

UCSB Hist 133B, Fall 2013
German History, 1900-1945
Phelps 3515, M, W 2-3:15
www.history.ucsb.edu/faculty/marcuse/classes/133b

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Office hours: MW 3:30-4:30pm

GERMAN HISTORY, 1900-1945

Course Syllabus

Course Description

This course is designed for students with a general knowledge of European history in the 20th century. We will investigate important features of German history from the end of the 19th century to the end of World War II. These include the consequences of Germany's industrialization under Bismarck and Kaiser Wilhelm, World War I and the revolution that ended it; Germany's first attempt at democracy during the Weimar Republic; how Hitler was shaped by and shaped German history; life in Nazi Germany, and important aspects of World War II and the Holocaust.

Grading

Is on a point system and may be curved. You can accumulate up to 100 points, distributed as follows: participation: 5; eight questions: 35; source exploration: 30; final exam: 30 (20 take-home + 10 in-class). Work submitted after its deadline time (e.g. noon or 2pm) will lose one point per day.

Your Contribution (Course Requirements):

1. **Attendance.** I expect you to **attend** all classes *and* scheduled events. Why take a course if you don't take the time and effort to engage with what it offers? Lectures include images, videos, discussion and information not available elsewhere. Participation makes up 5% of the course grade. Absences reported *in advance* will not require documentation in order to be excused.
2. **"Midterm exam"--8 questions.** There will NOT be a formal in-class midterm examination. Instead, you will be asked to write a short text (200-300 words) on questions about assigned readings or events, roughly once each week. These eight questions will *usually* be announced in advance and submitted on Gauchospace, due at noon before class. They are worth 35 points towards the final grade. Make-up questions are in general not possible, but the lowest will be dropped. (5 pts each)
3. **Source Exploration.** For one of the sources in the Moeller book (or one you choose in consultation with the professor), you will trace it back to its original context and research various aspects of its creation, transmission over time, and interpretation by different authors. (See handout; 30 pts total) [Possible options: oral presentations, prep for Hist 133P in W'14, & "web:" superior research that merits publication on the web--Wikipedia for instance, or the prof's German History website--may be substituted for the ID portion of the final. (This is the first time I'm offering this particular assignment, so I don't know what to expect.)]
4. The **final examination** will have two parts. You will write a take-home essay (800-1200 words) in response to a prompt that will be distributed in advance. The in-class portion of the exam will consist of identifications of two terms or images from lectures, films and readings (30 minutes). The final is worth 30 points towards your final grade (10 points each essay; 5 points each ID).

Readings (both books are on [course reserves at the library](#))

- Peter Fritzsche, *Germans into Nazis* (Harvard, 1998). DD238.F74 1998
- Robert Moeller, *The Nazi State and German Society* (Bedford, 2010). HN445 N385 2010
- Additional articles and sources are available on [Gauchospace](#).

Policies

- Students with disabilities: Please let me know, so that we can arrange accommodations.
- **Texting during class and cell phones** ringing are an annoyance and distraction for me and other students. **TURN YOUR DEVICES OFF.** Don't be rude and distracting!

SCHEDULE OF LECTURES

	Date	Title	Assignment (<i>before lecture!</i>)
Week 1	Sept. 30	Introduction: What is "Germany"?	
	Oct. 2	Wilhelmine Germany (1888-1914)	take intro survey Raff, <i>History</i> , 177-197 (GS)
Week 2	Oct. 7	Kaiser Wilhelm II's Reich and the Great War	Fritzsche pp. 3-82 (Q1)
	Oct. 9	Revolution and Counter-Revolution	Fritzsche pp. 83-136 (Q2)
Week 3	Oct. 14	The "Weimar Republic"	Weitz, <i>Walking Berlin</i> , 41-79 (GS) & Winter, <i>Legacy</i> , 123-158 (GS)
	Oct. 16	Adolf Hitler: Formation of Character	Moeller Parts I and II-1 (pp. 1-52)
Week 4	Oct. 21	Hitler during the Weimar Republic	Fritzsche pp. 139-214
	Oct. 22	<i>M or T, 6 or 7pm: film Hitler: A Career</i> (150 min)	<i>browse Moeller, entire book</i>
	Oct. 23	Witnessing History (History of Oral History)	<i>meet w/ prof re: source assignment</i>
Week 5	Oct. 28	<i>Witnessing the Witnesses</i> (workshop, HSSB 6020)	Trezise, <i>Witnessing</i> (GS); Laub Source proposal due Wed.
	Oct. 30	Life in 1930s Germany	Fritzsche 215-235; Moeller II-2
Week 6	Nov. 4	Turning toward Genocide and War, 1936-39	Friedlander, "Onslaught" (GS) & Engel, "Twisted Road" (GS)
	Nov. 6	Race Science, Eugenics, Euthanasia	Burleigh, "Killing Films" (GS)
Week 7	Nov. 11	<i>No class, Veterans Day</i>	Source exploration due Wed.
	Nov. 13	Possible guest speakers, or World War II	Readings TBA (GS); Moeller II-3
Week 8	Nov. 18	Concentration Camps & Extermination Centers	Rees, "Factories of Death" (GS)
	Nov. 20	From Persecution to the "Final Solution"	Moeller II-4; Perechodnik (GS)
Week 9	Nov. 25	Resisting the Nazi Regime	Moeller II-5
	Mon/Tue [Nov. 27]	evening film (time/room TBA): <i>The White Rose</i> <i>no class (pre-Thanksgiving)</i>	Source final version due Mon.
Week 10	Dec. 2	The Demise of the Nazi Regime	Moeller II-6
	Dec. 4	Lessons of German History	
	Dec. 9	Monday, 4-4:30 pm: FINAL EXAMINATION	

Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism

- Presenting someone else's work as your own, or failing to credit or attribute the work of others on whom you draw (including materials found on the web)—is a serious academic offense, punishable by dismissal from the university. It hurts the one who commits it most of all, by cheating them out of an education. I report offenses to the university authorities for disciplinary action.