



WALSH UNIVERSITY

School *for* Professional Studies

HISTORY 313 The Rise and Fall of Nazi Germany

SEE PAGE 4 REGARDING ASSIGNMENTS FOR THE FIRST CLASS MEETING

REV. 7/06

WALSH UNIVERSITY
School for Professional Studies
HIST 313 The Rise and Fall of Nazi Germany
Course Syllabus

Course Description

History 313 is a study of the origins, course, and collapse of the Third Reich including the politics of genocide. The course begins with the historical context necessary to explain the origins of the National Socialist German Workers' Party. It will examine the transformation of the NSDAP from a small radical party to a mass movement. Discussion of how the party seized and consolidated power along with who supported it and why, will be followed by the study of selected aspects of Nazi Germany, including daily life, wartime policies, and the Holocaust.

Course Objectives

Students who successfully complete this course will understand the origins, course, and collapse of the Third Reich including the politics of genocide. They will ably delineate the major issues of this era. In addition, students will understand the impact of the Nazis on Germany and on the larger world. Each person will use specific examples from period while thinking analytically about the material.

Required Text

Spielvogel, Jackson J. Hitler and Nazi Germany: A History. 5th ed. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2005.

***Please review the School *for* Professional Studies textbook list for most up to date edition.**

Course Requirements

Students are required to complete a variety of assignments. The instructor will provide a more thorough description of assignments and the point distribution in the course syllabus. Requirements include, but are not limited to:

1. Participation. This class involves numerous discussions and students are expected to participate on a regular basis.
2. Research Project. Each student will examine a topic from the history period covered in the course and present their findings to the class. They will turn in a bibliography and outline.
3. Movie Review. Students will watch a movie after the midterm examination and write a brief critical analysis of it.

4. Reading Quizzes. There will be reading quizzes over every reading assignment. They test to guarantee that students read the material for each class.
5. Midterm Examination. The exam may include essay, identification, short answer, and map components.
6. Final Examination. The exam may include essay, identification, short answer, and map components.

History 313: The Rise and Fall of Nazi Germany
Workshop #1 Outline:

Origins

Assignments to be completed prior to Workshop One:

Read chapters 1 and 2 in Spielvogel.

Study for quiz over chapters 1 and 2.

Bring 2 or 3 potential research project topics to class. Research topics can be a person, place, organization, or event that is applicable to the subject matter of the course.

These will be collected. See page 11 of the module for more information.

OBJECTIVES:

After completion of this workshop, students will be able to:

1. Describe the background developments that helped lead to the rise of the Nazis.
2. Describe the rise of Adolph Hitler and the Nazi Party in the early 1920s.
3. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the early party.

ACTIVITIES:

- ◆ Introductions and review of instructor's course syllabus.
- ◆ Lecture on the origins of the Nazis.
- ◆ Discussion of research project requirements and parameters.
- ◆ Discussion of significance of primary sources.
- ◆ Discussion of material and sample research project presentation.
- ◆ Quiz on chapters 1 and 2.

**History 313: The Rise and Fall of Nazi Germany
Workshop #2 Outline:**

Organization and Consolidation

Assignments to be completed prior to Workshop Two:

Read chapters 3 and 4 in Spielvogel.
Study for quiz over chapters 3 and 4.
Preliminary research on research topic. Turn in planned topic.

OBJECTIVES:

After completion of this workshop, students will be able to:

1. Understand the growth of the Nazi Party.
2. Detail how the Nazis seized power in Germany.

ACTIVITIES:

- ◆ Lecture on the rise of the Nazis to power.
- ◆ Collection of research topics and discussion of preliminary findings.
- ◆ Assign dates for research topic discussion.
- ◆ Discussion to prompt students to offer their analysis of the material.
- ◆ Time permitting: primary source exercise.
- ◆ Quiz on chapters 3 and 4.

**History 313: The Rise and Fall of Nazi Germany
Workshop #3 Outline:**

The Dictator

Assignments to be completed prior to Workshop Three:

Read chapter 5 in Spielvogel.
Study for quiz on chapter 5.
Continue working on research project.
Any questions regarding midterm examination.

OBJECTIVES:

After completion of this workshop, students will be able to:

1. Detail Hitler's strengths and weaknesses.
2. Outline how Hitler was able to gain widespread support.

ACTIVITIES:

- ◆ Lecture on Hitler's dictatorial control.
- ◆ Discussion of research projects.
- ◆ Discussion to prompt students to offer their analysis of the material.
- ◆ Any questions regarding the midterm examination.
- ◆ Quiz on chapter 5.

**History 313: The Rise and Fall of Nazi Germany
Workshop #4 Outline:**

Evaluation of Knowledge

Assignments to be completed prior to Workshop Four:

Study for Midterm Examination covering workshops 1-3 and chapters 1-5 in Spielvogel.
Prepare 5 minute project presentation.

OBJECTIVES:

After completion of this workshop, students will be able to:

1. Synthesize the materials covered in the course to this point.
2. Analyze a movie and its historical content.

ACTIVITIES:

- ◆ Take a midterm examination.
- ◆ Research project presentation.
- ◆ Watch a movie.
- ◆ Each student will write an in-class movie review.

**History 313: The Rise and Fall of Nazi Germany
Workshop #5 Outline:**

Nazi Society

Assignments to be completed prior to Workshop Five:

Read chapter 6 in Spielvogel.
Study for quiz over chapter 6.
Continue work on research project.

OBJECTIVES:

After completion of this workshop, students will be able to:

1. Understand Nazi policy toward education and youth in Germany.
2. Describe Nazi policy toward women and the family.

ACTIVITIES:

- ◆ Lecture on Nazi society.
- ◆ Discussion of research projects.
- ◆ Discussion to prompt students to offer their analysis of the material.
- ◆ Quiz on chapter 6.

**History 313: The Rise and Fall of Nazi Germany
Workshop #6 Outline:**

World War II

Assignments to be completed prior to Workshop Six:

Read chapters 7 and 8 in Spielvogel.
Study for quiz on chapters 7 and 8.
Continue work on research project.

OBJECTIVES:

After completion of this workshop, students will be able to:

1. Detail Hitler's plans for war.
2. Describe the course of war in Europe.
3. Detail the impact of the war on the German homefront.

ACTIVITIES:

- ◆ Lecture on the Nazis and World War II.
- ◆ Discussion of research projects.
- ◆ Discussion to prompt students to offer their analysis of the material.
- ◆ Quiz on chapters 7 and 8.

**History 313: The Rise and Fall of Nazi Germany
Workshop #7 Outline:**

The Holocaust

Assignments to be completed prior to Workshop Seven:

Read chapters 9 and 10 in Spielvogel.
Study for quiz on chapters 9 and 10.
Some students will need to prepare research topic discussion.
Any questions regarding final examination.

OBJECTIVES:

After completion of this workshop, students will be able to:

1. Describe the plans for and implementation of the Holocaust.
2. Analyze the impact of the Holocaust on various groups.
3. Evaluate the impact of Hitler and Nazism.

ACTIVITIES:

- ◆ Lecture on the Holocaust.
- ◆ Discussion of research projects.
- ◆ Discussion to prompt students to offer their analysis of the material.
- ◆ Any questions regarding the final examination.
- ◆ Quiz on chapters 9 and 10.

**History 313: The Rise and Fall of Nazi Germany
Workshop #8 Outline:**

Evaluation of Knowledge II

Assignments to be completed prior to Workshop Eight:

Study for Final Examination covering workshops 5-7 and chapters 6-10 in Spielvogel.
Research project presentations.

OBJECTIVES:

After completion of this workshop, students will be able to:

1. Synthesize the material studied since the midterm examination.
2. Delineate their analysis of all aspects of Nazi Germany.

ACTIVITIES:

- ◆ Take the final examination.
- ◆ Discussion of research projects.
- ◆ Discussion of class as a whole.
- ◆ Course evaluations.

Research Project Topics

As the module states, students must complete a research project. A detailed handout explaining the requirements and providing due dates will be distributed at the first class. Students are required to bring 2-3 potential topics to that first class. Think about what interests you about the rise and fall of Nazi Germany and start focusing in on what you would like to examine. Since this is an accelerated class, your topic needs to be rather narrow. Below you will find some examples to help start your thinking. Please note, your research topic can be anything that applies to the course as a whole, so do not view the topics below as a list that you must choose from.

If you are interested in individuals, think about focusing on a specific aspect of his/her life.

--For example, if you are interested in Adolf Hitler's life before he takes power, possible topics could include: Hitler's childhood

Hitler's service in World War I

Hitler's imprisonment after the failed Beer Hall Putsch

--This is also the case for any individual you may be interested in examining.

Nazi leaders: Rudolf Hess, Reinhard Heydrick, Heinrich Himmler, Alfred Rosenberg

Holocaust: Adolf Eichmann, Primo Levi, Joseph Mengele, Elie Wiesel

If you are interested in culture and society, think about specific groups or policies.

--For example, the Hitler Youth, League of German Girls, Reproduction policy, etc

If you are interested in the war, think about specific plans or battles or individuals.

--For example, Operation Barbarossa, Battle for Stalingrad, Erwin Rommel, the Atlantic Wall

If you are interested in the Holocaust itself, there are many possibilities.

--For example, if you are interested in the treatment of Jews

Early events like the Nuremberg Laws, Kristallnacht, etc.

Transportation to the death camps

Individual camps

Individual experiences at the camps

--Other groups targeted, including Jehovah's Witnesses, gypsies, Slavs, etc