

German 350 / Judaic Studies 350
Fall 2014 – T / TH– 11:10pm–12:25pm
Prof. Daniel H. Magilow
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Office: **705 McClung Tower**

Office Hours:
Wednesdays 10am-12noon

Course website:
<https://bblearn.utk.edu>

Course Description

Even decades after World War II ended, the memory of the Holocaust, Nazi Germany's great crime, lives on. This course examines the complex field of Holocaust representation and the various debates and taboos that condition what one can and cannot say about the Holocaust. For instance, can one ever truly represent what happened, and if so, how? Is there room in Holocaust studies for humor? Has the Holocaust become just another commodity? By examining texts from diverse media, including film, television, painting, monuments, memoirs, poetry, and other fictional and non-fictional forms, we will examine how the Holocaust has been remembered—and misremembered—and what such memories say about the role of past traumas in contemporary life. Readings and discussion in English.

Learning Outcomes / Course Goals

This course is designed to:

- Introduce students to the history of the Holocaust and the debates that surround its interpretation;
- Survey key moments in the history of Holocaust memory from World War II to the present;
- Provide students with models for thinking about the relationship of history and memory and the ways past traumas are used and abused in contemporary political, cultural, and social discourses;
- Expose students to the sources, secondary scholarship, and scholarly methodologies necessary to pursue advanced research in this subject matter;
- Improve students' analytic and writing abilities by having them write two short research papers.

Required Course Materials (Available at UT Bookstore)

D. Niewyk, *The Holocaust: Problems and Perspectives of Interpretation*, 4th edition (Houghton Mifflin, 2010, ISBN: 054718946X) [Note: 4th edition!]

E. Wiesel, *Night* (Hill and Wang, 2006, ISBN: 0374534756)

H. Arendt, *Eichmann and the Holocaust* (Penguin, 2006: ISBN: 0143037609)

A. Spiegelman, *The Complete Maus: A Survivor's Tale* (Random House, 1996: ISBN: 9780141014081)

Course Reader (texts available on Online@UT)

You are expected to bring the relevant readings for each day's assignment to class! Consistent failure to do so may affect your class participation grade.

Blackboard Course Website

The course has a website with readings, links to video clips, and announcements accessible at <http://online.utk.edu>. If you miss class, check the site for assignments *before* you ask me! If you prefer to use an eMail rather than your @utk address (which Blackboard uses), it is *your* responsibility to reroute your eMail accordingly.

Statement on Civility

Civility is genuine respect and regard for others: politeness, consideration, tact, good manners, graciousness, cordiality, affability, amiability and courteousness. Civility enhances academic freedom and integrity, and is a prerequisite to the free exchange of ideas and knowledge in the learning community. Our community consists of students, faculty, staff, alumni, and campus visitors. Community members affect each other's well-being and have a shared interest in creating and sustaining an environment where all community members and their points of view are valued and respected. Affirming the value of each member of the university community, the campus asks that all its members adhere to the principles of civility and community adopted by the campus: <http://civility.utk.edu/>.

Statement on Academic Integrity

Guidelines for student conduct are provided in the UT publication *Hilltopics*, available online and in print at <http://dos.utk.edu/hilltopics>. Students are expected to abide by the UT Honor Statement, which reads: “An essential feature of The University of Tennessee is a commitment to maintaining an atmosphere of intellectual integrity and academic honesty. As a student of the University, I pledge that I will neither knowingly give nor receive any inappropriate assistance in academic work, thus affirming my own personal commitment to honor and integrity.”

Statement on Disabilities That Constrain Learning

The official policy at UTK reads as follows: “Any student who feels he or she may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS) at 865-974-6087 in 2227 Dunford Hall to document their eligibility for services. ODS will work with students and faculty to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.” This accommodation should take place at the beginning of the semester (before the add/drop deadline.)

Attendance and Punctuality Policy

Class attendance is required, not optional. Attendance will be taken through a sign-in sheet that you are to initial each class meeting. It is **your** responsibility to register your attendance when the sheet is passed around, not after class. Do not ask me after class to sign in! You will be allowed a maximum of five absences without penalty. **Beginning with the sixth absence, however, your grade will drop by one half of a letter grade (A to A-, B+ to B, C+ to C).** You are responsible for keeping track of how many times you have been absent so please do not ask me “how many absences do I have?” Punctuality is also expected. Consistent tardiness or leaving class early might be counted as an absence. I will excuse absences only if the need for the absence can be verified with written proof (e.g., doctor’s note on office letterhead with telephone number). The same applies to absences due to official university business.

Cell Phone and Electronic Device Policy

Before class, please turn off all electronic devices that might beep. In-class computer use should be limited to note taking or accessing readings (no social networking or eMail!). Violation of this policy **will** adversely affect your grade.

Questions and Office Hours

If you have any questions about this syllabus or any concerns, please contact me by eMail or phone or by attending my office hours (listed at the top of the syllabus). I prefer to work actively with students during the semester to help them learn and achieve the grades they desire and deserve rather than having to sort through misunderstandings at semester’s end and be put on trial for my grading practices. Please work together with me to make this possible!

Testing and Evaluation

2 Tests x 20% each	= 40%	
3 Unannounced Quizzes (lowest grade dropped)	= 10%	
2 Projects/Short Essays x 20% each*	= 40%	
Class Participation 1 x 10%*	= 10%	= 100%

(*Detailed grading rubrics on Course Website)

Course Plan

The last page of this syllabus lists the readings for the semester. If I perceive the need to amend these readings, they may be changed at my discretion, although we will discuss any such changes in class. Before this last page you will find a list of links to video clips that are listed on the syllabus. These clips are available through the course website. A bibliography of general works on the Holocaust follows. Use it to guide your research for papers and presentations.

Video Clips (All active as of August 13, 2014.)

Please let me know if a link is broken! Some of these clips require you to sit through an ad first.

Nazi Concentration Camps

https://archive.org/details/nazi_concentration_camps

The Death Mills

<https://archive.org/details/DeathMills>

The Diary of Anne Frank Trailers (1959 and 2001)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H48suY5nKak>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r6OPtrp6Nds>

This is Your Life – “Hannah Bloch Kohner “

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m3F9Rc6i_w

Star Trek – “Patterns of Force”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mYYCqZFaiEM>

The Twilight Zone – “Death’s Head Revisited”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I9crQmo9vis> (Part 1 of 2)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kcv2ceJmNks> (Part 2 of 2)

Nazisploitation/*sadiconazista* Trailers (warning: some include sexually explicit material)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_bHnFmJOvug (Salon Kitty)

<http://rstvideo.com/trailer/ilsa-she-wolf-of-the-ss/> (Ilsa, She Wolf of the SS)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=py_aefnKf-E (Werewolf Women of the SS)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4KEueJnsu80&bpctr=1405102636> (Iron Sky)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=55uGN58UOkk> (Dead Snow)

Holocaust: The Story of the Family Weiss (in two parts)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KnoDIlc3Upo> 0:00–9:47 [opening credits and wedding scene]

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mybnt9JsJhg> 33:42–38:02 [Kristallnacht]; 1:52:21–2:00:01 [Warsaw Ghetto liquidation]

Shoah (make sure subtitles are on; clips are from the first three parts only – fourth is provided for reference)

1/4 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=50-3gQI1hJQ> 0:00–12:05 [Simon Srebnik]; 1:58:50 to 2:13:40 [Franz Suchomel]

2/4 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AmVn9IEhXkY> 4:13– 8:08 [Josef Oberhauser]; 1:04:18–1:12:05 [Grabów villagers]

3/4 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l8Q2lIbi2Vs> 0:00–2:57 [Franz Suchomel] 16:25–34:37 [Abraham Bomba]

4/4 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yk8LzO2E4Ls>

Schindler’s List

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W74jGQ-CDTE> (Trailer)

Young Adult Films

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GP15cY3f7UA> (*Paper Clips* trailer)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cDuapYnd6OE> (*The Boy in the Striped Pajamas* trailer)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=68mu8IP6sSc> (*The Book Thief* trailer)

Humor Clips

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XmZHSpxrR2E> (“The One Who Dared to Leave”)

<http://knowyourmeme.com/memes/downfall-hitler-meme> (Know Your Meme - Hitler Finds Out with examples)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rurBHWxYaR0> (Whitest Kids U’ Know – Hitler Rap)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=In2Xfn3hIi4> (Curb Your Enthusiasm – The Survivor)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k03qVN4ITgg> (Seinfeld –Soup Nazi)

Bibliography

These books are recent, well-known, reputable, and widely available histories of Nazi Germany and the Holocaust and key issues in its representation. Niewyk's *Problems in European Civilization: The Holocaust* also has an extensive bibliography at the end. Use these bibliographies as starting points for further research.

Doris L. Bergen, *War and Genocide: A Concise History of the Holocaust*, 2nd ed. (Rowman & Littlefield, 2009).

Christopher R. Browning, *The Origins of the Final Solution: The Evolution of Nazi Jewish Policy, September 1939-March 1942* (Bison Books, 2007).

Richard J. Evans, *The Coming of the Third Reich* (Penguin, 2005).

Richard J. Evans, *The Third Reich in Power* (Penguin, 2006).

Richard J. Evans, *The Third Reich at War*, (Penguin, 2010).

Saul Friedlander, *Nazi Germany and the Jews: Volume 1: The Years of Persecution 1933-1939* (Harper Perennial, 1998).

Saul Friedlander, *Nazi Germany and the Jews: Volume 2: The Years of Extermination: Nazi Germany and the Jews, 1939-1945*, (HarperCollins, 2007).

Jan T. Gross, *Neighbors: The Destruction of the Jewish Community in Jedwabne, Poland* (Penguin, 2002).

Raul Hilberg, *The Destruction of the European Jews*, 3rd ed. (Yale University Press, 2003).

Annette Insdorf, *Indelible Shadows: Film and the Holocaust*, 3rd ed. (Cambridge University Press, 2002)

Aaron Kerner, *Film and the Holocaust: New Perspectives on Dramas, Documentaries, and Experimental Films* (Continuum, 2001).

Ian Kershaw, *Hitler: 1889-1936 Hubris*, (W. W. Norton & Company, 1999).

Ian Kershaw, *Hitler: 1936-1945: Nemesis* (W. W. Norton & Company, 2001).

Ian Kershaw, *The Nazi Dictatorship: Problems and Perspectives of Interpretation*, (Bloomsbury 2000).

Jeffrey Shandler, *While America Watches: Televising the Holocaust* (Oxford University Press, 2000).

James E. Young, *The Texture of Memory: Holocaust Memorials and Meaning* (Yale University Press, 1994).

James E. Young, *At Memory's Edge: After-Images of the Holocaust in Contemporary Art and Architecture* (Yale University Press, 2002).

German 350 / Judaic Studies 350 – The Afterlife of the Holocaust – Fall 2014

Date	Readings		Clips to Watch
Aug 21	Course Introduction		
Aug 26	The Holocaust and History	Niewyk, <i>The Holocaust</i> : Chs. I and II (N)	<i>Nazi Concentration Camps</i>
Aug 28		Niewyk, Ch. III and IV (N)	<i>The Death Mills</i>
Sept 2		Niewyk, Ch. V and VI (N)	
Sept 4		Adorno, “Education After Auschwitz”, Scott, “Never Forget, You’re Reminded” (B); “Representation” (B); Magilow/Silverman, “Holocaust Representations in History: An Introduction”	
Sept 9	1940s and 1950s	Levi, “The Grey Zone” (B); Borowski, “This Way for the Gas, Ladies and Gentlemen” (B)	
Sept 11		Wiesel, <i>Night</i> (W)	
Sept 16		Wiesel, <i>Night</i> (W), Seidman, “Elie Wiesel and the Scandal of Jewish Rage” (B); Magilow/Silverman, “Night” (B)	
Sept 18		Frank, <i>The Diary of Anne Frank</i> (excerpts) (B); Ozick, “Who Owns Anne Frank?” (B)	
Sept 23		Magilow/Silverman, “The Diary of Anne Frank” (B); Rosenfeld, “Anne Frank and the Future of Holocaust Memory” (B)	Anne Frank trailers
Sept 25		Novick, <i>The Holocaust in American Life</i> (Chs. 5-6) (B); Magilow/Silverman, “Yizker-Bukh Chelm” (B)	“This is Your Life”
Sept 30	1960s and 1970s	Arendt, <i>Eichmann and the Holocaust</i> 1-65 (A); Magilow/Silverman, “Eichmann in Jerusalem” (B)	
Oct 2		Arendt, <i>Eichmann and the Holocaust</i> 65-130 (A)	
Oct 7		Hochhuth, <i>The Deputy</i> (Act IV) (B); Magilow/Silverman, “The Deputy” (B)	Project #1 Due
Oct 9		Test #1	
Oct 14	1980s and 1990s	Kaes, “1979: The American television series <i>Holocaust...</i> ” (B); Magilow/Silverman “Holocaust: The Story of the Family Weiss”; (B); Wiesel, “Trivializing the Holocaust” (B)	<i>Holocaust: The Story of the Family Weiss</i>
Oct 16		Spiegelman, <i>Maus I</i> , Chs. 1-4 (S); Magilow/Silverman, “Maus”	
Oct 21		Spiegelman, <i>Maus I</i> , Chs. 5-6, <i>Maus II</i> , Chs. 1-2 (S)	
Oct 23		Spiegelman, <i>Maus II</i> Chs. 3-6 (S)	
Oct 28		Magilow/Silverman, “Shoah” (B)	<i>Shoah</i> clips
Oct 30		Loshitzky, <i>Spielberg’s Holocaust</i> (Introduction) (B)	<i>Schindler’s List</i> trailer
Nov 4		Wilkomirski, <i>Fragments</i> (excerpts) (B); Magilow/Silverman, “Fragments” (B)	
Nov 6		Magilow/Silverman, “United States Holocaust Memorial Museum” (B)	
Nov 11	The Holocaust Today	Young, “Daniel Libeskind’s Jewish Museum in Berlin” (B)	
Nov 13		Magilow/Silverman, “The Children’s Holocaust Memorial” (B)	
Nov 18		Magilow/Silverman, “Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe” (B)	Project #2 Due
Nov 25		Test #2	Young adult film trailers
Dec 2		Vider, “Survivor Challenge” (B) Course Summary	Humor clips

Key: N = Niewyk, *The Holocaust* (4th Ed.) W = Wiesel, *Night* A = Arendt, *Eichmann and the Holocaust* S = Spiegelman, *The Complete Maus* B = Blackboard (Online @UT)