

HISTORY 323-001: MODERN GERMAN HISTORY

TOBIN HALL 204 – TUES-THURS 11:15 AM – 12:05 PM

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION:

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TEACHING ASSISTANT:

Tom Army is my Teaching Assistant for this course. Mr. Army is in charge of three discussion sections on Mondays and will be grading your quizzes, exams, and papers. If you have questions about the course, please contact Mr. Army first. If you still need assistance, please contact me.

Teaching Assistant	Email Address	Office	Office Hours
Tom Army	tarmy@history.umass.edu	Herter 713	Tuesday 1-3

OVERVIEW:

Contemporary historians of Germany tend to agree that the German state developed in a different manner than its western neighbors, such as France or Great Britain. Yet, historians remain divided as to which factors ultimately led to this divergent path or whether certain alternative policies might have steered Germany along a different developmental path. Regardless of which side of this question one feels is more convincing, the fact remains that the formation of the German state came relatively late within the European context and that German nationalism was a root cause of both World War I and World War II. Indeed, overcoming nationalism and the Nazi past has dominated German politics since 1945.

Our primary concern in this course will be to look at the internal and external factors that influenced the development of German nationalism and German national identity – what does it mean to be “German”? This is not to say that other important ideologies and issues will be ignored – quite the contrary. Nationalism, in fact, has shown a remarkable propensity to co-opt, or subsume other ideologies under its own banner. Nationalism, therefore, will serve as a connective tissue running throughout the course as we investigate the different ways in which it has been expressed and how it has functioned in different contexts, the impact that it has had in different areas, and the way in which it has interacted with and influenced other important ideologies.

CONTENT:

In this class we will look at the history of the German states from the mid-17th century to the present. Naturally, in a class that spans such a broad area, there is a limit to just how much we can cover as well as how deeply we can delve into any one subject. Nevertheless, I hope to present you with some of the most important trends and issues during this period in order to get a sense of how Germany became a nation-state, how World War I brought about the demise of the German Empire, how the settlement terms of WWI influenced the rise of Nazism and renewed German aggression that erupted into World War II, and finally how post-1945 Germany has attempted to deal with its

Nazi past. Naturally, there will be some issues that you would rather see covered in more depth, while others of you would prefer that I skip some of the ones that I do, in fact, cover. Such is, unfortunately, the nature of the survey class. Hopefully, though, you will find enough here that interests you (and maybe discover some new areas to which you had previously not given much thought) to make this learning experience a valuable and enjoyable one.

GOALS:

From this class you should gain a better understanding of the development of the Germany between the mid-17th century and the present and therefore a better understanding of the historical path that has culminated in the present day. Equally important, however, this course aims to develop your ability to *think critically* – to read and think about complex historical issues beyond the simple facts of the case. Certainly the facts are important, and the quizzes and exams will make sure that you are learning them. But beyond that, you will learn to think like an historian, trying to understand not only the ‘what’ of history, but also the ‘why’. You will then need to be able to express your views and interpretations in a clear, logical, and readable manner.

EXPECTATIONS:

To succeed in this class you will need to keep up with the reading, participate actively in class discussions, and be prepared for quizzes and exams on the specified dates. Attendance in lectures will not be taken. However, you will do yourself a great disservice by not attending class – you will miss material and interpretations from that day’s presentation as well as the opportunity to ask questions and otherwise interact with your classmates – an important part of the learning process. If at any time you are having difficulties with the material or the assignments, or just need to talk, please do not hesitate to come see my Teaching Assistant or me.

Attendance: I expect you to be here. You will do yourself a great disservice by not attending class – you will miss material and interpretations from that day’s presentation as well as the opportunity to ask questions and otherwise interact with your classmates – an important part of the learning process. There are occasionally good reasons to miss class (religious holidays, medical mishaps, family emergencies, athletic & musical contests); you do not need to keep me or your TA informed of the details. However, if you miss more than three (3) discussion sections, your final grade will drop one full letter. If you miss more than five (5) discussion sections, I strongly suggest you drop the course, because otherwise you will **fail automatically**. This is only reasonable: why should you earn college credit if you miss a substantial portion of the semester?

Conduct in class: You may drink any non-alcoholic beverage that suits your fancy. Please refrain from eating and from chewing tobacco. Also, **turn off cell phones** and other electronic messaging devices before class.

Laptops may be used for the sole purpose of taking notes in class. Any other use (such as instant messaging, emailing, surfing the web or like activities) will cause you to lose this privilege.

Special needs: The University of Massachusetts is firmly dedicated to making a college education available to all students with the appropriate academic preparation, regardless of physical or other conditions. If you are entitled to special arrangements in order to fulfill the course requirements, please bring verification from the Office of Disabilities within the first two weeks of class.

READINGS:

The readings for this course have been chosen to compliment the lectures – they are no substitute. For the most part they are intended to illuminate one or more perspectives on a particular issue. We will discuss the books and primary sources in sections on the days specified in the class schedule. On those days you are to come prepared to discuss the material you have read. The textbook will work in conjunction with the lectures, but here too, the roles are complimentary – there will be material presented in the lectures not found in the text. You are responsible for material presented both in class and in the assigned textbook readings. One copy of each of the books has been placed on reserve at the Du Bois Library.

Books: To Be Purchased at Amherst Books (www.amherstbooks.com)

- Martin Kitchen, *A History of Modern Germany, 1800-2000* (Paperback), (Wiley-Blackwell, 2006) ISBN: 978-1405100410
- J.W. von Goethe, *Faust: Part One*, (Oxford UP, 2008). ISBN: 978-0199536214
- Theodor Fontane, *Effi Briest* (Penguin Classics, 2001), ISBN: 978-0140447668
- Eric Weitz, *Weimar Germany: Promise and Tragedy* (Princeton UP, 2009). ISBN: 978-0691140964
- Christopher Browning, *Ordinary Men: Reserve Police Battalion 101 and the Final Solution in Poland* (Harper Perennial, 1993). ISBN: 978-0060995065
- Peter Schneider, *The Wall Jumper: A Berlin Story*, (University Of Chicago Press, 1998). ISBN: 978-0226739410

Articles and Primary Sources: On SPARK – Please Print Out and Bring to Class

- James Sheehan, “What is German History? Reflections on the Role of the German Nation in German History and Historiography,” *The Journal of Modern History*, Vol. 53, No. 1, (Mar. 1991) pp. 2-23. (PDF available through JSTOR or on SPARK)
- Johann Gottlieb Fichte, “Addresses to the German Nation” (Thirteenth Speech) from: Jones and Turnbull (translators), *Addresses to the German Nation* (Open Court Publishing, 1922). PDF of this chapter is on SPARK.
- Ernst Moritz Arndt, “The German Fatherland” from: German History in Documents and Images (German Historical Institute) - http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/sub_document.cfm?document_id=237 (PDF versions on SPARK)
- “Germany’s Unification,” “Hanseman on the Revolution in France,” “Heppenheim Program,” “Wirth At the Hambach Festival,” and “Frankfurt Parliament” from: German History in Documents and Images (German Historical Institute) - http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/sub_docs.cfm?section_id=9 (PDF versions on SPARK)
- “Anti-Socialist Law” (for reference), “Bebel Condemns Anti-Socialist Law” “Bamberger Extension of Anti-Socialist Law” “Weber Reflects on Cooperation,” and “Bamberger Hopes for Parliamentary Government” from: German History in Documents and Images (German Historical Institute) - http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/sub_docs.cfm?section_id=10 (PDF versions on SPARK)
- “Daily Telegraph Affair,” “Zabern Affair,” “Statutes of the PanGerman League,” and “Conservatives Embrace Anti-Semitism” from: German History in Documents and Images (German Historical Institute) - http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/sub_docs.cfm?section_id=11 (PDF versions on SPARK)
- “German Naval Office,” “Place in the Sun,” “Freyman’s Shades of the Future,” and “Inevitability of War” from: German History in Documents and Images (German Historical Institute) - http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/sub_docs.cfm?section_id=11 (PDF versions on SPARK)
- “Soldiers Describe Combat – Lange,” “Soldiers Describe Combat – Hammerer,” “Patriotic

Enlightenment," "Unrestricted Submarine Warfare" and "Ludendorff Admits Defeat" from: German History in Documents and Images (German Historical Institute) -

http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/sub_docs.cfm?section_id=11 (PDF versions on SPARK)

- "Klemperer's Diary Entry," "Reich Civil Servant Law," "Reich Citizenship Law," "Hitler's Greater German Reichstag Speech" from: German History in Documents and Images (German Historical Institute) - http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/sub_docs.cfm?section_id=13 (PDF versions on SPARK)
- "Byrne's Speech on Germany," "Nuremberg Trials," "CDU Social Market Economy," "First Party Conference of the SED," and "The Godesberg Program" from: German History in Documents and Images (German Historical Institute) - http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/sub_docs.cfm?section_id=14 (PDF versions on SPARK)

FILMS: Also on Reserve at the Library

Two films will be shown over the course of the semester. These films, like the readings, will highlight particular issues being dealt with in that unit of the class. While a film is entertaining in its own right, we will want to view it also with an eye to what it can tell us about the history of a particular time and place. We will view the film on the days specified in the class schedule. You will also be responsible for these films on your quizzes and exams, so if, for whatever reason you cannot attend one of the screenings, please make sure to make-up what you have missed outside of class. Both films are available in the Library Reserves section.

- *Downfall* (Germany, 2004)
- *Lives of Others* (Germany, 2006)

REQUIREMENTS:

There will be four quizzes, out of which you will be permitted to drop the lowest grade. Absences from quizzes will be counted as the dropped grade (**there will be no make-ups**). There will be one 6-7 page term paper. Details on the assignment will follow in a separate handout. The term paper will be due on April 15. There will also be a midterm exam and a final exam.

GRADING:

Your work in this course will be evaluated frequently and in a variety of ways. I hope that the frequency of evaluated assignments will encourage and allow you to stay on pace with the material. I also hope that our regular feedback helps you to identify weak spots and enables you to accent your strengths (e.g., preparing for those quizzes—never one of your strengths—ultimately helps you to write a terrific short answer on the midterm.)

Quizzes: 15% total.
Midterm Exam: 25%.
Term Paper: 20%.
Final Exam: 30%.
Participation: 10%.

Things to keep in mind:

- Please retain a second copy of papers until your graded paper is returned.
- Please hold all graded assignments until you receive your final grade.

- Please respect a 24-hour moratorium on discussing any individual grade.
- All late papers will be marked down 5 points for each calendar day late (i.e. after one day, an 85 (B) becomes an 80 (B-), etc.).
- Letter grade equivalencies: A=93-100; A-=90-92; B+=88-89; B=83-87; B-=80-82; C+=78-79; C=73-77; C-=70-72; D+=68-69.4; D=63-67; D-=60-62; F=below 59.

Please Note: All course requirements must be completed in order to receive a passing grade in the class. Cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty are grounds for failing this course.

Also Note: Exams will only be rescheduled for a documented illness or other emergency.

PLAGIARISM AND INTELLECTUAL INTEGRITY:

The **quizzes, midterm exam, term paper** and **final exam** must be taken without the assistance of books, notes, or other students. You may study with your classmates, but you may not seek their assistance during the actual administration of these tests. At the same time, beware of **plagiarism**. Plagiarism is stealing the words, ideas, or thoughts of another person (including the authors of all of our texts) and passing them off as your own. A rule of thumb: Whenever you use three or more consecutive words extracted from a text or a lecture, give credit by citing your source and using quotation marks. For example: 'According to the Western Experience, Homer's epics were the "greatest literary creations" in the history of the Greek Renaissance' (Chambers et al, p. 47).

As a condition of continued enrollment in this course, you agree to submit all assignments to the Turnitin.com service for textual comparison or originality review for the detection of possible plagiarism. All submitted assignments will be included in the UMass Amherst dedicated databases of assignments at Turnitin.com. These databases of assignments will be used solely for the purpose of detecting possible plagiarism during the grading process and during this term and in the future.

To access Turnitin.com go to the main login page (http://www.turnitin.com/login_page.asp) and either login (if you already have an account) or click on "New User" at the top of the page. This service is free, but you do need to register. Once you are logged in, you will need to add the course to your account. The Class ID is: 3075281 and the password is "bismarck" (written in small case). If you have questions here are some helpful links:

<http://www.library.umass.edu/tools/turnitin/UMassAmherstStudentQuickstart.pdf>

<http://www.turnitin.com/resources/documentation/turnitin/training/Student Manual August27.pdf>

What is Plagiarism? According to the UMASS Academic Regulations (2008-2009) Plagiarism is defined as "knowingly representing the words or ideas of another as one's own work in any academic exercise. This includes submitting without citation, in whole or in part, prewritten term papers of another or the research of another, including but not limited to commercial vendors who sell or distribute such materials." For more info please see the "Preventing Plagiarism" website at <http://www.umass.edu/academichonesty>.

Honesty: You may not engage in any form of academic dishonesty. This includes, but is not limited to, cheating on exams, helping another person cheat, or plagiarizing on written assignments. This also includes fabricating excuses for absences from class and signing in for another student. If you are caught cheating at any point during the semester, you will fail the entire course and I report you to the Academic Honesty Board.

Writing Center:

The university offers a special resource for students who want some additional assistance with writing and research. The Writing Center is located in the northwest corner of the W.E.B. DuBois Library's Learning Commons. For more information, please visit the WC Website: <http://www.umass.edu/writingcenter>. The web site also offers information about the Center, such as current hours of operation and what to bring with you for your first consultation.

LECTURE SCHEDULE:

This is the intended series of lectures for this course, though I reserve the right to make adjustments, if necessary, as the semester progresses. Following each lecture topic you will find the pertinent pages in the textbook. I recommend you do the reading in advance of coming to class for that day as it will help you to better follow the lecture.

Tue Jan 19	Introduction – Where is Germany?	
Thu Jan 21	Politics in 18 th Century Germany	Kitchen: pp. 1-8
Mon Jan 25	Discussion: What is German History?	James J. Sheehan, “What is German History?” (on SPARK)
Tue Jan 26	Society & Culture in 18 th Century Germany	
Thu Jan 28	The French Revolution and the German States	Kitchen: pp. 9-28
Mon Feb 1	Discussion: German Nationalism	Fichte, “13 th Address to the German Nation” and Arndt “The German Fatherland” (on SPARK)
Tue Feb 2	The Congress of Vienna & Restoration	Kitchen: pp. 50-60
Thu Feb 4	German Romanticism and the Fraternities	
Mon Feb 8	Discussion: Romanticism (Quiz #1)	Goethe: <i>Faust</i>
Tue Feb 9	The <i>Vormärz</i> : Setting the Stage for Revolution	Kitchen: pp. 60-70
Thu Feb 11	The 1848 Revolution and the Frankfurt Parliament	Kitchen: pp. 71-89
Mon Feb 15	NO CLASS – President’s Day	Sections will meet on Tuesday instead
Tue Feb 16	Discussion: German Unification	“Germany’s Unification,” “Hanseman on the Revolution in France,” “Heppenheim Program,” “Wirth At the Hambach Festival,” and “Frankfurt Parliament” (on SPARK)
Thu Feb 18	German <i>Bürgertum</i> & the Working Class	Kitchen: pp. 29-49
Mon Feb 22	Discussion: Biedermeier Germany	Fontane: <i>Effie Briest</i>

Tue Feb 23	German Unification	Kitchen: pp. 90-138
Thu Feb 25	Bismarck's Germany	Kitchen: pp. 139-172
Mon Mar 1	Discussion: Bismarck's Germany (Quiz #2)	"Anti-Socialist Law" (for reference), "Bebel Condemns Anti-Socialist Law" "Bamberger Extension of Anti-Socialist Law" "Weber Reflects on Cooperation," and "Bamberger Hopes for Parliamentary Government" (on SPARK)
Tue Mar 2	Wilhelmine Germany	Kitchen: pp. 173-186
Thu Mar 4	Navalism, Militarism, and the Coming of War	Kitchen: pp. 186-202
Mon Mar 8	Discussion: Wilhelmine Politics	"Daily Telegraph Affair," "Zabern Affair," "Statutes of the PanGerman League," (on Spark)
Tue Mar 9	MIDTERM EXAM	Cumulative Exam (Jan 19-Mar 8)
Thu Mar 11	NO CLASS	This is in return for attending films later
Mar 15-18	NO CLASS	SPRING BREAK
Mon Mar 22	Discussion: German Aggression	"German Naval Office," "Freyman's Shades of the Future," and "Inevitability of War" (on Spark)
Tue Mar 23	Outbreak of World War I	Kitchen: pp. 203-219
Thu Mar 25	World War I	
Mon Mar 29	Discussion: World War I	"Soldiers Describe Combat – Lange," "Soldiers Describe Combat – Hammerer," "Patriotic Enlightenment," "Unrestricted Submarine Warfare" and "Ludendorff Admits Defeat" (on Spark)
Tue Mar 30	The Weimar Republic: The Return to Normalcy	Kitchen: pp. 220-236
Thu Apr 1	The Weimar Republic: The Golden Years and the Decent into Chaos	Kitchen: pp. 236-257
Mon Apr 5	Discussion: Weimar Republic	Weitz: <i>The Weimar Republic</i>
Tue Apr 6	The Nazi Revolution	Kitchen: pp. 258-283
Thu Apr 8	Hitler's Foreign Policy and the Preparation for War	Kitchen: pp. 284-298
Mon Apr 12	Discussion: Nazi Racial Policies (Quiz #3)	"Klemperer's Diary Entry," "Reich Civil Servant Law," "Reich Citizenship Law," "Hitler's Greater German Reichstag

		Speech" (on Spark)
Tue Apr 13	The Outbreak of World War II	Kitchen: pp. 298-304
Thu Apr 15	World War II TERM PAPER DUE	Kitchen: pp. 304-315
Mon Apr 19	NO CLASS – Patriot's Day	
Tue Apr 20	The Holocaust	
TBA	Film: Downfall	Time and Place to be Announced
Wed Apr 21	Discussion: The Holocaust	Browning: <i>Ordinary Men</i>
Thu Apr 22	The Postwar Settlement	Kitchen: pp. 316-322
Mon Apr 26	Discussion: The New Political System	"Byrne's Speech on Germany," "Nuremberg Trials," "CDU Social Market Economy," "First Party Conference of the SED," and "The Godesberg Program" (on Spark)
Tue Apr 27	Divided Germany: 1949-1963	Kitchen: pp. 323-345
Thu Apr 29	Divided Germany: 1963-1989	Kitchen: pp. 346-372
Mon May 3	Discussion: Divided Germany (Quiz #4)	Schneider: <i>Wall Jumper</i>
TBA	Film: <i>The Lives of Others</i>	Time and Place to be Announced
Tue May 4	Reunified Germany	Kitchen: pp. 373-412
TBA	FINAL EXAM	Cumulative Exam (Mar 22-May 4) Time & Place To Be Announced