

## *Course Syllabus*

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### **Course Information**

*Course Number/Section* HIST 4344.501  
*Course Title* *Holocaust and Representation*  
 Classroom: JO 4.102

*Term* Spring, 2010  
*Days & Times* Tuesday 7-9:45 p.m.

### **Professor Contact Information**

*Professor* Debbie Pfister  
*Office Phone* 972-883-2100  
*Other Phone*  
*Email Address* dhp@utdallas.edu  
*Office Location* JO 5.114  
*Office Hours* Tuesday 6-7 p.m. or by appointment  
*Other Information*

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

N/A

### **Course Description**

The mass murder of European Jewry during the Holocaust 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 implementation of the "Final Solution", and the ways in which the Nazis carried out this death sentence for every Jew has affected our basic concepts of progress, enlightenment, morality, and freedom.

Exploring the social, political, historical, and cultural contexts of the Holocaust, the purpose of this course is to examine its depiction and representation in art, literature, poetry, and film. We will construct our inquiry around three major questions: why did this mass murder happen, how did it run its course, and how can we articulate the enormity and horror of this event in the various modes of artistic expression. Through this examination, 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 in the twenty- first-century.

### **Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes**

Students will analyze the long-standing tradition of anti-Semitism as well as the background and history of the Holocaust. In addition, they will consider several major scholarly interpretations of this catastrophic event while critically evaluating ways in which the Shoah is represented in film, literature, and art.

### **Required Textbooks and Materials**

#### *Required Texts*

Bauer, Yehuda, *A History of the Holocaust* (Revised Edition) (ISBN: 0-531-11884-3)  
 Langer, Lawrence, Ed. *Art from the Ashes* (ISBN: 9780195077322)  
 Levi, Primo *If Not Now When* (ISBN: 978-0140188936)

\*Required reading assignments from Ilan Avisar, Lawrence Baron, Richard Breitman, Joel Carmichael, David Crowe, Jeffrey Herf, Jacob Katz, Lawrence Langer, Allan Levine, Robert Wistrich, and others 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

Group report readings will be provided in class.

Texts listed above under “Required Texts” in addition to works which are noted below with \*.

Reading selections noted in the syllabus with \*\* are suggested additional readings and are not required.

Texts listed

Readings which are noted with \* will be located on the electronic reserve site of the Mc Dermott Library. The site is located at: <http://www.utdallas.edu/library/services/reserves/reservesvc.htm>. Once on this site, choose the tab labeled “Find Electronic Reserves” tab on the left in the center. After you have reached the Course Reserve site, choose the first line entitled “Find electronic reserves,” then Debbie Pfister’s name from the first pull down menu, and then your course in the second window. Then click “Find IT.” A new window will open. Click on the statement “HIST 4344.501, “Holocaust & Representation.” When you reach the new page you will be asked for a password which will be provided in class and must not be shared with students who are not taking the class. After filling in the password, click the “Accept Button” (if you don’t it won’t let you into the site). Once on the class reserve site simply click on the folder which represents the date you need and all of the reading assignments will be located there as PDF’s. **If you have any problems navigating the site, if a reading is illegible, if a reading is missing, or if you cannot open one of the PDF’s, please contact the McDermott Library Staff, they are always available to help.**

## Suggested Course Materials

### *Suggested Readings/Texts*

Noted below with \*\*.

### *Suggested Materials*

Noted by date below with \*\*.

## Assignments & Academic Calendar

### *Topics, Reading Assignments, Due Dates, Exam Dates*

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|--------------------------|---|
| <b>January 12, 2010:</b> | <b>Introduction</b><br>Film: <i>Holocaust: A History</i><br>Discussion  |
| <b>January 19, 2010:</b> | Yehuda Bauer, <i>A History of the Holocaust</i> , pp. 15- 56, 61-78, and 81-100.<br>*William Nicholls, Introduction, pp. xvii-xxvii.<br>*Robert Wistrich, “The Medieval Legacy,” pp. 29-42 in <i>Anti-Semitism: The Longest Hatred</i> ;<br>*D. Crowe, “French Anti-Semitism and the Dreyfus Affair,” pp 64- 68 in <i>The Holocaust: Roots, History and Aftermath</i> .<br>*Wilfried van de Will and Rob Burns, “The Politics of Cultural Struggle: Intellectuals and the Labour Movement,” pp. 162-200 in <i>The Weimar Dilemma</i> .<br><br>**D. Crowe, <i>The Holocaust: Roots, History and Aftermath</i> , pp. 87-103.<br>**Jacob Katz, “The Preparatory Stage of the Modern Anti-Semitic Movement,” pp. 279-289 in <i>Anti-Semitism Through the Ages</i> . |
| <b>January 26, 2010:</b> | Film: <i>Imaginary Witness</i><br>Discussion<br><br>*Jeffrey Herf, “The “Jewish War”: Goebbels and the Anti-Semitic Campaign of the Nazi Propaganda Ministry,” pp. 51-80 in <i>Holocaust and Genocide Studies</i> V 19, N 1, Spring 2005.   |

- January 26, 2010:**  
(contd.)
- \*Illan Avisar, "The Hollywood Film and the Presentation of the Jewish Catastrophe," pp. 90-133 in *Screening the Holocaust*.  
\*Judith Doneson, "Reflections of Anti-Semitism in Film and the Nazi Persecution of the Jews: 1934-1947," pp 15-56 in *The Holocaust in American Film*.
- February 2, 2010:**
- Film: *The Great Dictator*  
Discussion
- February 9, 2010:**
- Y. Bauer, *A History of the Holocaust*, pp. 101-146.  
\*Geoffrey Hartman, "Darkness Visible," pp. 35-59 in the *Longest Shadow*.  
\*Sidra DeKoven Ezrahi, "Introduction," pp 1-23 in *By Words Alone: The Holocaust in Literature*.  
Langer, Lawrence, "On Writing and Reading Holocaust Literature," pp. 3-9 and "The Way It Was," pp. 11-15 in *Art from the Ashes*.  
Jean Améry, "Torture," pp. 121 – 136 in *Art from the Ashes*.
- February 16, 2010:**
- Y. Bauer, *A History of the Holocaust*, pp. 147-208.  
\*David Crowe, "Operation Barbarossa and Plans for Mass Murder," pp. 191-201 in *The Holocaust: Roots, History and Aftermath*.  
\*Crowe, "Babi Yar," pp.210-211 in *The Holocaust: Roots, History and Aftermath*.  
\*David Patterson, Ed., "The Vilna Ghetto," by A. Sutskever, pp. 241-254 in *The Complete Book of Russian Jewry*.
- February 23, 2010:**
- Assignment 1 due (assignment guidelines will be provided in handout)**  
Y. Bauer, *A History of the Holocaust*, pp. 209 -247.  
\*David Crowe, "The Wannsee Conference," pp. 234 -238 in *The Holocaust: Roots, History and Aftermath*.  
\*Lawrence Baron, "Projecting the Holocaust into the Twenty-first Century," pp.239-268 in *Projecting the Holocaust into the Present*.
- Film: *Conspiracy*  
Discussion
- March 2, 2010:**
- Test I (BRING A BLUE BOOK)**  
"Journals and Diaries," pp. 153-158 in *Art from the Ashes*.  
Avraham Tory, "Memoir," pp. 217-233 in *Art from the Ashes*.  
War Notebooks: The Art and Verse of Imre Amos (to be provided in class).
- March 9, 2010:**
- Film: *The Shop on Main Street*  
Discussion
- March 16, 2010:**
- Spring Break
- March 23, 2010:**
- Y. Bauer, *A History of the Holocaust*, pp. 248-265.  
Tadeusz Borowski, "This Way to the Gas, Ladies and Gentlemen," pp 343 -356 in *Art from the Ashes*.  
\*Lawrence Langer, "The Literature of Auschwitz," pp 89-107 in *Admitting the Holocaust*.
- Film: *Grey Zone*  
Discussion
- March 30, 2010:**
- \*Aharon Appelfeld, "After the Holocaust," pp. 83 – 92 in *Writing and the Holocaust*.  
Aharon Appelfeld, "Tzili," pp. 273-341 in *Art from the Ashes*.  
\*Lawrence Langer, "Aharon Appelfeld and the Language of Sinister Silence," pp. 125-137 in *Admitting the Holocaust*.  
\*Langer, Lawrence. "Deep Memory" in *Holocaust Testimonies: The Ruins of Memory*, pp. 1-38.  
Delbo, Charlotte, "Voice," pp. 77-92 in *Art from the Ashes*.  
Sara Nomberg-Przytyk, "The Verdict," pp. 264-267 in *Art from the Ashes*.
- April 6, 2010:**
- Y. Bauer, *A History of the Holocaust*, pp. 266-306.  
Primo Levi, *If Not Now When*.

## Discussion

**April 13, 2010:**

\*Allan Levine, "Shtetlach in the Naliboki," pp. 259-291 in *Fugitives of the Forest*.  
 \*Judith Doneson, "What Will We Remember?" pp. 219-231 in *The Holocaust in American Film*.

Film: Film: *Defiance*

**April 20, 2010:**

Y. Bauer, *A History of the Holocaust*, pp.307-361.  
 \*Richard Breitman, "American Assessment," pp. 122-136 and "Breakthrough in the West," pp. 137-154 in *Official Secrets*.

Film: *America and the Holocaust*

**April 27, 2010:**

**Final Paper Due Due (information provided on handout-this grade will be considered incomplete until your paper has been submitted to turnitin.com)**

Art and Memory: The Work of Samuel Bak and David Olère (to be provided in class)

Film: *The Last Days*  
 Discussion

**May 11, 2010**

**Final Exam 7:00 p.m.**

## Grading Policy

Grades will be based on class attendance (20%); participation in class discussions (10%); one 5-6 page paper reviewing a Holocaust film (list will be provided in class) or a selection from *Art from the Ashes* not covered by the syllabus (10%); one 8- 10 page paper on the representation of the Holocaust in film, literature, or art (15%); one test (20%); and one final (25%).

**\*NOTE: The final paper must be 8-10 pages before the work cited or bibliography is added. Any paper that does not include a bibliography or work cited page and does not meet the minimum 8 page requirement will receive an automatic grade reduction. In addition, all papers must conform to MLA or the Turabian style manuals. Please let me know immediately if you have any disability, so that I can make for you the appropriate accommodation.**

**Only those web sites ending in ".gov," ".edu," ".org" or those approved by the instructor are acceptable for use in this class. Wikipedia is not accepted as a source for your paper.**

**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*

Make-up exams are to be arranged on an individual basis, as needed, with the instructor.

### *Extra Credit*

N/A

### *Late Work*

If you cannot turn in your paper by **April 27, 2010**, 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 spring grade report, and your paper will be due at the beginning of the Fall, 2010 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 comprises 20% of the final grade.

Missing more than 3 classes will affect your grade.

### *Classroom Citizenship*

**NOTE: Please let me know immediately if you have any disability, so that I can make for you the appropriate accommodation. 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 me signed by representatives of Student Services explaining these needs. Students must bring along the various texts assigned in the syllabus for every individual session during the semester.**

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

### **Technical Support**

If you experience any problems with your UTD account you may send an email to: [assist@utdallas.edu](mailto: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](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](mailto: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.***

