
Course Syllabus

Course Information

<i>Course Number/Section</i>	HIST 4344
<i>Course Title</i>	<i>The Holocaust and its Aftermath</i>
<i>Term</i>	Spring 2015
<i>Days & Times</i>	TR: 2:30 PM - 3:45 PM
<i>Location</i>	AH2 1.204

Professor Contact Information

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

No prior background is assumed or required.

Course Description

Taking an interdisciplinary approach, this course explores the Holocaust and its aftermath. It challenges our fundamental assumptions and values, and it raises questions of great urgency: “What was the background of the Holocaust?” How was it possible for a state to systematize, mechanize, and socially organize this assault on the Jewish people?” And “How could the Nazis in a few years eliminate the foundations of Western civilization?” Our course will search for answers to these questions and investigate many others. In addition, it will explore the ways in which the Holocaust is often denied as well as those in which it is commemorated in the Nuremberg and Eichmann trials, in survivor testimonies, in Holocaust literature, art, memorials, museums, and films.

The course is taught by a team of three professors, and its instructional format will be lecture with substantial discussion.

Required Textbooks and Materials

Yehuda Bauer, *History of the Holocaust*, Children’s Press, 2001, ISBN-13: 978-0531155769.

Haim Gouri,. *Facing the Glass Booth: The Jerusalem Trial of Adolf Eichmann*. Wayne State University Press, 2004. ISBN 0-8143-3087-8

Deborah Lipstadt, *Denying the Holocaust: The Growing Assault on Truth and Memory*. Plume, 1994. ISBN 0452272742

Andre Schwarzbart, *The Last of the Just*. New York: Overlook Press, Peter Mayer Publishers, 2000. ISBN 978-1-58567-016-2

Elie Wiesel, *Night*, trans. Stella Rodway, Bantam Books, 1982. ISBN 978-0553272536

Suggested Course Materials

Assignments & Academic Calendar

Jan 13: First day, all three of us

Jan 15: Zsuzsi, Bauer, *History of the Holocaust*, Ch. 1-2

Jan 20: Zsuzsi, Bauer, *History of the Holocaust*, Ch. 3-4

Jan 22: Hitler's Consolidation of Power and his Anti-Jewish Policy (Nils Roemer)

Bauer, *History of the Holocaust*, Ch. 5-6

Neil Gregor, ed., *Nazism* (2000), 95-108

Marion Kaplan, *Between Dignity and Despair: Jewish Life in Nazi Germany* (1998), 17-73 and 94-118

Omer Bartov, "Defining Enemies, Making Victims: Germans, Jews and the Holocaust," *American Historical Review* 103 (1998), 771-816

Jan 27: Jewish Life in Nazi Germany

Inge Deutschkron, *Outcast: A Jewish Girl in Wartime Berlin* (1989), selection

Peter Gay, *My German Question: Growing Up in Nazi Berlin* (1998), selection

Excerpts from *I Shall Bear Witness. The Diaries of Victor Klemperer 1933-1941, Volume 1* (1998)

Bauer, *History of the Holocaust*, ch. 7-8

Arnold Paucker, "Responses of German Jewry to Nazi Persecution, 1933-1943", Edward Timms and Andrea Hammel, eds., *The German-Jewish Dilemma: From the Enlightenment to the Shoah* (1999), 211-227

Jan 29: David, Bauer, *History of the Holocaust*, Ch. 9-11

Feb 3: David, Bauer, *History of the Holocaust*, Ch. 12-end

Feb 5: David; Gouri, pp. 1-79

Feb 10: David; Gouri, pp. 80-161

Feb 12: David; Gouri, pp. 162-243

Feb 17: David; Gouri, pp. 244-end

Feb 19: David; Lipstadt, pp. 1-64

Feb 24: David; Lipstadt, pp. 65-121

Feb 26: David; Lipstadt, pp. 123-181

Mar 3: David; Lipstadt, pp. 183-end

Mar 5: Zsuzsi: Zsuzsi R. Braham, "The Holocaust in Hungary: A Retrospective Analysis," in *The Holocaust in Hungary: Fifty Years Later*, pp. 285-304. **[First paper on some aspect of (1) Holocaust denial or (2) the Eichmann trial, with suggestions from Prof. Patterson.]**

Mar 10: Zsuzsi, Eli Wiesel, *Night* (Transl. Stella Rodway)

Mar 12: Zsuzsi, Andre Schwarzbart, *The Last of the Just*

Mar 24: Zsuzsi, Andre Schwarzbart, *The Last of the Just*

Mar 26: Zsuzsi, Radnoti, Poems: (Ozsvath and Turner's Translation!) "The Dreadful Angel," "In the Gibbering Palm Tree," "Neither Memory nor Magic," Letter to My Wife," "Razglednicas."

Mar 31: Zsuzsi, P. Celan, Poems (John Felstiner's Translation!): "Nearness of Graves," "Aspen Tree," "Black Flakes," "Tenebrae," "Death Fugue."

Apr 2: Zsuzsi, Nelli Sachs, Poems: (Ruth and Matthew Mead and Michael Hamburger's Translation!) "Oh the Night of the Weeping Children," "What Secret Cravings of the Blood," "Chorus of the Rescued," "Chorus of the Unborn," Agnes Gergely, Poem: You are a Sign on My Doorpost" (Z. Ozsvath and F. Turner's Translation!)

Apr 7: The Holocaust on the Screen (Nils Roemer) [Second paper due on a literary text, author, or theme in the literary response to the Holocaust, with suggestions from Prof. Ozsváth.]

Sander Gilman, *Jewish Self-Hatred: Anti-Semitism and the Hidden Language of the Jews* (1986), 345-360

Jeffrey Shandler, *While America Watches: Televising the Holocaust* (1999), selection

Peter Novick, *The Holocaust in American Life* (1999), 63-123

Alan Mintz, *Popular Culture and the Shaping of Holocaust Memory in America* (2001), 85-158

Film *The Diary of Anne Frank* (1959)

Apr 9: Preserving the Voice of the Survivor (Nils Roemer)

Cathy Caruth, "Introduction: The Wound and the Voice," *Unclaimed Experience: Trauma, Narrative and History*. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1996. 1-9.

James E. Young, "Toward a Received History of the Holocaust," *History and Theory* 26 (1997): 21-43

Lawrence L. Langer, *Holocaust Testimonies: The Ruins of Memory* (1991), selection

Alan Mintz, *Popular Culture and the Shaping of Holocaust Memory in America* (2001), 36-84

Film Claude Lanzman, *Shoah* (1985),

Apr 14: The Holocaust in Visual Art (Nils Roemer)

Sybil Milton, "Art of the Holocaust: A Summary", Randolph L. Brahm (Ed.), *Reflections of the Holocaust in Art and Literature*, City University of New York, New York, 1990, pp.147-152.

Hirsch, Marianne. "Surviving Images: Holocaust Photography and the Work of Postmemory." Ed. Barbie Zelizer. *Visual Culture and the Holocaust*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 2001, 215-246.

Barbie Zelizer (2001) "Gender and Atrocity: Women in Holocaust Photographs. Barbie Zelitzer (ed.) *Visual Culture and the Holocaust*, New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers UP, 2001, 247-271

Apr 16: Holocaust in Monuments and Memorials (Nils Roemer)

Debórah Dwork and Robert Jan van Pelt, "Reclaiming Auschwitz," Geoffrey H. Hartman, ed., *Holocaust Remembrance: The Shapes of Memory* (1994), 232-51

James E. Young, *The Texture of Memory: Holocaust Memorials and Meaning* (1993), 81-90, 155-208, 243-282

Saul Friedlander, "Memory of the Shoah in Israel," James E. Young, ed., *The Art of Holocaust Memorials in History*, 149-57

Anita Shapira, "The Holocaust: Private Memories, Public Memory," in *Jewish Social Studies*, Vol.4, No.2, Winter 1998, 40-58

Film: Night and Fog (1955)

April 21: Holocaust Museums in Washington (NR)

Edward T. Linenthal, *Preserving Memory: The Struggle to Make America's Holocaust Museum* (1995)

James Ingo Freed, "The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum," James Young, *The Art of Holocaust Memorials in History* (1994), 89-101

Leon Wieseltier, "After Memory: Reflections on the Holocaust Memorial Museum," *The New Republic* (May 3, 1993), 16-26

Apr 23: The Jewish Museum, the Holocaust Memorial and the Topography of Terror

Andreas Huyssen, "The Voids of Berlin," *Critical Inquiry* 24:1 (Autumn 1997), 57-81

David Clay Large, *Berlin: A Modern History* (2001), 585-647

Apr 28: Holocaust in Film

Michael Bernard-Donals, Richard Glejzer, "Film and the Shoah: The Limits of Seeing", *Between Witness and Testimony – The Holocaust and the Limits of Representation*, State of New York University Press, Albany, 2001, pp. 103-129.

Annette Insdorf, "The Hollywood Version of the Holocaust", *Indelible Shadows: Film and the Holocaust*, Forward: Elie Wiesel, Cambridge University Press, 3rd edition, 2003, pp. 3-23.

Ilan Avisar, "The Hollywood Film and the Presentation of the Jewish Catastrophe", *Screening the Holocaust: Cinema's Images of the Unimaginable*, Indiana University Press, Blomington and Indianapolis, 1988, 90-133.

Apr 30: (Last day of class) All three of us [Third paper due, addressing issues of visual and monumental representations of the Holocaust and Holocaust remembrance, with suggestions from Prof. Roemer. Final exam due.]

Grading Policy

Students will be evaluated on the basis of (1) three short analytical papers of at least 1500 words, (2) a take-home final exam in essay format of 500-800 words, and (3) class participation. The papers will be evaluated on the basis of their (1) analytical depth, (2) organizational structure, (3) stylistic eloquence, and (4) grammatical correctness. Papers will count for 80% of the grade, the final exam for 15%, and class participation for 5%. Each paper should address a text, a question, or a topic covered by that third cover by one of the three professors, as indicate above. The take-home final will be distributed at least one week before it is due. The instructional format is lecture with substantial discussion.