**HIS 121: War and Society, 1914 – 1945**

**Summer 6-week session: May 12 – June 22**

**Instructor:** Dr.Corinne Gressang

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**Office hours:** Because of Covid19, I prefer that you contact me through email. I check my email regularly during the day, Monday – Friday. Emails received before 5pm on a weekday will be responded to within 24 hours. I will respond to emails received after 5 on Friday by the following Monday. You may also email me to arrange a voice, skype, google hang-out, or zoom appointment. I will have online office hours 8:30-9:30 am every day where I will be available by email or google chat.

**Class Time and Location:** The entire class will be ONLINE. It is crucial that you have access to Canvas to watch the videos and participate in the class.

Visit http://elearning.uky.edu and login to Canvas with your Link Blue username and password. You can also login to http://myuk.uky.edu and click on the Canvas link at the top. The Canvas Student Information guide at <https://guides.instructure.com/m/4212> will help you to navigate Canvas.

**A note to students for Covid 19:**

Your first priority is to survive this pandemic. Do what you can to care for yourself, your mental health, and your families. I know we are in unprecedented times and as fellow human being struggling in our own unique ways, I want you to know that we will all emerge from this. WWI and WWII were also times of horrible death and destruction, but humans have an incredible knack for persevering, creating new things, and loving each other in desperate circumstances. If it is possible please communicate with me if you are having trouble. We are in this together. I will do what I can to meet your needs. Please do not suffer alone.

I do hope that you will learn something in this course. This is, of course, secondary to taking care of yourselves. I do not have assignments just to take up time. I hope you can engage with the material and you can take something important from the course. I am here for you and I hope I can offer your something valuable during this time. Thank you for spending your summer in this course and I am excited about meeting all of you!!

**TECHNOLOGY GUIDE:**

**Minimum Technology Requirements:**

In order to participate in this course, you will need Adobe Flash Player and Adobe Acrobat Reader installed on your computer. If using a UK computer, these plug-ins should be already installed. The lectures are located on Youtube.com and the lecture outlines are pdfs.

To download these plug-ins for free, go to:

<http://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/>

<http://get.adobe.com/reader/>

Students and faculty can download Microsoft Office Suite (including Word and PowerPoint) from this site: <https://download.uky.edu/>

If you experience technical difficulties with accessing course materials, the Customer Service Center should be able to assist you. You can reach them at 859-218-HELP (4357), by e-mail at helpdesk@uky.edu, or on their website <http://www.uky.edu/UKIT>. Please also inform the course instructor when you are having technical difficulties.

**Getting Started: Logging into your Canvas account:**

1. Access the course syllabus. You can view the syllabus by clicking on the Syllabus button and then clicking on the link for the Syllabus. Make a note of all deadlines.

2. Check that the email address listed for you is your current email address (it does not have to be a UK address, just the email that you regularly use). If it is not your regular email address, then add your preferred email address to your account. This is the address that I will use to communicate with you. Go to ACCOUNT>SETTINGS to add your email address.

3. Take some time to familiarize yourself with navigating through the course material. This course has 16 lectures, located in the Module section of Canvas. Reading quizzes are located under Quizzes, and writing assignments, the mid-term exam, and the final exam are located in the Files section of Canvas, as well as under the Module for the day they are due.

**Distance Learning Library Services:**

As a Distance Learning student you have access to the Distance Learning Library services at http://libraries.uky.edu/dlls. This service can provide you with access to UK’s circulating collections and can deliver to you manuscripts or books from UK’s library or other libraries. The DL Librarian, Carla Cantagallo, may be reached at 859-257-0500 (ext. 2171), or by email at dllservice@email.uky.edu. For the DL Interlibrary Loan service, go to http://libraries.uky.edu/page.php?lweb\_id=253

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

“Total war” in the 20th century exerted a profound impact on social relations in a great many ways. This course provides you with the opportunity to think long and hard about the social impact of “total” warfare from a transnational perspective. We will explore a number of social and cultural themes as they relate to the two World Wars:

* Nationalism & citizenship: Who belongs to the war-time nation/empire? Who is excluded? What forms do inclusion and exclusion take?
* Impact of total war on gender relations: women/work/citizenship; sex/marriage/divorce; children/motherhood/fatherhood
* Dividing lines between combatants and non-combatants, and particularly how and why these are effaced – most notably during World War II, but also during World War I
* Why war becomes so much more deadly: technology and ethics; demonization of the enemy; dehumanization of minority populations who are excluded from the nation; ethnic cleansing and the collapse of multi-ethnic states
* News and propaganda in the development of war-time ideologies. With particular interest in how propaganda can be used to create mass movements
* The global reach of total war: the geopolitical claims of rival empires; total war as the hammer of empires
* Warfare and public memory: Coming to terms (or not) with the enormities of total war

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

This course is designed to challenge you to:

* Demonstrate disciplinary literacy (vocabulary, concepts, methodology) in written work and class discussions (e.g. the distinction between primary and secondary sources)
* Compose written texts that present relevant and informed points of view appropriate for the audience, purpose, and occasion
* Define and execute effective strategies for organizing written texts
* Analyze visuals (in this case, films and propaganda posters) as a form of communication
* Conduct sustained analyses of historical sources that make use of logical argument and present coherent theses
* Present your ideas in a clear and coherent manner within the context of broad class discussions, small-group discussions, and group presentations

**COURSE POLICIES:**

* **Keeping up with work:** You are expected to spend 3-4 hours per day interacting with the course material. To keep you on track, I have provided a Course Schedule that you should follow (located at the end of the syllabus). The Course Schedule is divided by weeks, and each week has a corresponding folder in the Module section of Canvas.
* **Submitting Assignments:** All assignments/exams must be submitted electronically through Canvas. Assignments will not be accepted through email. Please talk to me beforehand if you are having trouble! I am here to help!
* **Attendance:** Late or make-up assignments/exams will be accepted only in the event of documented excused absences as defined by University Senate Rules. If you miss an assignment/exam, contact the instructor via email as soon as possible. Senate Rules V, 2.4.2. S.R. 5.2.4.2 define the following as acceptable reasons for excused absences: (a) serious illness, (b) illness or death of family member, (c) University-related trips, (d) major religious holidays, and (e) other circumstances found to fit “reasonable cause for nonattendance” by the professor. The University defines excused absences in the current edition of Student Rights and Responsibilities, available online at http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/Section%20V.pdf
* **Online Etiquette and Participation:**
  + Students are expected to respect other students and the instructor, to regularly log into the course, and to display an attitude that seeks to take full advantage of the educational opportunity.
  + Discussion board and other electronic communication for this course should relate only to the course subject matter. Personal comments about others and their views should not be placed in any of our Canvas course areas that other users can see.
  + Do not copy private messages to another person without the author’s explicit permission.
* **Academic Integrity and Plagiarism:**

All academic work, written or otherwise, submitted by students to their instructors or other academic supervisors‚ is expected to be the result of their own thought‚ research‚ or self-expression. When students submit work purporting to be their own‚ but which in any way borrows ideas, organization‚ wording or anything else from another source without appropriate acknowledgment of the fact‚ the students are guilty of plagiarism. Plagiarism includes reproducing someone else’s work. Plagiarism also includes the practice of employing or allowing another person to alter or revise the work that a student submits as his/her own, whoever that other person may be. Students may discuss assignments among themselves or with an instructor or tutor‚ but when the actual work is done‚ it must be done by the student alone. When a student’s assignment involves research in outside sources or information, the student must carefully acknowledge exactly what‚ where and how he/she has employed them. If the words of someone else are used‚ the student must put quotation marks around the passage in question and add an appropriate indication of its origin.

Plagiarism and cheating are serious breaches of academic conduct. Each student is advised to become familiar with the various forms of academic dishonesty as explained in the University Senate Rules (Section 6.3.1): http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/Section%20VI.pdf A plea of ignorance is not acceptable as a defense against the charge of academic dishonesty. It is important that you review this information as all ideas borrowed from others need to be properly credited.

The minimum penalty for a first offense is a zero on the assignment on which the offense occurred. If the offense is considered severe or the student has other academic offenses on their record, more serious penalties may be imposed (such as a zero for the course). See the University Senate Rules (6.3.1 & 6.3.2). The Ombud site also has information on plagiarism.

To facilitate your understanding of plagiarism, please consult the following:

<http://www.uky.edu/Ombud/Plagiarism.pdf>

<http://wps.prenhall.com/hss_understand_plagiarism_1/0,6622,427064,00.html>

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

**The first** course requirement is regular participation in reading quizzes and discussions devoted to the assigned texts/images. The reading quizzes are located in the Quizzes section of Canvas and the discussions are located under Discussions. They are also located within the Modules for the day they are due. Due dates are listed below in the Course Schedule at the end of the syllabus.

Discussions will have two parts. You must submit a question by the day before the Discussions are due AND a discussion response. Your total engagement should be around 500 words. Please respect others in discussions. If you wish to have verbal and video discussions instead and we have at least 4 students who desire this format, I will allow discussion groups via zoom which I will arrange.

**The second** course requirement is the timely completion of all writing assignments. You will submit two writing assignments on topics pertaining to class readings. These paper prompts are located in the Files section of Canvas, as well as under the Module for the day they are due. Due dates are listed below in the Course Schedule.

**The third** course requirement is a take-home mid-term exam based on all readings/images/videos and lecturesto that point. The mid-term due date is listed below in the Course Schedule. The mid-term exam is open note/book and must be submitted electronically in Canvas. The instructions and submission of the mid-term are located in the Files section of Canvas.

**The fourth** course requirement is to watch the assigned lectures for this course, which are intended to help you with the midterm exam and the assigned readings. This course has 16 lectures to supplement your readings. You will view the lectures through adobe flash player. The lectures are located in the Module section of Canvas, and within the folder of their assigned week. It is your responsibility to view these lectures in accordance with their scheduled date in the Course Schedule below. **It is very important that you view these lectures in a timely manner because they will facilitate your understanding of the assigned readings.**

* Your performance on the take-home mid-term exam will crucially depend on your engagement with the lectures up to that date. You will also be expected to draw upon the lecture material scheduled after the take-home mid-term for the group project.
* Most lectures are about 30-50 minutes long. In each lecture, there will be several transitional moments when you should feel free to pause the lecture and take a break.
* Each lecture carefully follows an outline. You will find **outlines of each of the lectures** in the Module section of Canvas. Consulting the lecture outline before and during the lecture will facilitate your note-taking.

**The fifth** course requirement is a final exam. Due dates are listed below in the Course Schedule. The instructions and materials for the final exam are located in the Files section of Canvas as well as under the Module for the day it is due.

**GRADING:**

The components of the course grade are as follows:

Class Participation (reading quizzes and discussions): 20%

Hanna/Jünger writing assignment: 20%

Browning writing assignment: 20%

Mid-term Exam: 20%

Final Exam: 20%

Final grades will be based on the total percentage earned, and will be assigned as follows:

A: 90%-100%

B: 80%-89%

C: 70%-79%

D: 60%-69%

E: Less than 60%

\*All assignment, response, and exam grades will be posted in the Canvas grade book. Grades will be posted about one week after the due date/time. You can review your grades by going to Grades in Canvas.

**COURSE MATERIALS:**

The readings, with the exception of Browning and Spiegelman will be available online.

Martha Hanna’s *Your Death Would be Mine,* Ernst Jünger’s *The Storm of Steel*, and Dower’s *War Without Mercy* will be made available in the Files section of Canvas.

**Required Readings:**

Christopher Browning, *Ordinary Men: Reserve Police Battalion 101 and the Final Solution in Poland* <https://www.harpercollins.com/9780062303035/ordinary-men/>

Art Spiegelman, *Maus: A Survivor’s Tale* (Parts I & II: *My Father Bleeds History*/*And Here My Troubles Began*). \*This title might also be listed as *The Complete Maus* <https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/books/171058/maus-i-a-survivors-tale-by-art-spiegelman/>

**Available online:**

Ernst Jünger, *The Storm of Steel*

John Dower, *War Without Mercy*

Hanna *Your Death Would be Mine*

Various Short Excerpts provided throughout the semester

**Optional Reading:** Mark Mazower, *Dark Continent: Europe's Twentieth Century* (NOTE: The lectures should be sufficient to supplement your readings, but some of you may find this a useful complement to the lecture material).

**COURSE SCHEDULE:** <https://uk.instructure.com/>

WEEK 1:

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| DATE | ASSIGNMENTS |
| Tuesday, 5/12 | Read the “introduction to the course” email, watch the “introduction to the course” video, and make sure you understand where the course materials are on Canvas.  **Syllabus Quiz due** (by midnight)  Watch Lecture: “The ‘Causes’ of World War I” |
| Wednesday, 5/13 | Read *Your Death Would Be Mine* (Introduction and Chapter 1)  **Hanna Quiz 1 due** (by midnight) |
| Thursday, 5/14 | Watch Lecture: “The Great War as World War”  Great War Interactive Guide |
| Friday, 5/15 | Read *Your Death Would Be Mine* (Chapter 2)  Watch Lecture: “Paul Bäumer’s War (1)” |

WEEK 2:

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| DATE | ASSIGNMENTS |
| Monday, 5/18 | Read *Your Death Would Be Mine* (Chapter 3)  **Hanna Quiz 2 due** (by midnight)  **\*Submit one question for discussion board by midnight**  Watch Lecture: “Gender and War 1” |
| Tuesday, 5/19 | Read *Your Death Would be Mine* (Chapter 4)  WWI in Photos: Animals at War  Aerial Photos of WWI Battleground sites  **Hanna Discussion Response due (by midnight)** |
| Wednesday, 5/20 | Read *Storm of Steel* selection (on Canvas)  **Jünger Quiz due (by midnight)** |
| Thursday, 5/21 | Watch Lecture: “Paul Bäumer’s War (2)”  Watch: Writing a good paper (brief video discussion) + Formal Paper Checklist |
| Friday, 5/22 | Read Miller on Armenian Genocide  Lecture on Russian Revolution  Work on Papers |

WEEK 3:

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| DATE | ASSIGNMENTS |
| Monday, 5/25 | **Memorial Day, NO CLASS!!** |
| Tuesday, 5/26 | **Hanna/ JÜNGER WRITING ASSIGNMENT DUE (by midnight)**  Watch Lecture: “The Run-up to World War II” |
| Wednesday, 5/27 | Watch Lecture: “World War II in Asia and the Pacific (1)”  **Read diaries from Guadalcanal** |
| Thursday, 5/28 | Watch Lecture: “World War II in Asia and the Pacific (2)”  Read Dower’s “Race, Language, and War” article posted to canvas  **Dower Quiz 1 due** (by midnight) |
| Friday, 5/29 | Read Dower’s Chapter 7 of *War Without Mercy*  **Dower Quiz 2 due** (by midnight)  \***Submit one question for discussion board on the Readings from Dower and the Diaries from Guadalcanal** |

WEEK 4:

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| DATE | ASSIGNMENTS |
| Monday, 6/1 | Watch Lecture: “World War as Race War”  View: How to prepare for the take-home mid-term (brief video discussion) and Collaborative Mid-term study guide  **Dower Discussion Post due** (by midnight) |
| Tuesday, 6/2 | Work on midterm  \*Sign up for 10-minute oral interview as part of midterm  **TAKE HOME MID-TERM EXAM DUE (by midnight)** |
| Wednesday, 6/3 | Watch Lecture: “Hitler’s Empire and the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere” |
| Thursday, 6/4 | Watch Lecture: “Dictatorships”  Read *Ordinary Men* preface, chapters 1-3, and chapter 5  **Browning Quiz 1 due** (by midnight)  \***Oral Interviews** |
| Friday, 6/5 | Watch Lecture: “World War II in Europe (1)”  **\*Oral Interviews** |

WEEK 5:

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| DATE | ASSIGNMENTS |
| Monday, 6/8 | Watch Lecture: “World War II in Europe (2)”  Read *Ordinary Men*, chapters 7-10  **Browning Quiz 2 due** (by midnight) |
| Tuesday, 6/9 | Watch Lecture: “The Holocaust (1) |
| Wednesday, 6/10 | Read *Ordinary Men*, chapters 11-14  **Browning Reading Quiz 3 due** (by midnight) |
| Thursday, 6/11 | Read *Ordinary Men*, chapters 16-18  \***Submit one question for discussion board** |
| Friday, 6/12 | **Browning Discussion Post due** (by midnight)  Watch Lecture: “The Holocaust (2)” |

WEEK 6:

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| DATE | ASSIGNMENT |
| Monday, 6/15 | **BROWNING WRITING ASSIGNMENT DUE (BY MIDNIGHT)**  Watch: “Strategic Bombing” |
| Tuesday, 6/16 | Read: “The Good War”  **The Good War Quiz (Due at Midnight)**  Watch: “Gender and War 2” |
| Wednesday 6/17 | Read *Maus,* book I, chapters 1-6  **Spiegelman Quiz 1** (due by midnight) |
| Thursday, 6/18 | Read *Maus,* book II, chapters 1-5  **Spiegelman Quiz 2**  **\*Submit one question for discussion on Maus** |
| Friday, 6/19 | **Spiegelman Discussion Post** (due by midnight)  Collaborative Final Review |

LAST DAY OF CLASS:

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| DATE | ASSIGNMENT |
| Monday, 6/22 | **FINAL EXAM DUE (BY MIDNIGHT)** |