

Introduction to Harry Schooley's consideration of the current Russo-Ukrainian conflict in the Modern European History Google Site.

For years, I had been dissatisfied with history textbooks written for high school students. They tend to be well illustrated but little more than narrative outlines, too simplistic for students in a school such as Buffalo Seminary. College-level textbooks, on the other hand, while extremely substantive in content, tend to be difficult to read and are formidable in both size and cost. So, in searching for a middle ground for suitable reading in European history, I began to write narrative pieces on various topics to supplement the textbook we were using. These would be identified in the syllabus as SDRs – Supplementary Duplicated Readings – and distributed piecemeal as the syllabus required. Over time, as the SDRs became more numerous (and wordy), students would say, “Mr. Schooley, why don't you write your own textbook?” In a sense, that's what this collection of readings represents – an effort to write a textbook. Later additions to the “book” appeared on the course syllabus as SHE, Schooley's History of Europe. (SHE – fitting for a girls' school, right?) When Buffalo Seminary inaugurated its tablet program in 2009, SHE was installed on students' computers. In 2011 it became this Google Site.

The present crisis is considered in a new chapter (# 31). However, this chapter remains unfinished. The Russo-Ukrainian conflict is on-going, and its outcome, of course, is unknown. I cannot claim any expertise on the crisis. My sources are the same as yours: daily news reports and analyses. Where there's a quotation, I include the source, albeit not footnoted. Editing notes and author's comments may appear along the way. There may be typos or other grammatical issues. I am always reviewing it. It changes almost daily with revisions in what's already written as well as what's the latest on the conflict. So, what you're reading is truly a work in progress. And, your feedback is most welcome.

Using the Google Site. The Table of Contents appears on the left. Those chapters with more than one part are indicated with a ^v. Once you click on the chapter, you scroll it down to the listing of chapter sections. Click on the desired section to open it.

The book originally ended in 1991. Why? Because back when I taught the AP European History course, the exam covered from the Renaissance to the end of the Cold War. But now the Cold War, it seems, has been renewed, hence, the new chapter.

Please feel free to wander through the Site. There's lots of material that will take you back to your sophomore history course and you can read it without fear of a quiz!

Harry Schooley