



UNSW Course Outline

ZHSS1202 History 1B: The Second World War - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : ZHSS1202

Year : 2024

Term : Semester 2

Teaching Period : Z2

Is a multi-term course? : No

Faculty : UNSW Canberra

Academic Unit : UC School of Humanities and Social Sciences

Delivery Mode : In Person

Delivery Format : Standard

Delivery Location : UNSW Canberra at ADFA

Campus : UNSW Canberra

Study Level : Undergraduate

Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

This course gives students an understanding of the greatest global conflict in history. It explains the origins of the war and its outcome through analysis of the military, social, political, economic, diplomatic and ideological forces that shaped it. Students will study the strategic decisions, the

major air, sea and land campaigns and the key turning points of the military struggle from the outbreak of the war in 1939 to its conclusion in 1945. The course also examines the mobilization of the home fronts with questions of leadership, morale and social change; and life under foreign occupation, its difficulties and the choices between resistance and collaboration. The study of the Second World War raises many moral issues, amongst them the barbarisation of warfare; the Final Solution; the dropping of the first atomic bomb; and the trials that ended the war. The course concludes with an overview of the aftermath and immediate effects of the war.

Course Aims

The course aims to give students an understanding of the history of the Second World War. With History 1A, it forms the basis of the first-year requirements for a major in History. Hence, it also aims to introduce students to and develop the discipline skills that will enable them to undertake upper-level History courses.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Explain the course of the Second World War and the forces that shaped it.
CLO2 : Understand different experiences and key decisions and events in the war.
CLO3 : Engage in debate by constructing and communicating oral and written argument and analysis, based on sound evidence and informed by historical scholarship.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Explain the course of the Second World War and the forces that shaped it.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz • Short Essay • Major Essay • Exam
CLO2 : Understand different experiences and key decisions and events in the war.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short Essay • Major Essay • Exam
CLO3 : Engage in debate by constructing and communicating oral and written argument and analysis, based on sound evidence and informed by historical scholarship.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short Essay • Major Essay • Exam

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Learning and Teaching in this course

Moodle is the Learning Management System used at UNSW Canberra.

All courses have a Moodle site which will become available to students at least one week before the start of semester. Please find all help and documentation (including Blackboard Collaborate) at the [Moodle Support](#) page.

UNSW Moodle supports the following web browsers:

- Google Chrome 50+
- Safari 10+
- Internet Explorer is not recommended
- Addons and Toolbars can affect any browser's performance.

Operating systems recommended are:

Windows 7, 10, Mac OSX Sierra, iPad IOS10

For further details about system requirements click [here](#).

Log in to Moodle [here](#).

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Quiz Assessment Format: Individual	10%	Due Date: Not Applicable
Short Essay Assessment Format: Individual	20%	
Major Essay Assessment Format: Individual	35%	
Exam Assessment Format: Individual	35%	

Assessment Details

Quiz

Assessment Overview

Short early piece of assessment so students can see how they are tracking

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Explain the course of the Second World War and the forces that shaped it.

Assessment Length

In-class

Short Essay

Assessment Overview

Short first written piece of assessment designed to test specific skills

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Explain the course of the Second World War and the forces that shaped it.
- CL02 : Understand different experiences and key decisions and events in the war.
- CL03 : Engage in debate by constructing and communicating oral and written argument and analysis, based on sound evidence and informed by historical scholarship.

Major Essay

Assessment Overview

Major piece of written assessment

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Explain the course of the Second World War and the forces that shaped it.
- CL02 : Understand different experiences and key decisions and events in the war.
- CL03 : Engage in debate by constructing and communicating oral and written argument and analysis, based on sound evidence and informed by historical scholarship.

Exam

Assessment Overview

Summative assessment in the form of an exam.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Explain the course of the Second World War and the forces that shaped it.
- CL02 : Understand different experiences and key decisions and events in the war.
- CL03 : Engage in debate by constructing and communicating oral and written argument and analysis, based on sound evidence and informed by historical scholarship.

General Assessment Information

Late Submission of Assessment

Unless prior arrangement is made with the lecturer or a formal application for special

consideration is submitted, a penalty of 5% of the total available mark for the assessment will apply for each day that an assessment item is late up to a maximum of 5 days (120 hours) after which an assessment can no longer be submitted and a grade of 0 will be applied.

Students are expected to manage their time to meet deadlines and to request extensions as early as possible before the deadline.

Electronic submission of assessment

Except where the nature of an assessment task precludes its electronic submission, all assessments must be submitted to an electronic repository, approved by UNSW or the Faculty, for archiving and subsequent marking and analysis.

Release of final mark

All marks obtained for assessment items during the session are provisional. The final mark as published by the university following the assessment review group meeting is the only official mark.

Guidance on AI

It is prohibited to use any software or service to search for or generate information or answers. If such use is detected, it will be regarded as serious academic misconduct and subject to the standard penalties, which may include 00FL, suspension and exclusion.

Grading Basis

Standard

Course Schedule

Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

General Schedule Information

Lectures

Lecture 1: Introduction & Expectations

Lecture 2: The Interwar World

Lecture 3: Second Sino-Japanese War

Lecture 4: Poland & the Phoney War

Lecture 5: Fall of France

Lecture 6: Operation Barbarossa

Lecture 7: Operation Typhoon

Lecture 8: Pearl Harbor & the 100 Days

Lecture 9: Stalingrad and Kursk

Lecture 10: Mobilising the people

Lecture 11: The Economics of Total War

Lecture 12: Sea power & the exploitation of global resources

Lecture 13: The Balkans & North Africa

Lecture 14: North Africa & Italy

Lecture 15: Guadalcanal & the turning of the tide in the Pacific

Lecture 16: Genocide & the war of annihilation

Lecture 17: March across the Pacific

Lecture 18: Strategic Bombing

Lecture 19: Bagration & D-Day

Lecture 20: Victory in Europe

Lecture 21: The Path to VJ Day

Lecture 22: Building a New World Order

Lecture 23: War Crimes

Course Resources

Recommended Resources

Evan Mawdsley, *World War II: A new history*, Cambridge University Press, 2020.

Course Evaluation and Development

One of the key priorities in the 2025 Strategy for UNSW is a drive for academic excellence in education. One of the ways of determining how well UNSW is progressing towards this goal is by listening to our own students. Students will be asked to complete the myExperience survey towards the end of this course.

Students can also provide feedback during the semester via: direct contact with the lecturer, the “On-going Student Feedback” link in Moodle, Student-Staff Liaison Committee meetings in schools, informal feedback conducted by staff, and focus groups. Student opinions really do make a difference. Refer to the Moodle site for this course to see how the feedback from previous students has contributed to the course development.

Important note: Students are reminded that any feedback provided should be constructive and professional and that they are bound by the Student Code of Conduct Policy

<https://www.gs.unsw.edu.au/policy/documents/studentcodepolicy.pdf>

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Richard Dunley				Please email me to make a time to meet.	No	Yes
	Margaret Hutchison				Please email me to make a time to meet.	No	No