

GERMAN HISTORY, 1900-1945: ***THE ORIGINS AND ATTRACTIONS OF HITLERISM*** 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 early 20th century to the end of World War II. These include the political dynamics of the Reich under Kaiser Wilhelm II, the effects of the Great War on German society (and on Hitler); the successes and failures of the Weimar Republic; life in Nazi Germany, and important aspects of World War II and the Holocaust.

The course's learning goals are stated on Gauchospace and the Source Exploration handout.

The chronological scope of Hist 133B continues in Spring 2019 with Hist 133C (1945-1990). I will also offer a research seminar (133R) open to students in Hist 133A,B or C (one "R" course is required of all History majors).

Your Contribution (Course Requirements):

1. **Attendance.** I expect you to **attend** all classes and scheduled events. Why take a course if you don't put in the time and effort to learn what it teaches? Lectures include images, videos, discussion and information not available elsewhere. Participation makes up 5% of the course grade.
Absences reported *by email in advance* will not require documentation in order to be excused.
2. **"Midterm:" 9-1=8 questions (Qs).** 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 nine questions will *usually* be announced in advance and submitted on Gauchospace, due by 11am before class. (5 pts each, 40 points total)
**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 on the germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org website, or in the Fritzsche or Moeller course books, back to its original context and research aspects of its creation, transmission over time, and interpretation by different authors.
A separate handout explains this in detail. There will be a prospectus, exploration, & revision. The due dates are (see back): Thu. Feb. 7, Thu. Feb. 21, and Thu. March 7 (5+20+5=30 pts total)
Note 1: superior source explorations may be expanded to a paper published on the web ([essay website](#)) or as part of a Wikipedia entry, instead of the take-home essay portion of the final.
Note 2: If you plan to take Hist 133R (research seminar) in Spring, you may use this to prepare your topic.
4. The **final examination** will have two parts: a take-home essay (1000-1500 words) in response to a prompt that will be distributed in the last class with a list of ID terms. The 30 min. in-class portion of the exam will consist of identifications of two terms or images from lectures, films and readings. The final is worth 25 points: 15 points for the essay and 5 points for each ID.

Grading: Is on a point system. You can accumulate up to 100 points, distributed as follows:

Participation: 5; eight questions: 40; source exploration: 30 (5+20+5); final exam: 25 (15 take-home + 10 in-class). Work submitted after its deadline time (e.g. 11am) will lose one point per day.

Readings (copies of both books are on 2-hour [reserve at the library](#) circulation desk)

- Peter Fritzsche, *Germans into Nazis* (Harvard, 1998). DD238.F74 1998
- Robert Moeller, *The Nazi State and German Society* (Bedford, 2010). HN445 .N385 2010
- Course Reader of photocopied articles, available at the UCen in week 2.
- Links to films, additional articles & sources will be posted on the [Hist 133B Gauchospace site](#).

SCHEDULE OF LECTURES & READINGS

(NOTE: THE PROFESSOR MAY CHANGE TOPICS, DUE DATES OR READINGS WITH ADVANCE NOTICE)

	Date	Title	Assignment (<i>BEFORE</i> lecture!)
Week 1	Jan. 8	Why Study German History?	Fill out intro survey (link on GS)
	Jan. 10	19th Century & Kaiser Wilhelm II (r. 1888-1914)	Watch 2 films (links on GS)
Week 2	Jan. 15	The Great War: A Transformation of Society	Fritzsche pp. 3-82 (Aug. 1914) (Q1)
	Jan. 17	Revolution and Counter-Revolution	Fritzsche 83-136 (Nov. 1918) (Q2)
Week 3	Jan. 22	Adolf Hitler: Youth to World War I	Moeller Parts I & II-1 (pp. 1-52)[R] & Engel, "Twisted Road" (Q3)
	Jan. 24	The Weimar Republic I: 1919-1928	Hagen, <i>Four Lives</i> , ch. 13+14 (GS)
Week 4	Jan. 29	The Weimar Republic II: 1929-1932	meet w/ prof re: source assignment <i>browse Moeller, entire book</i>
	Jan. 31	Hitler's Path to the Chancellorship	Fritzsche 139-214 (Jan 1933)(Q4)
Week 5	Feb. 5	The Nazi Consolidation of Power	Fritzsche pp. 215-235 (May 1933) Source proposal due Thu.
	Feb. 7	Life in 1930s Germany: Aryans vs. "Others"	Moeller II-2, pp. 53-109
Week 6	Feb. 12	Race Science, Eugenics, Euthanasia	Burleigh, "Killing Films" (Qv) & Markle, "Doctors & Holo." [R]
	Feb. 14	Nazis and the Environment	Cioc et al, Intro + Darré [R]
Week 7	Feb. 19	Diplomacy in the 1930s; Emigration	Friedlander, "Onslaught" (Qvi) [R]
	Feb. 21	Crystal "Night," Nov. 9-11, 1938	Source exploration due Thu.
Week 8	Feb. 26	"Open Door:" Philippine Holocaust Haven [tentative]	Harris, Open Door (GS)(Qx) & Travis, Armenian Gen. [R]
	Feb. 28	Germany Begins Territorial and Racial Wars	Moeller II-3+4, pp. 110-159
Week 9	Mar. 5	Concentration Camps & Extermination Centers	Rees, "Factories of Death" (Qy) [R] Source revision due Thu.
	Mar. 7	Resisting Nazism	Moeller II-5, pp. 160-173
Week 10	Mar. 12	Demise & Aftermath of the Nazi Regime	Moeller II-6, pp. 174-183
	Mar. 14	Summary and Conclusions	Sontag, "Fascinating Fascism"[R]
	Mar. 19	Tuesday, 4-4:30 pm: FINAL EXAMINATION	<u>Bring 1-2 sheets of lined paper</u>

Policies

- Students with disabilities: Please let me know, so that we can assure appropriate accommodations.
- **Any use of electronic devices in class** is a distraction for me and other students. **TURN YOUR DEVICES OFF.** Please be considerate of others.
Laptop use is restricted to the back row of the classroom unless explicitly allowed by the professor.

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.