

The Nazi Holocaust and Other Genocides

Course Syllabus

Course Description and Goals

The Nazi campaign of ethnic purification through eugenics and mass murder was a watershed event in European history. This course examines the factors that combined to result in the Nazi genocides, as well as the contexts, causes and consequences of other modern genocides.

This course has evolved over almost 20 years, during which the study and our understanding of the Nazi Holocaust itself has evolved. Increasing scholarly attention to the broader phenomenon of genocide has altered my--our--understanding of the Nazi extermination programs. Whereas Holocaust Studies was clearly embedded in German history, Genocide Studies is an explicitly interdisciplinary field, with many different approaches attempting to explain this complex phenomenon. This course melds these two approaches, following the evolution of the field.

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 effort to learn what it teaches? Lectures include images, videos, discussion and information not available elsewhere. Attendance counts for 5 points towards your course grade. Absences reported *in advance* will not require documentation in order to be excused.
 - ❖ *Attending at least 2 of the film screenings on Wednesday evenings (NH 1105) is mandatory.*
 - ❖ We will use **iClickers** in most sessions, mostly "low stakes" (attendance), but also for some "Qs."
2. **"Midterm exam"-- 8 questions ("Qs").** 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 Qs may be writing exercises during class, but may usually be announced in advance and due on Gauchospace before class. (5pts each)
The lowest score will be dropped, so these Qs are worth up to 35 points towards the final grade.
 - ❖ *Make-up questions are in general not possible, even for excused absences.*
3. A **journal** with 1-2 entries per week, for a total of **6 entries**. Each single-spaced entry, averaging 400 words, will be based on your thoughts about the week's readings, or newspaper or magazine articles that you relate to the course, or about lectures or outside events. (5 pts each entry: 30 total).
4. The **final examination** will have two parts. You will write one take-home essay (ca. 1200 words) in response to prompts that will be distributed in advance. The in-class portion of the exam will be a one-hour exam of identifications of terms and images from the lectures.
The final is worth 30 points towards your final grade: 20 for the essay and 10 for the IDs.
 - **No-essay-exam option:** In mid-May students in good standing who would rather do in-depth research than the take-home essay exam may opt to research a topic in greater depth and write a 5-8 page paper on it.

GRADING

Is on a point system and may be curved. You can accumulate up to 100 points, distributed as follows: attendance: 5; eight questions: 35; journal entries: 30; final exam: 30 (20 take-home + 10 in-class)

❖ **Late penalty:** Work submitted after its deadline *time* (i.e. 1:30pm) will lose one point per 24 hours. This class enrolls 150 students. Ph.D. student Christopher Macmahon will be assisting with grading.

REQUIRED BOOKS to be purchased (also available at [Library Reserves](#)--search HIST133D)

- **Textbook:** Ronnie Landau, *The Nazi Holocaust* (Ivan Dee, 1994/2006): D804.3.L344.
- Art Spiegelman, *Maus: A Survivor's Tale*, vols. I & II (1986, 1991): D 810.J4.S643 1986 [.S66 1991]
- Jean Hatzfield, *Machete Season: The Killers in Rwanda Speak* (Picador, 2006): DT450.435 .H3914 2005
- Daoud Hari, *The Translator: A Memoir* (New York: Random House, 2008): DT159.6.D27 H38 2009

HIST 133D, SPRING 2017

Schedule of Lectures & Assignments

Please note: The professor reserves the right to make changes in topics and readings as necessary.

Wk-L#	Date	Topic	Assignment
I-1	4 Apr.	Course Introduction: syllabus & instructor background	
2	6 Apr.	Jewish History before 1900	online survey Textbook chaps. 1,2 & 3 (71 pp.)
II-3	11 Apr.	Pre-political Hitler & the Origins of Antisemitism	Textbook chap. 4;
4	13 Apr.	Wed. film (NH 1105): <i>Hitler: A Career</i> (1977, 151 mins.) From World War I to Hitler's Election, 1919-1933	Engel (GS)
III-5	18 Apr.	Life for Jewish and Non-Jewish Germans, 1933-1938	Textbook chap. 5
6	20 Apr.	[Wed. 7:30-9pm, Granada Theater: Isabel Allende] (not required) The <i>Kristallnacht</i> Pogrom--Anatomy of an Event	Text chap. 6; Friedländer (GS)
IV-7	24 Apr.	Mon., UCSB Reads author : 8-9:30 Campbell Hall	
	25 Apr.	The Prewar System of Concentration Camps	Markle & Burleigh (GS)
8	27 Apr.	Wed. films: <i>Killing Films</i> (1991, 54 mins); Dachau (30 mins) "Life Unworthy of Life:" The Euthanasia Program	<i>Maus</i> , vols. 1+2, entire
V-9	2 May	Life and Death in the Ghettos; discussion of <i>Maus</i>	Perehodnik, Rumkowski (GS)
10	4 May	Wed. film: <i>Korczak</i> (1990, 113 mins.) The "Holocaust by Bullets"	<i>journals due Thu. May 4</i> Browning & Desbois (GS)
VI-11	9 May	Auschwitz and the Wartime Concentration Camps	Textbook ch. 7
12	11 May	Wed. film: <i>Wannsee Conference</i> (1987, 85 mins.) The Wannsee Conference and Steps to Genocide	Wachsmann (GS) Roseman (GS)
VII-13	16 May	What could they do? Resistance	Textbook chap. 8
14	18 May	Wed. film: <i>Uprising</i> (2001, 151 mins.) or <i>Defiance</i> (2008, 137 mins.) What did they know? Bystanders	Textbook chap. 9
VIII-15	23 May	Colonial Genocide: Namibia	Textbk chap. 10; Schaller (GS)
16	25 May	Wed. film: <i>Komora: To Heal</i> (2014, 54 mins) The Armenian Genocide: Inspiration for Hitler?	<i>journals due Thu. May 25</i> Daoud Hari, <i>The Translator</i>
IX-17	30 May	Genocide in Darfur	Daoud Hari, <i>The Translator</i>
18	1 Jun	Wed. film: <i>Devil Came on Horseback</i> (2007, 85 mins.) Rwanda 1994: The Perpetrators Speak	Hatzfeld, <i>Machete Season</i>
X-19	6 Jun	Learning about the Holocaust: Anne Frank	Anne Frank readings (GS)
20	8 Jun	Wed. film: Anne Frank: The Whole Story (2001, 189 mins.) Memories from the Holocaust to other Genocides	Marcuse (GS)
EXAM	13 Jun.	Tuesday, 4-5pm: Final Exam part B in TD-W 1701	Take-home exam (part A) due

POLICIES

- **Plagiarism & academic dishonesty**—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.
- **Electronic devices (laptops too)** in class are annoying and distracting for me and other students. I discourage their use. If you want to use one, you **MUST** sit in one of the back three rows.