

UCSB Hist 133B, Winter 2016

German History, 1900-1945

Arts 1349, T-Th 3:30-4:45

www.history.ucsb.edu/faculty/marcuse/classes/133b; [Gauchospace](#)

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Office hours: M & W 3-4pm

GERMAN HISTORY, 1900-1945: *THE FASCINATION OF FASCISM* Course Syllabus

Course Description

This course is designed for students with 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, the Holocaust, and their legacies.

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 short answers (200-300 words) to questions about assigned readings or events, roughly once each week. These eight questions will *usually* be announced in advance and submitted on Gauchospace, due by 11am before class. They are worth 35 points. (5 pts each)
**Make-up questions are in general not possible, but the lowest score will be dropped.
3. **Source Exploration.** You will trace one of the sources in the Moeller textbook, or on the germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org website, back to its original context and research various aspects of its creation, transmission over time, and interpretation by different authors.
A separate handout will explain this in detail. There will be a prospectus, draft version, & final version. The due dates are (see back): Thu. Feb. 4, Thu. Feb. 18, and Thu. March 3 (25 pts total)
Note 1: superior source explorations may be presented orally for extra credit, or expanded to a paper or Wikipedia contribution and substituted for the take-home essay portion of the final.
Note 2: If you are planning to take Hist 133R (research seminar) in Spring, think ahead about your topic.
4. The **final examination** will have two parts. You will write a take-home essay (1000-1500 words) in response to a prompt that will be distributed in the last class. The 30 minute in-class portion of the exam will consist of identifications of two terms or images from lectures, films and readings. The final is worth 30 points: 20 points for the essay and 5 points for each ID.

Readings (multiple copies of all three books are on 2-hour [reserve 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
- Richard Bessel (ed.), *Life in the Third Reich* (Oxford, 1987, 2001), DD256.5 .L52 1987
- Additional articles and sources will be posted on [Gauchospace](#).

SCHEDULE OF LECTURES & READINGS

(NOTE: THE PROFESSOR MAY CHANGE DATES OR READINGS)

	Date	Title	Assignment (<i>BEFORE</i> lecture!)
Week 1	Jan. 5	What's Unique about German History?	take intro survey Fulbrook, pp. 1-11 (GS)
	Jan. 7	The Holocaust as Lens: Battalion 101, July 1942	Goldhagen, Ch.7+8, 203-262 (GS)
Week 2	Jan. 12	Kaiser Wilhelm II's Reich, 1890-1914	Fritzsche pp. 3-82 (Q1)
	Jan. 14	War, Revolution and Counter-Revolution	Fritzsche pp. 83-136 (Q2)
Week 3	Jan. 19	Adolf Hitler: The Early Years (1889-1920)	Moeller Parts I, II-1 (pp. 1-52)
	Tue Jan. 21	evening film: <i>Film Hitler: A Career</i> (150 min) The Weimar Republic I	& Engel, "Twisted Road" (GS) Weitz, <i>Walking Berlin</i> , 41-79 (GS)
Week 4	Jan. 26	The Weimar Republic II	meet w/ prof re: source assignment <i>browse Moeller, entire book</i>
	Jan. 28	The Nazi Seizure of Power	Fritzsche pp. 139-214
Week 5	Feb. 2	A History Concentration Camps	Fritzsche pp. 215-235
	Feb. 4	Life in 1930s Germany	Source proposal due Thu.; Moeller II-2, pp. 53-109
Week 6	Feb. 9	Race Science, Eugenics, Euthanasia	Burleigh, "Killing Films" (GS)
	Feb. 11	Crystal "Night," Nov. 9-11, 1938	Friedlander, "Onslaught" (GS)
Week 7	Feb. 16	Germany Begins Two Wars	Moeller II-3+4, pp. 110-159
	Feb. 18	Extermination Centers	Source exploration due Thu. Rees, "Factories of Death" (GS)
Week 8	Feb. 23	Fascism: Theory and Examples	Readings TBA (GS)
	Feb. 25	Resisting Fascism / Nazism	Moeller II-5, pp. 160-173
Week 9	Mar. 1	Representing Nazism and the Holocaust	Riefenstahl Readings (GS)
	Mon/Tue Mar. 3	evening film: <i>W/H Life of Leni Riefenstahl</i> Special Topics	Source final version due Thu.
Week 10	Mar. 8	Demise & Aftermaths of the Nazi Regime	Moeller II-6, pp. 174-183
	Mar. 10	Course Summary	
	Mar. 17	Thursday, 4-4:30 pm: FINAL EXAMINATION	<u>Bring 2 sheets of lined paper</u>

Policies

- Students with disabilities: Please let me know, so that we can arrange accommodations.
- **Texting during class and any use of "smart" devices** is an annoyance and distraction for me and other students. TURN YOUR DEVICES OFF. Don't be rude and distracting!

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. Supplying materials to someone to help them violate rules is an equally serious offense. I report offenses to the university authorities for disciplinary action; they become part of your record.