

The University of Florida
History of the Holocaust
EUH 3030/JST 3931
Spring 2017

Instructor:
 Norman J.W. Goda

Walker Hall 201
 Office Hrs. Monday 10-11

Teaching Assistants:

Richard Brust (richardbrust@ufl.edu)
 (Keene Flint 009 Office Hrs. F. 10:00-11:00)
 Johanna Mellis (jmellis@ufl.edu)
 (Keene Flint 009 Office Hrs. W. 12:30-1:30)

This class provides an analysis of the greatest premeditated atrocity in Western history – the murder of nearly six million European Jews from 1939-1945. It will approach this event chronologically and geographically but also from a variety of perspectives --from that of the killers, from that of the victims, and from that of the so-called bystanders. We will also examine major historical arguments concerning the Holocaust's most critical aspects. Students will attain a factual command of the major developments of the Holocaust within the context of Jewish, European, and World History and gain an introductory knowledge of differing historiographical explanations.

There is substantial reading, speaking and writing in this class. Commitment from you will be worth your while. Your grade will be determined as follows:

Discussions and Response Papers -- 40%.

There are fourteen discussion days in this course, all on Fridays (see below for your section). For thirteen of them you will have to write a **300-word** (typed, double-spaced) response to a question based on the reading, the question given in advance under "Assignments" on Canvas. Your grade will be determined by the quality of your papers: the degree to which they are polished (no misspellings, good grammar, etc.); the degree to which they **engage the readings with an example or two**; and the degree to which you **participate** in discussion. Response papers must be uploaded to Canvas by noon on Friday. Late papers will not be accepted. An unexcused absence from discussion with or without a response paper will result in zero for that discussion. I will drop the lowest weekly Discussion/Response grade, so use it wisely.

Midterm Examination -- 30%.

The Midterm Exam is on February 13, from 6-8 PM, room TBA. It cannot be made up save for extreme circumstances. The exam will be made up of identification questions and essays. Possible essay questions will be distributed ten days in advance.

Final Examination -- 30%.

The Final Exam is on April 27 from 12:30-3:30 pm. It cannot be made up save for extreme circumstances. The exam will be made up of identification questions and essays. Possible essay questions will be distributed ten days 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				

Grading Criteria is as follows:

- A-range - 90s -- Excels - Full command and facility with material with the ability to place it within larger historical context and to make arguments based upon it.
- B-range - 80s - Good - Solid understanding of material but without complete facility or ability to make arguments based on it.
- C-range - 70s -- Fair - Some understanding of major themes, lack of command with detail, or some understanding of detail but lack of contextual understanding.
- D-range - 60s -- Poor - Enough factual understanding to pass, but little to no contextual clarity.
- F-range - Fails - Lack of university level quality.

Your Friday discussion sections are as follows.

Section	Time	Room	Leader
O3HE	Hour 7	FLI 121	Mellis
O4B8	Hour 7	FLG 265	Brust
O4CB	Hour 8	FLI 115	Mellis
O4CE	Hour 8	FLI 101	Brust

Policies on Attendance and Class Etiquette:

ATTENDANCE, LATENESS: 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, trust me, it will show in your written work. Be in class on time.

COMMUNICATION: If Ms. Mellis, Mr. Brust, or I e-mail you with an announcement through Canvas, then I consider you to have been notified. If you

wish to communicate with us, please do so in Canvas and your queries will be answered as soon as possible.

TURN YOUR CELL PHONES OFF when we begin class. If I see you using your cell phone once class begins I will immediately ask you to leave. You do not have permission to record lectures.

NO COMPUTERS ALLOWED IN CLASS: Sorry, but it's necessary. I have had too people over the years who watch videos, shop online, etc. during lectures, and this is a distraction to everyone sitting around them. You will need to take notes longhand.

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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.

You will need the following books:

- Goda, Norman J.W. *The Holocaust: Europe, the World, and the Jews*. London: Routledge, 2016 - This is the weekly text.
- Gross, Jan T. *Neighbors: The Destruction of the Jewish Community in Jedwabne, Poland*. New York: 2001.
- Levi, Primo. *Survival in Auschwitz*. (any edition will do).
- Sereny, Gitta. *Into that Darkness: An Examination of Conscience*. New York: Vintage, 1983.
- There will also be additional posted readings from documentary sources for discussion. They will be in weekly folders in Canvas under "Resources."

Lecture, Discussion, and Assignment Schedule

**Part 1:
The Jewish Question to 1933**

Week 1: The Medieval Legacy-- Jan. 4-6

W: The Devil and the Jews

F: **Discussion:** Ritual Murder

Reading: Text, Preface, 1.1-1.2; Week 1 Reading Folder (on Canvas under Files)

No Reaction Paper Due

Week 2: Modern Antisemitism -- Jan. 9-13

M: Jewish Emancipation

W: Modern Antisemitism

F: **Discussion:** Modern Antisemitism

Reading: Text, Finish Chapter 1, Week 2 Reading Folder (on Canvas under Files)

Reaction Paper Due on Friday noon

Week 3: The "Jewish Homeland" -- Jan. 16-20

M. MLK Day

W: The Pale and Pogroms

F: **Discussion:** Pogroms

Reading: Text, Chapter 2. Week 3 Reading Folder (on Canvas under Files)

Reaction Paper Due on Friday noon

**Part 2:
Nazi Persecution 1933-41**

Week 4: Hitler and the Jews - Jan. 23-27

M. Hitler and the Jews

W: Germany and its Jews, 1933-1938

F: **Discussion:** Hitler and the Nazis

Reading: Text, Chapter 3; 4.1-4.3; Week 4 Reading Folder (on Canvas under Files)

Reaction Paper Due on Friday noon

Week 5: Too Many Jews - Jan. 30-Feb 3

M. The Tide of Persecution 1938-1939

W: The World and Jewish Refugees

F. **Discussion:** *The St. Louis.*

Reading: Text, Chapter 4.4-4.5 and Chapter 5; Week 5 Reading Folder (on Canvas under Files)

Reaction Paper Due on Friday noon

Week 6: Ghettos in Poland - Feb. 6-10

M: Occupied Poland, 1939-1941

W: Ghettos in Poland

F: **Discussion:** The Warsaw Ghetto

Reading: Text, Chapter 6. Week 6 Reading Folder (on Canvas under Files)

Reaction Paper Due on Friday noon

(Midterm Monday Feb 13 at 6:00 pm)

Part 3:

War and Mass Murder 1939-43

Week 7: Mass Killings Begin - Feb 13-17

M: The Jews of the USSR

W: The Einsatzgruppen and their Helpers

F: **Discussion:** Collaborators in the East.

Reading: Text, Chapter 9, Gross, Neighbors, all.

Reaction Paper Due on Friday noon

Week 8: Aktion Reinhard: Mass Murder in Poland - Feb 20-24

M: Toward the Wannsee Conference

W: *Aktion Reinhard*: The Murder of Poland's Jews

Th: **Discussion:** Mentalities of Murder

Reading: Text, 8.2, Chapter 11, Sereny, *Into That Darkness*, all.

Reaction Paper Due on Friday noon

Week 9: Auschwitz - Feb 27-Mar 3

M: Auschwitz: The Capital of the Holocaust

W: Film: *Kitty: Return to Auschwitz*

F: **Discussion:** The Jews in the Camps

Reading: Text, 7.1-7.3, 12.1, Levi, *Survival in Auschwitz*, all.

Reaction Paper Due on Friday noon

Part 4:
Stopping the Holocaust?
Resistors and Bystanders 1942-45

Week 10: Jewish Resistance - Mar 13-17

M: Resistance: Spontaneous and Partisan Resistance

W: Resistance: Ghetto and Camp Resistance

F: **Discussion:** Problems of Jewish Resistance

Reading: Text, Chapter 10, Week 10 Reading Folder (on Canvas under Files).

Reaction Paper Due on Friday noon

Week 11: The Holocaust in Western Europe - Mar 20-24

M: The Netherlands: Complete Deportation

W: France: Partial Deportation

F: **Discussion:** *The Terrible Secret*

Reading: Text, Ch. 7; 12.2-12.5; Week 11 Folder (on Canvas under Files).

Reaction Paper Due on Friday noon

Week 12: Rescue and Non-Rescue - April 3-7

M: Sweden and Denmark: Halting Deportations

W. Vatican: The Silence of Pope Pius XII

F. **Discussion:** *In the Vatican's Shadow*

Reading: Text, Chapter 13; Week 12 Folder (on Canvas under Files).

Reaction Paper Due on Friday noon

Part 5:
The End: 1944-1945

Week 13: The Hungarian Jewish Catastrophe. Apr 6-10

M: Hungary (I): Eichmann's Triumph

W: Hungary (II): The Global Reaction

F: **Discussion:** Bribery and Bombs

Reading: Text, Chapter 14; Week 13 Folder (on Canvas under Files)

Reaction Paper Due on Friday noon

Week 14: The Final Chapter. Apr. 10-14

M. The Soviet Offensive and the Final Chapter

W. Death Marches

F: **Discussion:** The Death Throes

Reading: Text, Chapter 15; Week 15 Folder (on Canvas under Files)

Reaction Paper Due on Friday noon

Week 15: The Reckoning. Apr. 17-19

M: Justice

W: Memorialization

Reading: Text, Chapter 16