

EUH 2034/ JST 2930

Nazi Germany



Instructor:

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Course Description and Objectives:

Nearly six decades after its collapse, Nazi Germany continues to fascinate the general public as well as specialists, and with good reason. Though Adolf Hitler's state lasted for only twelve years, it started history's most destructive war while committing history's largest crime – and for the most part, it did so with the acquiescence of the German public.

We will move chronologically, but also thematically, over the semester. We will engage with major questions concerning the Nazi regime, from the political to the social to the cultural. By the end of the class you will understand and be able to discuss the major issues of the German dictatorship, and you will understand something too about the heavy responsibilities of modern citizenship.

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Your Grade will be determined as follows:**Discussions and Response Papers -- 25% in aggregate.**

There are nine open discussion days in this course, all on Fridays (except November 17). For each you will have to read the week's assignments in advance and you will have to write a **one-page** (typed, double-spaced) response to a question given to you earlier in the week. Your grade will be determined by the quality of your response papers (namely the degree to which they actively engage the readings) and the degree to which you participate in live discussion. Response papers must be presented in hard copy in class the day of discussion. Late response papers will not be accepted. An unexcused absence from discussion with or without a response paper will result in zero for that discussion.

Weekly Quizzes -- 20% in aggregate.

There are five brief multiple-choice quizzes of thirty minutes each, designed to keep you up with the reading materials and lectures in weeks where there is no discussion. They will be administered through Sakai Online and must be taken by midnight Friday during the week in which they are administered. Quizzes CANNOT be made up.

Midterm Examination -- 25%.

The Midterm Exam is on October 9, from 6-8 PM, room TBA. It cannot be made up save for extreme circumstances. Possible essay questions will be given in advance.

Final Examination -- 30%.

The Final Exam is on December 18, 10-12. It cannot be made up save for extreme circumstances. Possible essay questions will be given in advance.

The Numerical Grading Scale is as follows:

A	93-100	A-	90-92		
B+	87-89	B	83-86	B-	80-82
C+	77-79	C	73-76	C-	70-72
D+	68-69	D	63-67	D-	60-62
F	<60				

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Statement on Attendance and Class Etiquette:

Your grade will be directly affected if you miss discussions (see above). I will not take attendance on lecture days, but if you miss class, it will show in your written work. Be in class on time. Turn your cell phones off when we begin class. Use your computer, tablet, etc., to take notes and **only** to take notes. If you use it for social media during class or discussion (Facebook, e-mail, YouTube, etc.,) then you will be asked to leave class on the spot. I equate this kind of behavior with passing

notes, talking in class, and being a general bother to others, who will be distracted by the stuff on your screen.

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Statement on Academic Honesty:

The University of Florida Student Honor Code is located at this link:

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php>

Violations of the Student Honor Code including any form of academic misconduct will be referred to the Dean of Students and will result in sanctions ranging from grade penalties to expulsion depending on the severity of the offense.

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Students with Disabilities:

Any student who suspects he or she may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the class instructor privately to discuss the student's specific needs and provide written documentation from the Office of Student Accessibility Services. If the student is not yet registered as a student with a disability, he or she should contact the Office of Student Accessibility Services.

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Books to Purchase:

Jackson J. Spielvogel and David Redles, *Hitler and Nazi Germany: A History*. 7th ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson, (2014).

Earlier editions will be fine, especially since this book is vastly overpriced. There will also be substantial texts posted on Sakai for you to read.

Lecture, Discussion and Testing Schedule

Week 1: August 25-29: Special Paths

- What is Germany?
- Bismarck's Creation
- The Problem of Defeat - 1918 - **Online Quiz Today by Midnight.**

Reading: Spielvogel, Chapter 1, Folder for Week 1.

Week 2: September 2-5: Chaos

- Labor Day: No Class
- The Chaotic Peace
- **Discussion:** The Stab in the Back - **Response Paper Due.**

Reading: Spielvogel, Chapter 2, all. Sakai, Folder for Week 2.

Week 3: September 8-12: Hitler

- Hitler and the Jews
- Hitler and *Lebensraum*
- **Discussion:** Hitler's World View - **Response Paper Due.** Reading: Spielvogel, Ch. 5, 134-138. Sakai, Folder for Week 3.

Week 4: September 15-19: Power

- In the Wilderness
- The Depression and the Ascent to Power
- The Reichstag Fire and After - **Online Quiz Today by Midnight.**

Reading: Spielvogel, Chapter 3, all, Sakai Folder for Week 4.

Week 5: September 22-26: Police

- Himmler and the German Police
- No Class: Rosh Hashanah
- The Concentration Camps - **Online Quiz Today by Midnight.**

Reading: Spielvogel, Chapter 4, 83-100, 107-114, 119-121, Sakai Folder Week 5.

Week 6: September 29-October 3: Consensus

- Germans and the Police State
- Foreign Policy and Rearmament
- **Discussion:** Consensual Dictatorship - **Response Paper Due**

Reading: Sakai Folder for Week 6.

Week 7: October 6-10: War

- Winning the Army
- Starting World War II

Reading: Spielvogel, Chapter 4, pp. 92-94, 118-119, Chapter 7, pp. 184-205.

(MIDTERM EXAMINATION OCTOBER 9. 6:00 - 8:00 PM)

Week 8: October 13-15: Men and Women

- Men
- Women
- Homecoming-No Class – **Online Quiz Due Thursday at Midnight.**

Reading: Spielvogel, Chapter 5, 6, Sakai Folder for Week 8.

Week 9: October 20-22: Children and the Disabled

- Children
- The Disabled
- **Discussion:** Euthanasia – **Response Paper Due.**

Reading: Sakai Folder for Week 9.

Week 10: October 27-31: The Churches and the Jews

- The Churches
- The Jews
- **Discussion:** The Germans and *Kristallnacht* – **Response Paper Due.**

Reading: Spielvogel, Chapter 4, pp. 100-107, 114-117; Sakai Folder for Week 10.

Week 11: November 3-7: Final Solution

- Poland and Its Ghettos
- Shooting Squads in the East
- **Discussion:** Ordinary Men – **Response Paper Due.**

Reading: Spielvogel, Chapter 7, 205-209, Chapter 8, 220-227, Chapter 9, Sakai Folder For Week 11.

Week 12: November 10-14: Final Solution

- The Death Camps
- What the Germans Knew
- **Discussion:** What the Germans Knew – **Response Paper Due.**

Reading: Chapter 8, 241-247; Sakai Folder for Week 12.

Week 13: November 17-21: Resistance:

- Ordinary Germans: The White Rose and Rosenstrasse
- The Red Orchestra
- July 20, 1944

Week 14: November 24: Resistance

- **Discussion:** Resistance – **Response Paper Due**
- No Class: Thanksgiving
- No Class: Thanksgiving

Reading: Spielvogel, Chapter 8, 247-249, Sakai Folder for Week 13

Week 15: December 1-5: Destruction

- Stalingrad and After
- Under the Bombs
- Miracle Weapons – **Online Quiz Today**

Reading: Spielvogel, Chapter 7, 209-216; Ch. 8 229-241.

Week 16: December 8-10: Reckoning

- Reckoning with the Past
- **Discussion:** German Victims? – ***Response Paper Due.***

Reading: Spielvogel, Chapter 10; Sakai Folder for Week 15.