japanese surrender** | **End of WW2** |  |  |
| **1948** | **Berlin Airlift** | **First major Cold War Crisis** |  |  |
|  |  |  | 1949 | Soviets test their first atomic bomb |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **1953** | **End of the Korean War** | **First proxy war ends in a draw** |  |  |
| **1956** | **Kruschev secret speech** | **Perceived softening of Soviet Communism** | 1956 | Cold War Crises in Hungary, Poland, Suez |
|  |  |  | 1957 | Launch of Sputnik I starts space Race |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 1960 | U2 Spy plane incident |
| **1961** | **Berlin Wall built** | **Symbolized Communist oppression in Eastern Europe** | 1961 | Failed US invasion of Cuba (Bay of Pigs) |
| **1962** | **Cuban Missile Crisis** | **Height of Cold War nuclear tension** |  |  |
| **1968** | **Prague Spring** | **Brezhnev doctrine reaffirms Soviet dominance** |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **1975** | **US leaves Vietnam** | **American loss after 20 year Cold War conflict** |  |  |
| **1979** | **USSR invades Afghanistan** | **Known as the “Soviet Vietnam”** |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **1985** | **Gorbachev elected Soviet Premier** | **Soviet oppression eased** |  |  |
| **1989** | **Fall of Berlin Wall** | **Reunification of Germany** |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **1991** | **Fall of USSR** | **End of Cold War** |  |  |
| **1993** | **Maastricht Treaty** | **Established the European Union** |  |  |
| **1999** | **The Euro adopted as the common EU currency** | **Expansion of European economic power** |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **2001** | **September 11th attacks in the U.S.** | **Beginning of War on Terror** | 2001 | US begins war in Afghanistan |
|  |  |  | 2007 | US subprime Mortgage crisis |
|  |  |  | 2009 | Beginning of European debt crisis |
| **2014** | **Beginning of European migrant crisis** | **Largest refugee migration since ww2 increases nationalism** | 2014 | End of NATO combat operations in Afghanistan |
| **2016** | **Brexit referendum** | **Threatens European unity** |  |  |

**Four Periods of Modern European History**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. **1450 – 1648**  * **Renaissance** * **Reformation** * **Scientific Revolution** | | |
| 1. **1648 -1815**  * **Absolutism** * **Enlightenment** | | | |
| 1. **1815 – 1914**  * **Industrialization** * **Nationalism** * **Imperialism** | | | |
| 1. **1914 - Present**  * **World Wars** * **Cold War** * **new millennium**   **uncertainty** | | |