



Nazism and the Holocaust

Overview:

This course will examine Nazi Germany from its post-World War I origins to the Nuremberg Trials. The course will also investigate the Nazis' social policies, which led to the persecution of various racial, religious, political, and ethnic groups, which culminated in the genocide of the Holocaust. The course will be taught in Berlin, the Sachsenhausen concentration camp, and Prague. Students will gain insight into this dark era of human history by reading primary and secondary sources, attending lectures, discussions, and visiting historical sites. Students will also assess how Nazi-inspired ideologies and tactics impact contemporary societies.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Understand and contextualize how various social, political, and economic factors contributed to the birth of the Nazi Party and explain its rise to dominance in the 1930s.
2. Explain how Nazis utilized political machinations, instigations, and propaganda to destroy a democratic state while simultaneously constructing a fascist dictatorship.
3. Demonstrate competency of the core concepts of Nazi ideology and show how it was used to justify German nationalism, remilitarization and territorial reclamation, which culminated the invasion of Poland and the beginning of World War II in Europe.
4. Analyze anti-Nazi resistance movements and their efforts to reflect their successes, shortcomings, failures, and consequences.
5. Show proficiency in explaining how Social Darwinism permeated Nazi ideology, inspired the legalized persecution of various German racial, ethnic, and social groups. Students will also detail how Aryan supremacy would be applied to Nazi-occupied Europe, and ultimately led to the "Final Solution" and genocide.
6. Perceive the reasons the Nazi state collapsed, the nature and consequences of the Nuremberg Trials, and the lingering effects of Nazism.

Themes

The course will focus on the following themes:

1. **The origins and rise of the Nazi Party.**
2. **The creation and operation of the Nazi state.**
3. **Nazi ideology: nationalism, remilitarization, expansionism, and World War II.**
4. **Anti-Nazi resistance movements and operations.**

5. Nazi social policies and genocide.
6. Collapse, prosecution, and contemporary emulation of Nazism.

Required Materials

Books

- Whittock, Martyn. *The Third Reich: The Rise and Fall of the Nazis*.
You may purchase the book in any format.
 - Print editions are available from many online retailers, but inexpensive used copies can be acquired from Half.com:
<http://product.half.ebay.com/A-Brief-History-of-the-Third-Reich-by-Martyn-Whittock-2011-Paperback/92903186&tg=info>
 - EBook available only from Google Books:
<https://books.google.com/books?id=BGTBBAAQBAJ>
- Confino, Alon. *A World Without Jews: The Nazi Imagination from Persecution to Genocide*.
 - Print editions are available from many online retailers, but inexpensive used copies can be acquired from Half.com:
<http://product.half.ebay.com/A-World-Without-Jews-The-Nazi-Imagination-from-Persecution-to-Genocide-by-Alon-Confino-2014-Hardcover/174900843&tg=info>
 - Kindle edition:
https://www.amazon.com/World-Without-Jews-Imagination-Persecution-ebook/dp/B00JDA9C52/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1489516884&sr=8-1&keywords=world+without+jews
- Larson, Erik. *In the Garden of Beasts*.
 - Print editions are available from many online retailers, but inexpensive used copies can be acquired from Half.com:
<http://product.half.ebay.com/In-the-Garden-of-Beasts-Love-Terror-and-an-American-Family-in-Hitlers-Berlin-by-Erik-Larson-2012-Paperback/110692407&tg=info>
 - Kindle edition:
<https://www.amazon.com/Garden-Beasts-Terror-American-Hitlers/dp/030740885X>

Articles

- “Auschwitz Survivor on Nazi Trial Verdict”: <http://time.com/4373337/nazi-trial-auschwitz-survivor-conviction/>

Videos

- Adolph Hitler speech: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EV9kyocogKo>

- Irene Weiss interview:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QsqSN8w7sd0&index=21&list=PLWQC3P4psZP4hPKEOCDiISyO0ybN5Md0F>
- Torture at Sachsenhausen: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JN90py9Cuco>
- Nuremburg Trials documentary:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N1GIWa4ncMY>

Films

- *Conspiracy* (2001).
 - Available to rent or purchase on Amazon:
https://www.amazon.com/Conspiracy-Kenneth-Branagh/dp/B00005YUO1/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1489518950&sr=8-2&keywords=conspiracy
- *Anthropoid* (2016)
 - Available to rent or purchase on Amazon:
https://www.amazon.com/Anthropoid-Blu-ray-DVD-Digital-HD/dp/B01KAKD4CK/ref=sr_1_2?s=movies-tv&ie=UTF8&qid=1489522684&sr=1-2&keywords=anthropoid

Note: It is inevitable that there will be periods in which Internet connections are either unavailable or unreliable. Therefore, students should ensure that all required course materials in electronic formats are downloaded to their devices or are accessible in some fashion.

Assessment

Students will be evaluated based on their performance on an exam, two reaction papers, an oral presentation, as well as their participation in course activities.

- Students will take a written comprehensive examination, which will be drawn from readings, lectures, course walks, site visits, and other experiences gained throughout the course. Detailed information about the composition, format, and focus areas of the exam will be provided. The date for the comprehensive exam is located in the Schedule of Topics section. **The exam is worth 30% of the course grade.**
- Students will write two papers that synthesize their reactions to site visits within a historiographical context. The first reaction paper will be based on the tour of Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp, students may select any of the other site visits as the basis for the second reaction paper. Deadlines for the reaction papers are listed in the Schedule of Topics section. Detailed instructions will be provided. **The papers comprise 30% of the course grade.**
- Students will deliver a 10-15 minute oral presentation of a topic, person, or event that is germane to the course and has the instructor's approval. Students will be

evaluated based on delivery, knowledge of subject matter, and analysis. The deadline for topic approval and the date the presentations will be given can be found in the Schedule of Topics section. **The presentation counts toward 10% of the course grade.**

- Given the unique character of the Catalyst program, participation in all course activities is mandatory. Students are expected to arrive on time (every time) and to actively participate in all scheduled activities. Participation includes being present (physically and mentally), on time, having done the required reading, and actively engaging in discussions/sharing ideas with classmates. If a student misses a scheduled course activity, one letter grade will be deducted from the student's final grade. If a student misses two class activities, two letter grades will be deducted. If a student misses three class activities, the student will receive an F for the course, and face dismissal from the Catalyst program. It is also critical that you be on time for class meetings. You should plan to arrive at our meeting place at least five minutes prior to our formal meeting time. Being more than five minutes late for a formal meeting time will result in a minimum 20-point deduction for the Participation component of your grade. Being late twice will be treated as a missed class and penalized as discussed above. Even if you show up on time, you may receive deductions from your participation grade if you are obviously unprepared, unresponsive, uncooperative, or behave in ways to worsen the course experience of other students. **Participation is worth 30% of the course grade.**

Grading:

Comprehensive Exam	30%
Reaction Papers	15% ea./30%
Presentation	10%
Participation	30%

NOTE: There are no extra credit assignments.

Schedule of Topics and Site Visits

- The following site visits are not comprehensive, not guaranteed, and are subject to change based on scheduling issues or inclement weather.

- Wed 7 June (9:00 - 15:00): Birth of National Socialism (1919-1926)
 - Reichstag
 - Brandenburg Gate
 - Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe
- Thursday 8 June (9:00 - 15:00): Creation of the 3rd Reich (1926-1939)

- German History Museum
 - Topography of Terror
3. Friday 9 June (TBD): Nazi racial and social ideologies and policies
- Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp
 - *Oral presentation topics must be approved*
4. Saturday 10 June (all day): **City Sojourn**
5. Sunday 11 June (9:30 - 15:30): The Final Solution
- Wannsee Conference House
 - *Sans Souci* Palace
6. Monday 12 June (9:00 - 16:00): Nazi Germany and World War II (1939-1943)
- Humboldtthain Park
 - Invalids' Cemetery
 - Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church
 - *Reaction Paper 1 due*
7. Tuesday 13 June (TBD): **Travel to Prague; *Anthropoid* film**
8. Wednesday 14 June (9:30 - 15:00): Anti-Nazi resistance and consequences
- National Memorial to the Victims of Heydrich Terror
 - Petschek Palace
9. Thursday 15 June (9:00 - 14:30): The defeat of Nazi Germany and the Nuremberg Trials (1944-46)
- Lidice Memorial
 - Vinohrady Cemetery
10. Friday 16 June (9:00 - 14:30): Remembrance, guilt, and the lingering effects of Nazism
- Jewish Quarter
 - *Oral presentations*
11. Saturday 17 June (all day): **City Sojourn**
12. Sunday 18 June (all day): Reading day
13. Monday 20 June (10:00 - 12:30): *Comprehensive examination*

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACADEMIC CONDUCT:

The University of West Florida is dedicated to the highest principles and

standards of academic integrity. An academic violation by a student can negatively impact a class, program and/or college in ways that are unique to each discipline. Academic integrity is closely related to professional ethics and requires that students honestly acknowledge their use of the ideas, words, and written work produced by any other individual, institution or source. Failure to acknowledge properly the use of another's intellectual output constitutes a form of academic misconduct. (UWF Academic Misconduct Code, UWF Student Planner and Handbook 2011-2012, p. 38)

Academic dishonesty is a serious offense and will be taken seriously. Please refer to the UWF Student Handbook for a list of behaviors that fall under the definition of academic misconduct. The handbook also outlines the penalties for academic misconduct and the due process procedures that must be followed. The Student Code of Conduct is posted at the following URL:

<http://uwf.edu/media/university-of-west-florida/offices/student-affairs/dean-ofstudents/osrr/documents/Student-Code-of-Conduct.pdf>

The UWF Academic Misconduct Policy is posted at the following URL:

<http://uwf.edu/media/university-of-west-florida/offices/student-affairs/dean-ofstudents/osrr/documents/Academic-Misconduct-Code.pdf>

Additional Information on Plagiarism:

Your writing is your intellectual property. Guard it carefully. You could find yourself in the unpleasant position of trying to prove that you are the true author of this work. Save preliminary drafts of your work, reading notes, data collection sheets, and copies of library sources you make while researching your paper. You may be asked to produce these if questions of authorship arise. Make back-up copies to protect your work from computer failures. I reserve the right to submit written assignments to the Turnitin service or use other methods to evaluate the originality of the work submitted. I will remove personal identifiers from any electronic files I submit to the Turnitin database for evaluation. Plagiarism is a serious violation of academic standards and will be punished severely. Students who plagiarize will fail the course and will be referred to the Dean for academic dishonesty. Some students are surprised to learn that they plagiarized themselves when they inappropriately used work produced for one course in another course. If you are unsure, ask your instructor for guidance. See the UWF Student Planner and Handbook and the Student Code of Conduct for information about the University policy on academic conduct and plagiarism and the consequences for students who engage in academic misconduct.

Note: The Center for University Teaching, Learning, and Assessment grants permission to instructors to include this language as well as other policy

language presented in this sample syllabus on your course syllabus.

ASSISTANCE FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:

The University of West Florida supports an inclusive learning environment for all students. If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that hinder your full participation, such as time-limited exams, inaccessible web content, or the use of non-captioned videos and podcasts, reasonable accommodations can be arranged. Prior to receiving accommodations, you must register with the Student Disability Resource Center (SDRC) at <http://uwf.edu/offices/student-disability-resource-center/>. Appropriate academic accommodations will be determined based on the documented needs of the individual. For information regarding the registration process, e-mail sdrc@uwf.edu or call [850.474.2387](tel:850.474.2387).

VETERANS SERVICES:

The UWF Military & Veterans Resource Center (MVRC) serves as a leading campus advocate for military and veteran students, working to ensure the needs of these individuals are met through coordinating with multiple university offices and services. The center provides assistance with the following: GI Bill R education benefits, active duty tuition assistance, out of state fee waiver, tutoring, paper reading, counseling, disability accommodations, coordinating academic advising and referral to state /federal resources and services. The MVRC is located in bldg. 38. For more information on MVRC service, call 474-2550 or visit <http://uwf.edu/militaryveterans>

WEATHER EMERGENCY INFORMATION:

In the case of severe weather or other emergency, we will make announcements about changed plans and safety via our Facebook group and/or on site.