

A Clockwork Nightmare - Everyday Life in Nazi Germany - UHON 351 - Fall 2009

Dr. Thomas F. Thibeault

Faner 1145 (CoLA Media Center)

Tel. 453-5412

E-mail: ttbo@siu.edu

Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 10 & 12 or by appointment

Web Site: <http://colanmc.siu.edu/clockwork>

General Information

This course covers the period of National Socialist Rule in Germany from 1933-1945. The topics are dealt with from the perspective of the common people who lived in Germany during this time.

We will meet every Wednesday afternoon from 3:00-5:30 pm in Morris Library 110 (*UH Conference Room*).

There will be a 10-minute break each session.

Readings

The textbook, "Rise and Fall of the Third Reich" (Shirer), is available at the University Book Store. It is optional, but I highly recommend that you purchase the book since it is widely regarded as *the* authoritative work on this period of history. There is a wealth of background information on the topics which we will be covering this semester. The book "Night" by Elie Wiesel is required as are the books "To Lose a War" by Regina Shelton and "The Hiding Place" by Corrie Ten Boom.

Course Requirements

There are no exams in this course. However, there will be various outside assignments, including the viewing of videos. You should also go through the links on the course Website for each session. We will discuss some of these links in class so please be prepared. The semester grade is based on a 10 to 12-page research paper on a relevant topic of your choice. The paper should be submitted in hardcopy and by e-mail as an attached file. You'll be getting a hand-out with more details later on. You will also give a 15-minute oral presentation based on your term paper during one of the last two sessions. Attendance at both oral report sessions is required.

Course Objectives

1. To appreciate the experience of the Third Reich from various perspectives of the common people.
2. To understand the parallels and contrasts between the Third Reich and various aspects of contemporary society.
3. To evaluate one's own value system within the context of social, political and ethical challenges presented by life in the Third Reich.

26 Aug - Beginning of the Clockwork Nightmare

Historical background
Video: Seduction of a Nation

02 Sep - Hitler the Man, Mein Kampf

Excerpts from Mein Kampf
Video: Biography: Adolf Hitler
Assignment: 'Downfall'

09 Sep - Survival

Film: 'Europa, Europa'

16 Sep - The Clockwork-Organization and Strategies

Government
Paramilitary organizations
Videos: Ambulance, The History of the SS
Role Play Simulation

23 Sep - The Undesirables

Dramatic Presentation: Molly Edwards
T-4 Program
Concentration Camp Classifications (Web)
Assignment: 'Sophie's Choice'

30 Sep - The German Resistance

The White Rose, Helmuth Huebener , von Stauffenberg
Passive vs. active resistance
Video: Truth & Conviction.
Assignment: The White Rose, Trial of von Stauffenberg Group

07 Oct - Family Life

Marriage
Roles of Men and Women
Selective breeding (Lebensborn)
Video: Of Pure Blood

14 Oct - Educational System & Propaganda

Heil Hitler, Herr Lehrer! (Web)
'Der Giftpilz' (Web)
Video: German Propaganda films

21 Oct - Recreation

'Kraft durch Freude'
Entertainment Industry
Literature
Art and Culture
Video: Swing under the Swastika

28 Oct - Neo-Nazi Movements in the Information Age

04 Nov - Religion

Video: 'Stand Firm' - Jehovah's Witnesses

11 Nov - No Class - Veterans Day

18 Nov - "To Lose a War"

Guest Speaker: Regina Shelton

25 Nov - No Class - Thanksgiving Break

02 Dec - Testimonial

Guest Speaker: Dr. Helmut Liedloff

05 Dec - Eva Kor, C.A.N.D.L.E.S. Museum

SATURDAY. Full-day excursion to Terre Haute, IN.

09 Dec - Oral Reports I

16 Dec - Oral Reports II

(Schedule may change depending on circumstances of guest speakers. Videos may change depending on availability)

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES: Southern Illinois University Carbondale is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for study and work. Because some health and safety circumstances are beyond our control, we ask that you become familiar with the SIUC Emergency Response Plan and Building Emergency Response Team (BERT) program. Emergency response information is available on posters in buildings on campus, available on BERT's website at www.bert.siu.edu, Department of Safety's website www.dps.siu.edu (disaster drop down), and in Emergency Response Guideline pamphlet. Know how to respond to each type of emergency. Instructors will provide guidance and direction to students in the classroom in the event of an emergency affecting your location. It is important that you follow these instructions and stay with your instructor during an evacuation or sheltering emergency. The Building Emergency Response Team will provide assistance to your instructor in evacuating the building or sheltering within the facility.

PLAGIARISM: Academic honesty requires that all the work that you turn in must be your own. Plagiarized work gets a big fat F. For details on what constitutes plagiarism, check out the following link:

http://plagiarism.org/learning_center/what_is_plagiarism.html .

AVAILABLE VIDEOS (*Titles in bold are feature films.*)

Ambulance

Bach in Auschwitz - Survival through music in concentration camps.

Biography - Adolf Hitler

The Boat (Das Boot)

Broken Glass - American Jews during WWII

David

Death is My Trade

Die Todesfabrik - The Death Factory - Auschwitz 30 Years Later

Dietrich Bonhoeffer - Hanged on a Twisted Cross

Escape from Sobibor

Europa, Europa

Frances' Forgotten Shame - Concentration camps in France

The Ghosts of War - Aftermath and Current Impact of WWII (CNN)

Goebbels - The Nazi master of propaganda.

History of the SS

Hitler's Final Days

Hitler - the Last 10 Days

Hitler - The Whole Story (Parts I & II)

Hitler's Henchmen

Hitler's Willing Executioners (Interview with the author)

In Memory of Millions - Holocaust Museum

Jewish Revenge - Assassins of former Nazis after WWII.

Judgement at Nuremberg

Mephisto

Miracle at Moreaux

The Nasty Girl

Nazi Death Camps

Nazi Hunters

The Odessa File

Of Pure Blood - About 'Lebensborn', the Nazi selective breeding program.

Oskar Schindler - They Call Him Father Courage

Politically Correct - 48 Hours

POWs of the Reich

Propaganda and Goebbels

The Search for Mengele

Selling Murder - The Propaganda Films

Schindler - As Told by the People He Saved.

Swing Under the Swastika - Jazz under the Nazis

The Tin Drum

Traitors to Hitler

Trial at Nuremberg

Triumph of the Will - Leni Riefenstahl's most famous propaganda film.

Tsvi Nussbaum - A Boy from Warsaw

Voyage of the Damned - Refugee Jews on the St. Louis

The White Rose - Resistance to Hitler by university students.

Widerstand gegen Hitler (Resistance Against Hitler)

The Wonderful, Horrible Life of Leni Riefenstahl (Part I & II) -About the infamous film maker.