

HIST 435 HISTORY OF NAZISM AND FASCISM

Syllabus

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COURSE CREDIT:

Three Semester Hours

PREREQUISITES:

None

COURSE MATERIALS:

Required Textbook:

DeGrand, Alexander. *Fascist Italy and Nazi Germany: The 'Fascist Style' of Rule*.
London: Routledge, 1995. ISBN: 0415105986

Readings:

Allen, William Sheridan. *The Nazi Seizure of Power: The Experience of a Single German Town, 1922-1945*, Revised Edition. Danbury, CT: Franklin Watts, 1984.
ISBN: 0531056333

Bartov, Omer. *Hitler's Army: Soldiers, Nazis, and War in the Third Reich*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1992. ISBN: 0195079035

Loy, Rosetta. Gregory Conti, trans. *First Words: A Childhood in Fascist Italy*. New York: Metropolitan Books, 1998. ISBN: 0805067388

Silone, Ignazio. *Bread and Wine*. New York: Signet Classics, reissue 2005.
ISBN: 0451529782

Wiesel, Elie. *Night*. New York, NY: Bantam, reissue 1982. ISBN: 0553272535

Supplemental Text

Turabian, K.L. *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 6th Revised Edition. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1996.
ISBN: 0226816273

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will survey the history of Italian Fascism and Nazism in Germany from the end of the First World War to 1945.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

The student will:

- Identify historical content in the context of the times for the period covered in this course.
- Knowledgeably discuss the significance of major themes, key concepts, and identifiable terms as related to the social, political, and intellectual history of the period—demonstrated through the student’s writing and examinations.
- Demonstrate appropriate historical writing and analysis skills by producing acceptable essays on the five assigned readings and in midterm and final examinations.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Reading Assignments

The course is divided into fourteen units. The student should read the text as detailed in the lessons below. Keep in mind that you are reading to acquire a framework on which you can view this period of history—in terms of key content and identifiable terms. Rather than being expected to memorize dates of events, you will be asked to demonstrate that you have developed an understanding not only of what happened, but of the overall significance of that event to the historical period. In addition to top line events (such as might appear in newspaper headlines of the time), you are reading for social, political, and intellectual content. What key concepts or core ideas are prevalent at the time? How are these ideas influencing social and political history? What are the key conflicts taking place? Who are the players? What are the core ideas or concepts underlying these conflicts? The **Key Terms** that you should pay attention to in each chapter of each unit are listed in the study guide.

Midterm Examination

The midterm exam is worth 20% of your overall grade. At the end of Unit Seven there will be a proctored midterm examination consisting of term identifications and an essay question. You should write out your answers to each one of these questions, making sure that your answers are defensible, that is, that you can support the argument you are making utilizing specific citations from the historical record. Please refer to the rubric at the end of this syllabus for guidance on how to construct an essay response based on (a.) structure, (b.) evidence, and (c.) quality of writing.

Your midterm examination will consist of one of the essay questions in the study guide, plus a list of eight key terms drawn from the unit key terms. You will be expected to choose five of the eight terms that appear on the exam. You will be asked to explain each term and identify the significance of each to the historical period.

Book Essays

Each student shall craft five 2-page essays in response to the questions listed within the study guide. The essays will count for 50% (5 x 10%) of the total grade. These essays should be typed, double-spaced, 12-point font, traditional one-inch margins.

First Words: What was Fascist Italy's official position on the Jewish people? Did the Vatican condemn or condone the Fascist government's anti-Semitic activities? Why or why not? (Due at the end of Unit Three)

The Nazi Seizure of Power: Why did ordinary Germans support the Nazi regime? (Due at the end of Unit Seven)

Bread and Wine: How did ordinary Italians resist the Fascist dictatorship? (Due at the end of Unit Ten)

Hitler's Army: Many Germans have claimed after the war ended that the regular German Army (*Wehrmacht*) had not acted dishonorably and took no part in the Nazi genocide. Does the author, Omar Bartov, agree with this view? What is your view of Bartov's thesis? (Due at the end of Unit Thirteen)

Night: What is the lesson of the Holocaust according to Elie Wiesel? (Due at the end of Unit Fourteen)

Conferences

In order to facilitate student learning and encourage contact with the instructor, students must make phone or e-mail contact with Dr. Hilwig upon completion of Units Three, Seven, and Twelve. The purpose of these conferences is to provide students with feedback on their writing, answer questions pertaining to their assignments, and clarify important themes within the readings. Failure to contact Dr. Hilwig will result in a grade of Incomplete for the course.

Final Examination

The final exam is worth 30% of your overall grade. At the end of Unit Fourteen there will be a proctored final examination consisting of term identifications and an essay question. You should write out your answers to each one of these questions, making sure your answers are defensible, that is, that you can support the argument you are making utilizing specific citations from the historical record. Please refer to the rubric at the end of this syllabus for guidance on how to construct an essay response based on (a.) structure, (b.) evidence, and (c.) quality of writing.

Your final examination will consist of one of the essay questions in the study guide, plus a list of eight key terms drawn from the unit key terms. You will be expected to choose five of the eight terms that appear on the exam. You will be asked to explain each term and identify the significance of each to the historical period. The essay question will be cumulative.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION AND SCALE:

In alignment with ASC academic policies, no D may apply to a major or minor field.

Grade Distribution:

5 Book Essays	50%	10% each
Midterm Exam	20%	
Final Exam	<u>30%</u>	
Total	100%	

Scale:

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
59% and below	F

COURSE INSTRUCTIONS

ADA Statement:

Students who need special accommodation to complete this class should contact the instructor and the Office of Student Affairs, 719-587-7221 as soon as possible.