

DARTMOUTH COLLEGE
Department of History

HIST 96: Nazism – Culture, Society, War
Professor Udi Greenberg

Winter 2013: Tuesday and Thursday 10:00-11:50 (X hour Wednesday 3-3:50).

Office Hours: Office 306 Carson Hall, Tuesday 4-5, and Friday 3-4:30, or by appointment

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A note on email: Email is the best way to reach me, however, keep in mind that I am unable to respond to all email messages right away. Emails sent to me after 7 PM will be answered the following day.

Course Description

The Nazi movement created one of the most radical revolutions in modern history. After overthrowing Germany's democratic system, the Nazis energetically and ruthlessly altered Germany and Europe, bringing exciting opportunities for some and horrific repression for others. The Third Reich inaugurated new economic prosperity, created new cultures and aesthetics, introduced new concepts of citizenship and political comradeship, and mobilized millions of Germans of diverse backgrounds. It also created an extremely repressive and violent dictatorship, advanced brutal anti-Semitism, enslaved minorities and political opponents, unleashed the most destructive war in modern history, and orchestrated the systematic extermination of Europe's Jewry. The legacies of its short twelve years in power continued to shape politics, international law, and culture throughout the twentieth century.

This seminar will explore the origins, nature, and consequences of Nazism. First, we will explore its historical roots: what were the ideological, social, and political origins of Nazism? How coherent and systematic was Nazi ideology, and what were the experiences that shaped it? How unique were Nazi ideas in early 20th century Germany? Second, we will discuss the different ways in which the Nazi regime transformed Germany: how did the Nazis succeed in mobilizing so many Germans to actively support the new regime? What were the characteristics of the Nazi system, and why did it continue to radicalize over time? What were the limits and obstacles to its authority? Finally, we will discuss the Third Reich's path to and conduct of WWII: what were the Nazi goals in unleashing war, and how did they change? How did the Holocaust unfold, and what is the best way to explain and understand this mass trauma? Drawing on a wide variety of sources, this seminar will explore some of the key cultural, social, and political trends that intersected in the Nazi era.

Course Requirements and Grades:

This seminar aims to develop a variety of skills:

1. The mastery of facts and concepts.
2. The ability to assess and interpret various sources (both primary and secondary, visual and textual).
3. The ability to express ideas and opinions (both in writing and in class).

You will be assessed on all of these skills. For this purpose, the course includes several different requirements:

1. Attendance and participation (30%): As this is a seminar course, class participation comprises a substantial proportion of your grade. Attendance at every session is required, and I expect you to come prepared to discuss the readings and to engage with your colleagues. In addition, you are expected to post two questions, thoughts, or comments that you had about the assigned readings for one of the week's two sessions – you will be divided in two groups, one group will be in charge of posting for the Tuesday class, the second group in charge of posting for the Thursday class. Those postings are intended to be informal observations to help spark our discussions. They are due at 12 AM on the night before class. You must post these under “class discussion” on Blackboard, and will be part of your overall participation grade.
2. Research paper (55%): As a culmination of this seminar, you will prepare a final research paper (25-30 pages) on some aspect of Nazism. You may choose a topic of interest to you in consultation with Prof. Greenberg, and are expected to incorporate both primary and secondary sources.

In order to facilitate to process of defining a topic, identifying relevant sources, and composing your research paper, there will be several steps and assignments during the term. Prof. Greenberg will provide further explanation for each of these steps:

- A. You must schedule a required meeting with Prof. Greenberg to discuss potential topics; this must take place by the end of the week 3, Friday, **January 25**.
- B. Written topic description (about one page) and bibliography (at least three primary sources and three secondary sources), due **Sunday, February 3, 7 PM**. This description will count as 5% of the grade of your final paper.
- C. Primary source analysis, in which you analyze one of the primary sources you will be using for the paper, its main arguments and value for your paper, due **Tuesday, February 12, 7 PM**. This analysis will count as 15% of the grade of your final paper, 7.5% of your final grade.
- D. Research Paper outline that lays out the central argument, the sections, and the key sources of the paper (about 3 pages), due **Sunday, February 17, 7 PM**. This outline will count as 5% of the grade of your final paper.

The first draft of the paper is due **Saturday March 2nd at 7 PM**; the final version is due **Tuesday March 12th at 7 PM**.

3. Peer review session (15%): During the 9th week of class (February 24-28), we will meet in three small groups to discuss the first drafts of your research papers. Each student will submit their draft to both Prof. Greenberg and four other students, who will review it in detail (based on guidelines provided by Prof. Greenberg), and will offer constructive suggestions for improvement. These suggestions are to be submitted to Prof. Greenberg on **Monday March 4th at 4:30**.

Course Readings:

The vast majority of the readings, both primary and secondary sources, will be available via Blackboard under “course materials.” In addition, you are expected to purchase the following three books:

1. Richard Evans, *The Coming of the Third Reich* (New York: Penguin, 2003)
2. Richard Evans, *The Third Reich in Power* (New York: Penguin, 2006).
3. Jan T. Gross, *Neighbors. The Destruction of the Jewish Community in Jedwabne, Poland* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2001).

Course Policies

Writing:

All written material should be submitted in 12 point Times New Roman Font, double-spaced, with 1 inch margins. Sources must be cited in footnotes. Submissions are accepted **via upload on Blackboard**. You may **not** email me your paper. For guidelines on writing and citing sources, see the short citation guide provided on the course website on Blackboard.

All submitted written material must be **your own work** and must conform to the Dartmouth honor code (see <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~reg/regulations/undergrad/acad-honor.html>). If you have questions about citing the work of others in your paper, please come see me before submitting your work.

Note on late submissions:

All assignments must be submitted in time. **Any** late submission will penalize your participation grade by 20 points (for example, from 90 to 70), and will reduce your final grade. If you know you will need an extension, you must contact Professor Greenberg well in advance. Last minute requests will not be approved.

Attendance:

You are expected to attend all classes. **Any absence from a class will result in a reduction of your overall participation grade**. Students who would fail to attend more than **two** classes will result in a **zero** grade on your participation, and will severely reduce your final grade.

Technology Policy:

Since this is a discussion-based class, laptops are **not** allowed in class.

Statement on Disabilities

Students with disabilities enrolled in this course and who may need disability-related classroom accommodations are encouraged to make an appointment to see me as soon as possible. All discussions will remain confidential, although the Student Accessibility Services office may be consulted to discuss appropriate implementation of any accommodation requested. For more information of Student accessibility services <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~accessibility/facstaff/>.

Course Schedule

Week 1

1. Tuesday, January 8: Introduction: How to Study Nazism?
2. Thursday, January 10: The Imperial Era, WWI, and the Roots of German Discontent
 - Richard Evans, *The Coming of the Third Reich* (New York: Penguin, 2004) 2-21.
 - Heinrich Class, "If I were the Kaiser," Roderick Stackelberg and Sally Winkle (Eds.), *The Nazi Germany Sourcebook* [hereafter *NGS*] (London: Routledge, 2002) 20-26 [**Blackboard**].
 - John Stewart Chamberlain, "Foundation of the 19th Century," *NGS*, 12-16 [**Blackboard**].
 - Werner Sombart, "Merchants and Heroes," *NGS*, 34-36 [**Blackboard**].
 - Ernst Troeltsch, "The Sprit of German Culture," *NGS*, 40-43 [**Blackboard**].
 - Eric Weitz, *Weimar Germany: Promise and Tragedy* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2007), 7-39 [**Blackboard**].
 - Woodrow Wilson, "The 14 Points Speech" [**Blackboard**].
 - Woodrow Wilson, "Peace Without Victory Speech" [**Blackboard**].

Week 2

3. Tuesday, January 15: The Weimar Republic and the Origins of Nazism
 - Weitz, *Weimar Germany*, 81-127 [**Blackboard**].
 - Manifestos of the German Parties: SPD, Centrum, KPD, DVP, DNVP [**Blackboard**].
 - The Constitution of the Weimar Republic [**Blackboard**].
 - Evans, *The Coming of the Third Reich*, 156-175.

- Moeller van der Bruck, “Germany’s Third Empire,” *NGS*, 76-82 (1923) [Blackboard].
- “The 25 Points of the NSDAP,” *NGS*, 64-66 [Blackboard].

4. Thursday, January 17: The Nazi Revolution, Hitler’s Dictatorship, and the Total State

- Evans, *The Coming of the Third Reich*, 309-374 and Evans, *Third Reich in Power*, 20-42.
- Carl Schmitt, “On the Contradiction between Parliamentarism and Democracy,” in *Crisis of Parliamentary Democracy* (Chicago: Chicago University Press, 1985) 1-18 [Blackboard].
- Carl J. Friedrich and Zbigniew K. Brzezinski, *Totalitarian Dictatorship and Autocracy* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1965) 15-26 [Blackboard].
- Ian Kershaw, “Working Towards the Führer: Reflections on the Hitler Dictatorship,” *Contemporary European History* 2:2 (1993) 103-118 [Blackboard].

Week 3

5. Tuesday, January 22: Racism, Anti-Semitism, and Religion

- Richard Evans, *The Third Reich in Power*, 506-579.
- Adolf Hitler, “Race, Conflict, and Power,” *The Second Book* (New York: Enigma, 2003) 29-37 [Blackboard].
- “The Nuremberg Laws” (1935) [Blackboard].
- Richard Evans, *The Third Reich in Power*, 220-260.
- Martin Bormann, “National Socialist and Christian Concepts are Incompatible,” George Mosse (ed.), *Nazi Culture* (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1966), 244-247 [Blackboard].
- Susannah Heschel, “When Jesus was Aryan: The Protestant Church and Antisemitic Propaganda,” *Betrayal: German Churches and the Holocaust* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1999), 68-89 [Blackboard].
- Cardinal Michael Faulhaber, “Judaism, Christianity, and Germany,” *Nazi Culture*, 256-261 [Blackboard].

6. Thursday, January 24: Propaganda

- Joseph Goebbels, “Propaganda and Public Enlightenment,” (1934) Randall L. Bytwerk (ed.), *Landmark Speeches of National Socialism* (College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 2008) 40-51 [Blackboard].
- In-class screening and discussion of Leni Riefenstahl (director), *Triumph of the Will* (1935).

Week 4

7. Tuesday, January 29: Mobilization, Welfare, and Sexuality – Were the Nazis Progressive or Reactionary?

- Wolfgang Schivelbusch, *Three New Deals: Reflections on Roosevelt's America, Mussolini's Italy, and Hitler's Germany* (New York: Metropolitan, 2006) 1-48; 138-191 [Blackboard].
- Gertrud Scholtz-Klink, "Duties and Tasks of the Woman in the National Socialist State," *Landmark Speeches*, 52-65 [Blackboard].
- Joseph Goebbels, "German Women" (1933) [Blackboard].
- Giesela T. Kaplan and Carole E. Adams, "Early Women Supporters of National Socialism," John Milfull (ed.), *The Attractions of Fascism* (New York: Berg, 1990) 186-203 [Blackboard].

8. Thursday, January 31: Nazi Foreign Policy Before the War

- Richard Evans, *The Third Reich in Power*, 612-712.
- Adolf Hitler, "War and Peace in the Struggle for Survival," *The Second Book*, 7-15 [Blackboard].
- "Secret Memorandum on the Four-Year Plan" NGS, 196-200 [Blackboard].

Sunday, February 3:

Topic and Bibliography Due, 7PM

Week 5

9. Tuesday, February 5: Nazi imperialism and War

- Mark Mazower, *Hitler's Empire: How the Nazis Ruled Europe* (New York: Penguin, 2008) 1-12; 102-120; 137-166; 204-256; 576-590.
- Adolf Hitler, *Table Talks* (New York: Enigma, 2000) 20-24; 26-32 [Blackboard].
- Melita Maschmann, *Account Rendered* (London: Abelard-Schumann, 1964) 6-7, 92-105, 118-125.

10. Thursday, February 7: The Nazis at War

- Sönke Neitzel and Harald Welzer, *Soldaten: On Fighting, Killing, and Dying* (New York: Knopf, 2012) prologues, 44-69, 74-95 [Blackboard].

Week 6

Tuesday, February 12 (no class):

Primary Source Analysis Due 7PM

11. Thursday, February 14: The Holocaust: The Nazis and Europe's Jews

- Christopher Browning, *Ordinary Men: Reserve Police Battalion 101 and the Final Solution in Poland* (New York: Harper, 1993) 1-8; 39-77; 88-96; 143-146; 159-189.
- Daniel Jonah Goldhagen, *Hitler's Willing Executioners: Ordinary Germans and the Holocaust* (New York: Knopf, 1996) 3-24, 239-280, 416-425.
- Goldhagen-Browning Exchange, 1-38 [**Blackboard**].

Week 7

Sunday, February 17:

Paper Outlines Due 7PM

12. Tuesday, February 19: The Holocaust: Nazis and Other Europeans

- Jan T. Gross, *Neighbors: The Destruction of the Jewish Community in Jedwabne, Poland*.

13. Thursday, February 21: The Nuremberg Trial

- Gary Jonathan Bass, *Stay the Hand of Vengeance: The Politics of War Crimes Tribunals* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2008) 147-205 [**Blackboard**].
- "Interview with Hans Frank," Robert Gelattely (ed.), *The Nuremberg Interviews* (New York: Knopf, 2004) 18-24, 32-39 [**Blackboard**].

Week 8

Working on research papers; submission of drafts **via email** to Prof. Greenberg and your review group on **Saturday March 2nd at 7 PM**.

Week 9

Monday, March 4th:

Comments on draft due, 4:30 PM.

14. Tuesday, March 5th: Peer Review Group A+B

15. Wednesday, March 6th (extended x-hour): Peer Review Group C

16. Thursday, March 7th: Peer Review Group D

Submission of final research papers **Tuesday, March 12th, 7 PM**.