

Course Syllabus

Course Information

<i>Course Number/Section</i>	HIST 4344.0U1.08U
<i>Course Title</i>	The Holocaust
<i>Term</i>	Summer 2008
<i>Days & Times</i>	Monday 1:00 – 5:30 p.m. (11 weeks)

Professor Contact Information

<i>Professor</i>	Debbie Pfister
<i>Office Phone</i>	972-883-2100
<i>Other Phone</i>	
<i>Email Address</i>	dhp@utdallas.edu
<i>Office Location</i>	JO 5.514
<i>Office Hours</i>	Monday 11:30 – 12:30 p.m. or by appointment
<i>Other Information</i>	

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions

N/A

Course Description

Overshadowing the achievements of the Enlightenment, the mass murder of European Jewry has been recognized as one of the watershed events of the twentieth-century. Eliminating millions of people by shooting, gassing, and starvation, the Third Reich has created a new world, the like of which has not been experienced before. Its decision upon the death sentence for every Jew, and the ways in which the Nazis implemented this sentence, has affected our basic concepts of progress, enlightenment, morality, and freedom.

The purpose of this course is to explore the background as well as the social, political, historical, and cultural contexts of this event. Constructing our inquiry around two major questions: why did this mass murder happen, and how did it run its course, we will examine the development of the ancient religious background of anti-Semitism and study the emergence of nationalism and scientific racism in nineteenth-century Europe. In addition, we will consider the rise of the modern German state, the First World War, the Depression, Hitler's creation of the Third Reich, the anti-Jewish laws, the persecution of the Jews, the implementation of the Holocaust in every country occupied by the Reich, and the moral implications of the mass murder of European Jewry. Also, we will study the ways in which the Holocaust has continued to affect our religious beliefs, our sense of morality, and our notions of education and culture.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

Students will analyze the long-standing tradition of anti-Semitism as well as the background and history of the Holocaust. Also, they will consider several major, scholarly interpretations of this catastrophic event, study, and critically evaluate some of the most dramatic and beautiful texts of our time engendered by the Shoah.

Required Textbooks and Materials

Required Texts

Eli Wiesel, *Night* (ISBN-13: 9780374500016)

*Our required reading assignments can be found on electronic reserve in the UT Dallas library.

(Please check that the publisher and the ISBN number of the book you plan to purchase match the number given on this syllabus.)

Required Materials

(these works are noted below with *).

Suggested Course Materials

Suggested Readings/Texts

See above.

Suggested Materials

See above.

Assignments & Academic Calendar

Topics, Reading Assignments, Due Dates, Exam Dates

June 2, 2008	Introduction and discussion Film: <i>A Painful Reminder</i>
June 9, 2008	Jews from the Medieval World to the Enlightenment Period and Beyond *Leon Poliakov, <i>The History of the Jews</i> , pg. 99-122. *Joshua Trachtenberg, <i>The Devil and the Jews</i> , pg. 1-31; 32-52; 188-194. *Jacob Katz, "Voltaire," in <i>From Prejudice to Destruction: Anti-Semitism, 1700-1933</i> , pg. 34-47. *Robert S. Wistrich, <i>Between Redemption and Perdition</i> , pg. 9-16 and 133-149.
June 16, 2008	From the First World War to the Nazi Seizure of Power *Leni Yahil, <i>The Fate of European Jewry</i> , 34-52 *Yehuda Bauer, <i>A History of the Holocaust</i> , pg. 93-98. *Robert S. Wistrich, <i>Hitler and the Holocaust</i> , pg. 31-58. *Weitz, Eric D. <i>Weimar Germany: Promise and Tragedy</i> , pg. 1-39. Film: <i>Lion at the Gate</i>
June 23, 2008	Hitler's Consolidation of Power and Jewish Life in Nazi Germany *Wolfgang Benz (1995), <i>The Holocaust</i> , pg. 14-38. *Marion Kaplan, <i>Between Dignity and Despair: Jewish Life in Nazi Germany</i> (1998), pg. 17-73. Film: <i>The Double Crossing: The Story of the St. Louis</i> First Paragraph Due
June 30, 2008	Destruction and Emigration of German Jewry Test I (sixty minutes) *Marion Kaplan, <i>Between Dignity and Despair</i> , pg. 119-125, 129-132 and 145-161. *Leni Yahil, <i>The Holocaust: The Fate of European Jewry, 1932-1945</i> , pg. 15-33 & 88-122. Film: <i>Into the Arms of Strangers</i>

July 7, 2008

The State of the War and the Wannsee Conference

*Richard Breitman, *The Architect of Genocide* (1991), pg. 229-243.

*Yehuda Bauer, *History of the Holocaust* pg. 209-226.

*Lucy S. Dawidowicz, *A Holocaust Reader*, pg. 55-82.

*Holger Herwig, *Hammer or Anvil?*, pg. 325-352.

July 14, 2008

The East European Ghettos and Death Camps

*Yehuda Bauer, *A History of the Holocaust*, pg. 183-208 & 227-247.

*Kaplan, Chaim, *Scroll of Agony*, pg. 19-49 & 362- 400

Ringelblum, Emmanuel Ringelblum. *Notes from the Warsaw Ghetto*, pg. ix-xviii and pg. 9-27.

Film: *The Last Days*

July 21, 2008

Resistance

*Michael R. Marrus, "Jewish Resistance and the Holocaust," *Journal of Contemporary History*, vol. 30, pg. 83-110.

Robert S. Wistrich, *Hitler and the Holocaust*, pg. 59-86.

Film: *Weapons of the Spirit*

Film: *Night and Fog*

July 28, 2008

The Holocaust on the Screen

*Film: *Schindler's List* (watch prior to attending class)

*Ilan Avisar, "Holocaust Movies and Politics of Collective Memory," in *Thinking about the Holocaust*, pg. 38-60.

Film: *Sunshine* (watch in class)

Aug. 4, 2008

Preserving the Voice of the Survivor and Holocaust Memory

Literature:

Eli Wiesel, *Night*

*L. Langer, "Deep Memory: The Buried Self," in *Holocaust Testimonies: The Ruins of Memory*, pg. 1-38.

*Z. Ozsvath and M. Satz, "Expressing the Inexpressible," in *Judaism*, pg. 197-211.

Art: Imre Amos, Felix Nussbaum, Samuel Bak

We will view and discuss the art of these artists in class.

Please read the poetry before coming to class:

*Miklos Radnoti, Introduction, pg. xiii- xxxiv, "The Seventh Eclogue," pg. 106-107, Neither Memory nor Magic," pg. 100, and "Razglenicas," pg. 117-118 in *Foamy Sky*

Aug. 4, 2008 (contd.) *Paul Celan, "Paul Celan," pg. 598-600 in *Art from the Ashes*, and "Death Fugue," pg. 61 -63 in *Poems of Paul Celan*;

*Nelly Sachs, "Nelly Sachs," pg. 635-637 in *Art from the Ashes*; and "Why the black answer of hate," pg. 65, in *O The Chimneys: Selected Poems*.

Paper Due

Aug. 11, 2008 **Final Exam at 1:00 p.m.**

Grading Policy

Grades will be based on class attendance (15%); participation in class discussions (15%); one test (each 10%); one introductory paragraph (10%); one 4-5 page paper (25%); and one final (25%).

All papers must be submitted to turnitin.com. Instructions for the use of turnitin.com will be provided in class.

Course Policies

Make-up exams

N/A

Extra Credit

N/A

Late Work

If you cannot turn in your paper by August 4, 2008, please notify the instructor at least 48 hours prior to this due date to make other arrangements. If an incomplete is approved, an "X" will appear on your Fall grade report, and your paper will be due at the beginning of the Fall, 2008 semester. All papers turned in as a result of an incomplete must be turned in two weeks prior to the due date of final grades. **Please check the UTDallas Catalog and Academic Calendar regarding rules and dates for incomplete work.**

Special Assignments

N/A

Class Attendance

Regular class attendance (15%) and participation in class discussions (15%) comprise 30% of the final grade.

Missing more than 2 classes will affect your grade.

Classroom Citizenship

See above.

If you require media equipment for a class presentation, please notify Debbie Pfister at 972-883-2100 or dhpf@utdallas.edu with your requests two weeks prior to the date you will require the equipment.

NOTE: All cell phones and computers must be turned off upon entering the classroom. Students with special needs which require use of computers during class must submit a written request to Professor Ozsváth signed by representatives of Student Services explaining these needs.

Technical Support

If you experience any problems with your UTD account you may send an email to: assist@utdallas.edu or call the UTD Computer Helpdesk at 972-883-2911.

Field Trip Policies / Off-Campus Instruction and Course Activities

Off-campus, out-of-state, and foreign instruction and activities are subject to state law and University policies and procedures regarding travel and risk-related activities. Information regarding these rules and regulations may be found at the website address http://www.utdallas.edu/BusinessAffairs/Travel_Risk_Activities.htm. Additional information is available from the office of the school dean. Below is a description of any travel and/or risk-related activity associated with this course.

N/A

Student Conduct & Discipline

The University of Texas System and The University of Texas at Dallas have rules and regulations for the orderly and efficient conduct of their business. It is the responsibility of each student and each student organization to be knowledgeable about the rules and regulations which govern student conduct and activities. General information on student conduct and discipline is contained in the UTD printed publication, *A to Z Guide*, which is provided to all registered students each academic year.

The University of Texas at Dallas administers student discipline within the procedures of recognized and established due process. Procedures are defined and described in the *Rules and Regulations, Series 50000, Board of Regents, The University of Texas System*, and in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities of the university's *Handbook of Operating Procedures*. Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations (SU 1.602, 972/883-6391) and online at <http://www.utdallas.edu/judicialaffairs/UTDJudicialAffairs-HOPV.html>

A student at the university neither loses the rights nor escapes the responsibilities of citizenship. He or she is expected to obey federal, state, and local laws as well as the Regents' Rules, university regulations, and administrative rules. Students are subject to discipline for violating the standards of conduct whether such conduct takes place on or off campus, or whether civil or criminal penalties are also imposed for such conduct.

Academic Integrity

The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.

Scholastic Dishonesty, any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the university's policy on plagiarism (see general catalog for details). This course will use the resources of turnitin.com, which searches the web for possible plagiarism and is over 90% effective.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted materials, including music and software. Copying, displaying, reproducing, or distributing copyrighted works may infringe the copyright owner's rights and such infringement is subject to appropriate disciplinary action as well as criminal penalties provided by federal law. Usage of such material is only appropriate when that usage constitutes "fair use" under the Copyright Act. As a UT Dallas student, you are

required to follow the institution's copyright policy (Policy Memorandum 84-I.3-46). For more information about the fair use exemption, see <http://www.utsystem.edu/ogc/intellectualproperty/copypol2.htm>

Email Use

The University of Texas at Dallas recognizes the value and efficiency of communication between faculty/staff and students through electronic mail. At the same time, email raises some issues concerning security and the identity of each individual in an email exchange. The university encourages all official student email correspondence be sent only to a student's U.T. Dallas email address and that faculty and staff consider email from students official only if it originates from a UTD student account. This allows the university to maintain a high degree of confidence in the identity of all individual corresponding and the security of the transmitted information. UTD furnishes each student with a free email account that is to be used in all communication with university personnel. The Department of Information Resources at U.T. Dallas provides a method for students to have their U.T. Dallas mail forwarded to other accounts.

Withdrawal from Class

The administration of this institution has set deadlines for withdrawal of any college-level courses. These dates and times are published in that semester's course catalog. Administration procedures must be followed. It is the student's responsibility to handle withdrawal requirements from any class. In other words, I cannot drop or withdraw any student. You must do the proper paperwork to ensure that you will not receive a final grade of "F" in a course if you choose not to attend the class once you are enrolled.

Student Grievance Procedures

Procedures for student grievances are found in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities, of the university's *Handbook of Operating Procedures*.

In attempting to resolve any student grievance regarding grades, evaluations, or other fulfillments of academic responsibility, it is the obligation of the student first to make a serious effort to resolve the matter with the instructor, supervisor, administrator, or committee with whom the grievance originates (hereafter called "the respondent"). Individual faculty members retain primary responsibility for assigning grades and evaluations. If the matter cannot be resolved at that level, the grievance must be submitted in writing to the respondent with a copy of the respondent's School Dean. If the matter is not resolved by the written response provided by the respondent, the student may submit a written appeal to the School Dean. If the grievance is not resolved by the School Dean's decision, the student may make a written appeal to the Dean of Graduate or Undergraduate Education, and the dean will appoint and convene an Academic Appeals Panel. The decision of the Academic Appeals Panel is final. The results of the academic appeals process will be distributed to all involved parties.

Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations.

Incomplete Grade Policy

As per university policy, incomplete grades will be granted only for work unavoidably missed at the semester's end and only if 70% of the course work has been completed. An incomplete grade must be resolved within eight (8) weeks from the first day of the subsequent long semester. If the required work to complete the course and to remove the incomplete grade is not submitted by the specified deadline, the incomplete grade is changed automatically to a grade of **F**.

Disability Services

The goal of Disability Services is to provide students with disabilities educational opportunities equal to those of their non-disabled peers. Disability Services is located in room 1.610 in the Student Union. Office hours are Monday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; and Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The contact information for the Office of Disability Services is:
The University of Texas at Dallas, SU 22
PO Box 830688
Richardson, Texas 75083-0688

(972) 883-2098 (voice or TTY)
disabilityservice@utdallas.edu

If you anticipate issues related to the format or requirements of this course, please meet with the Coordinator of Disability Services. The Coordinator is available to discuss ways to ensure your full participation in the course. If you determine that formal, disability-related accommodations are necessary, it is very important that you be registered with Disability Services to notify them of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. Disability Services can then plan how best to coordinate your accommodations.

It is the student's responsibility to notify his or her professors of the need for such an accommodation. Disability Services provides students with letters to present to faculty members to verify that the student has a disability and needs accommodations. Individuals requiring special accommodation should contact the professor after class or during office hours.

Religious Holy Days

The University of Texas at Dallas will excuse a student from class or other required activities for the travel to and observance of a religious holy day for a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property tax under Section 11.20, Tax Code, Texas Code Annotated.

The student is encouraged to notify the instructor or activity sponsor as soon as possible regarding the absence, preferably in advance of the assignment. The student, so excused, will be allowed to take the exam or complete the assignment within a reasonable time after the absence: a period equal to the length of the absence, up to a maximum of one week. A student who notifies the instructor and completes any missed exam or assignment may not be penalized for the absence. A student who fails to complete the exam or assignment within the prescribed period may receive a failing grade for that exam or assignment.

If a student or an instructor disagrees about the nature of the absence [i.e., for the purpose of observing a religious holy day] or if there is similar disagreement about whether the student has been given a reasonable time to complete any missed assignments or examinations, either the student or the instructor may request a ruling from the chief executive officer of the institution, or his or her designee. The chief executive officer or designee must take into account the legislative intent of TEC 51.911(b), and the student and instructor will abide by the decision of the chief executive officer or designee.

These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.