

JS317 #76271 / History 317 #76268 Holocaust and Genocide
T/Th 4:00-5:20
HUM 277

Professor:

Kitty Millet

[Web](#) and [Email](#) / Phone: 415-338-3154

Office: HUM 426

Office Hours: T 11-12; Th: 2-4pm.

Department:

Jewish Studies Office: 416

Jewish Studies Phone: 415-338-6075

Jewish Studies Email: jewish@sfsu.edu

Course Description:

This course examines Holocaust and Genocide as a modern phenomenon. This course will introduce students to issues in the history of genocide and to individuals who embodied those issues. It will raise questions such as these: What definitions of "holocaust" and "genocide" have emerged recently and which ones make sense to you? What precedents for modern genocide can be traced from the past? What historical conditions have made certain groups vulnerable to persecution? What attitudes towards race, gender, religion, and class, contributed to persecution? What systems of terror, co-optation, and deception turned persecution into mass murder? What forms of resistance and rescue developed? What political, moral, and psychological effects of past genocides persist today?

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Identify key events in the history of modern genocide.
2. Be familiar with the main concepts pertinent to the study of the Holocaust and Genocide.
3. Identify main figures in all three events.
4. Identify the regions where these events took place.
5. Be able to conduct introductory research on one aspect of the course.

Required Texts:

Friedlander, Saul. *Nazi Germany and the Jews*.

Bergen, Doris. *War and Genocide*.

Mayersen, Deborah. *On the Path to Genocide*.

Miller, Donald. *Survivors, an Oral History of the Armenian Genocide*.

PDF Excerpts

Boder, David. *I Did Not Interview the Dead*.

Optional Texts:

The Armenian Genocide. A Complete History / Kevorkian, Raymond H.

Documents on the Holocaust / Arad

Spectre of Genocide / Gellately and Kiernann

(Will be helpful for Oral Presentations)

The Rwanda Crisis. History of a Genocide / Prunier, Gerard.

(available through Library's ebooks.

Assignments (I drop lowest score of the following 5 assignments; 80% total) **Percentage**

1. Primary Sources / Synthesis	10%
2. Source Reviews	10%
3. Case Study (2-4 pages) or Oral Presentation (15 minutes)	20%
4. Exams (2/3)	30%
5. Class Participation (Responses to Oral Presentation)	10%
6. Research Paper (10 pages)	20%

If you miss any of the above assignments, then, you miss it. I don't accept late papers or give make-up exams. I don't believe in grading curves so expect the traditional schema of assessment. To see how papers are graded, I have uploaded to iLearn a matrix for your perusal. Likewise, I don't offer extra credit.

I will accept a revision of one of the three written assignments above; however, you have to fulfill the following conditions:

1. Include the original paper with the revision
2. Discuss the revision with me during office hours
3. Participate either in a revision work group or seek tutoring at LAC (HSS 348; 338-1993).
4. Turn in revision three weeks after its initial return date. If you're absent on the date of the return, the clock is still ticking.

Notes on Special Concerns:

Plagiarism: Any student who uses the words or ideas of another person, be it author, critic, or another student, without proper attribution, will receive a No Credit for that paper and will not be allowed to revise; a student who turns in a paper that is substantially or completely written by someone else will receive No Credit for the course. Humanities Faculty are required to report all cases of plagiarism to the College Dean's office. Furthermore, the Dean may decide to forward the report to the University Judicial Affairs Officer for further action. Students should, therefore, familiarize themselves with what constitutes plagiarism in higher education. Nota Bene: Proper attribution should follow

MLA guidelines. If you're unfamiliar with MLA, see instructor before the paper is due.

Learning Environment: I wish to make this course as accessible as possible to students with disabilities or medical conditions that may affect any aspect of course assignments or participation. You are invited to communicate with me at the beginning of the course or at your discretion about any accommodations that will improve your experience of or access to the course. You should also contact the Disability Resource Center at 338-2472 (Voice/TDD) so that all of the University's resources can be utilized to your benefit. If you have suspected that you might have a learning disability or a medical condition that has affected your success in the past, please contact the DRC and get the requisite form.

Schedule:

Week	Date	Lecture	HW
1	1/27/15	Introduction to Course and Sources	
	1/29/15	Methodologies for Analyzing Genocide	Rdg: Mayersen, "Introduction," 1-22.
2	2/03/15	Unit 1 Armenia / History of the People	Rdg: Mayersen, Chapter 1, "Trying Desperately to Escape History," pp. 23-39
	2/05/15	Precipitating Events	Rdg: Mayersen, Chapter 2, "Settled Plan to Slowly Exterminate," pp. 40-60
3	2/10/15	Record of Genocide	Rdg: Mayersen, Chapter 3, "They Will Have to be Exterminated," pp. 61-85
	2/12/15	Scholarly Concerns	Rdg: Mayersen, Chapter 3, pp. 85-88.
4	2/17/15	Survivor Memories / Documentary Evidence	Rdg: Miller, Part II, Chapters 3-5, pp. 55-117.
	2/19/15	Exam 1	
5	2/24/15	Unit 2 Holocaust / History of the People	Rdg: Bergen, Chapter 1-2, "Preconditions"; "Leadership and Will." HW Assigned: Primary Sources / Synthesis
	2/26/15	Precipitating Events / History	Rdg: Friedlander, Part 1, Persecution, Chapter 1, pp 3-32.
6	3/03/15	Systematic Extermination	Rdg: Friedlander, Part 1, Chapters 2-5
	3/05/15	Precipitating Events / History continues	Rdg: Friedlander, Part 2, Terror, Chapters 6-10
7	3/10/15	Poland	Rdg: Bergen, Chapters 5-6
	3/12/15	Oral Presentations	Due: Responses to Oral Presentations
8	3/17/15	Scholarly Concerns / Oral Presentations	Rdg: Friedlander, Part 3, Shoah, Chapters 11-15; Bergen, Chapter 7.
	3/19/15	Survivor Memories / Documentary Evidence	Rdg: Boder, excerpts from <i>I Did Not Interview the Dead</i> .
9	3/24/15	Spring Break	

- 3/26/15 Spring Break
- 10 3/31/15 Cesar Chavez Day. Classes canceled.
- 4/02/15 Survivor Memories / **Oral Presentations** **Due: Responses to OP.** Rdg: Boder, excerpts from *I Did Not Interview the Dead*.
- 11 4/07/15 **Oral Presentations** **Due: Responses to OP / CS**
- 4/09/15 **Exam 2**
- 12 4/14/15 Film on ilearn. **Due: Primary Sources / Synthesis.**
- 4/16/15 **Guest Lecture, "American Reception of Holocaust"** **Due: Film.**
- 13 4/21/15 Unit 3 Rwanda / History of the People Rdg: Mayersen, Chapter 4, "A European under Black Skin," pp. 99-120
- 4/23/15 Precipitating Events Rdg: Mayersen, Chapter 5, "Massive Rejection," pp. 121-147
- 14 4/28/15 Rdg: Mayersen, Chapter 6, "A Cockroach Gives Birth to Another Cockroach," pp. 148-188
- 4/30/15 Documentary Evidence / Survivor Narratives Rdg:
- 15 5/05/15 Scholarly Concerns Rdg: Mayersen, Chapters 7-9. pp. 189-226.
- 5/07/15 **Oral Presentations** HW: Responses to OP / CS
- 16 5/12/15 **Case Studies** HW: Responses to OP / CS
- 5/14/15 **OP/CS** HW: Responses to OP / CS
- 17 5/19/15 **Final Exams Week** **HW: Exam and Final Paper**