

Modern Germany, 1871 to the present
HIST 4440
CRN 10967
Spring 2007
Pafford 208
MWF 11:15-12:10

Professor: Dr. Tim Schroer
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Fri. 10:00-11:00am
or by appointment

Course Description

In this course we will survey the political, economic, social, cultural, and military history of Germany from 1871 to the present. We will trace Germany's path from unification through division and reunification. The course will provide an overview of German history while devoting sustained attention to selected topics such as: divisions within German society; the strange career of German liberalism; Germany's place in the wider world; the Third Reich; and the historical legacy of Nazism.

Prerequisites

Each student should have already completed three credits of global history and three credits of U.S. history. Any student registered for the course who has not completed the prerequisites should see me.

Learning Outcomes

This course is designed to provide students actively engaged in the learning process with:

- An understanding of the important developments in the history of Germany from 1871 to the present;
- An understanding of the methods used in the historical discipline; and
- The opportunity to improve reading and writing skills.

Required Materials:

Dietrich Orlow, *A History of Modern Germany: 1871 to Present*, 5th ed. (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 2002), ISBN 0130600318.
Theodor Fontane, *Effi Briest* (New York: Penguin, 2001), ISBN 9780140447668.
Ernst Jünger, *Storm of Steel* (New York: Penguin, 2004), ISBN 9780142437902.

Brian Ladd, *The Ghosts of Berlin: Confronting German History in the Urban Landscape* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1997), ISBN 0226467627.

Timothy Garton Ash, *The File: A Personal History* (New York: Vintage, 1997), ISBN 0679777857.

There will also be a number of primary sources to read online or on reserve, averaging about one per class meeting.

Grading

Class Participation:	10 percent
Quizzes:	5 percent
First Paper:	15 percent
Second Paper:	25 percent
Midterm Examination:	20 percent
Final Examination:	25 percent

There will be a midterm examination on March 2 and a final examination on April 30. Part of the final examination will cover the entire course. The heart of each exam will consist of responses to essay questions.

Each student must also write two papers. The first paper will address a question related either to Fontane's *Effi Briest* or Jünger's *Storm of Steel*. The paper is due on the day we discuss the book, so a paper on *Effi Briest* is due on January 31. A paper on *Storm of Steel* is due February 14.

The second paper is a 7-8 page research paper using at least four primary sources and at least four secondary sources. It is due on April 20.

There will be occasional quizzes to be taken at the beginning of class on the readings for that day's class. Upcoming quizzes will be announced in class two or three days in advance.

Thoughtful contributions made in class discussions will be credited in the class participation grade. Behavior (such as tardiness) that impedes other students' learning will be penalized.

Late assignments will be penalized by deducting one letter grade for each day the assignment is late.

It generally takes me one week to grade a set of papers or exams. No extra credit will be offered.

Policies

I expect each student to understand and to comply with the University of West Georgia's policies on Academic Honor and Academic Dishonesty. They may be found in the Student Handbook, on the web at <http://www.westga.edu/documents/catalogs.php>.

Academic honesty prohibits taking credit for someone else's work. Justice requires that punishment fit the infraction. Egregious academic dishonesty will result in failing the course and may also bring additional penalties imposed by the university.

I encourage any student who has questions or needs help with the course to come to my office hours or send me an email to set up a time to talk. In addition, students may wish to consult with the Writing Center (<http://www.westga.edu/~writing>).

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and university policy, I will make reasonable accommodation for any recognized disability. Students should contact me during the first three weeks of the course and present documentation from the University's Student Development Center.

I strongly encourage students to attend class. Students who attend class tend to learn more and get better grades than those who do not. Class discussion sometimes affords new insights that cannot be planned or even predicted. In case of absence, it is the responsibility of the student to obtain notes from a classmate covering what was missed. I do not penalize students for absences, but students receive no credit for participating or on any tests or quizzes on missed class days. A student who does not take a quiz or test in class with the rest of the class receives a zero. I do not permit students to take any test, quiz, or other graded work at any time other than in class as administered except in rare cases of prior approval by the instructor or with a physician's note.

Papers written in the course must be original work undertaken for this course.

Students should regularly check their University of West Georgia email account.

Course Schedule

Week 1

Jan. 8 Introduction

Jan. 10 The unification of Germany
Readings: Orlow, 1-14

Jan. 12 The imperial German state
Readings: Orlow, 14-20
The role of the Reichstag
http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/sub_document.cfm?document_id=658

Week 2

Jan. 15 No class in observance of Martin Luther King Day

Jan. 17 Society in imperial Germany

Jan. 19 The German economy in the late nineteenth century
Readings: Orlow, 20-28

Week 3

Jan. 22 Liberalism, Conservatism, and Socialism

Readings: Orlow, 29-32

On socialism

http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/sub_document.cfm?document_id=674

Jan. 24 Germany in the world under Bismarck

Readings: Orlow, 32-38

Wehler on German imperialism on reserve

Jan. 26 Women in imperial Germany

Readings: "The Double Standard"

http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/sub_document.cfm?document_id=545

Week 4

Jan. 29 Wilhelm II

Readings: Orlow, 38-61

Wilhelm II's Hun Speech

http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/sub_document.cfm?document_id=755

Jan. 31 Discussion of Fontane, *Effi Briest*

Readings: *Effi Briest*

http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/sub_document.cfm?document_id=485

Paper on *Effi Briest* due

Feb. 2 Germany's overseas empire

Readings: Orlow, 61-76

Germany demands a "Place in the Sun"

http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/sub_document.cfm?document_id=783

The Kaiser on Southwest Africa

http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/sub_document.cfm?document_id=788

http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/sub_document.cfm?document_id=790

Week 5

Feb. 5 A German "special path?"

Readings: Jürgen Kocka, "German History Before Hitler: The Debate About the German Sonderweg," *Journal of Contemporary History* 23 (1988): 3-16.

Feb. 7 The origins of World War I

Readings: Orlow, 76-85

The blank check

http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/sub_document.cfm?document_id=800

Feb. 9 The war
 Readings: Orlow, 85-103
 The Kaiser speaks
http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/sub_document.cfm?document_id=815
 The SPD on the coming of the war
http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/sub_document.cfm?document_id=816
 Unrestricted submarine warfare
http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/sub_document.cfm?document_id=811

Week 6

Feb. 12 Division and defeat
 Readings: Ludendorff admits defeat
http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/sub_document.cfm?document_id=814

Feb. 14 Discussion of Jünger's *Storm of Steel*
 Paper on *Storm of Steel* due

Feb. 16 Birth of the republic
 Readings: Orlow, 104-122

Week 7

Feb. 19 The republic in crisis
 Readings: Orlow, 122-138

Feb. 21 Weimar's Golden Age
 Readings: Orlow, 139-156

Feb. 23 The republic in crisis again
 Readings: Orlow, 156-70

Week 8

Feb. 26 The rise of the Nazi Party
 Readings: Orlow, 170-174
 The Nazi Party's 25-point program (Reserve)
 Goebbels on what the Nazis want in the Reichstag (Reserve)

Feb. 28 The Nazi seizure of power
 Readings: Orlow, 174-186
 Propaganda images
<http://www.calvin.edu/academic/cas/gpa/revol.htm>

Mar. 2 **Midterm Examination**

Week 9

Mar. 5 The Nazi state
 Readings: Carl Schmitt on Hitler's power (Reserve)

- Mar. 7 The national community and its enemies
 Readings: Groß on Nazi Racial Policy
<http://www.calvin.edu/academic/cas/gpa/gross.htm>
 Material from *People and Race*
<http://www.calvin.edu/academic/cas/gpa/volkrass.htm>
- Mar. 9 Nazi foreign policy and the origins of the war
 Readings: Orlow, 186-205
- Week 10
- Mar. 12 The early victories, 1939-1941
 Readings: Orlow, 205-214
 The euthanasia order
<http://www.h-net.org/~german/gtext/nazi/euthanasia-eng.html>
- Mar. 14 War of annihilation, 1941
 Readings: Reichenau on conduct of the army
<http://www.h-net.org/~german/gtext/nazi/reichenau-english.html>
 Nazi pamphlet collecting soldiers' letters
<http://www.calvin.edu/academic/cas/gpa/feldpost.htm>
- Mar. 16 The Final Solution
 Readings: Orlow, 214-19
 The Wannsee Protocol
<http://www.h-net.org/~german/gtext/nazi/wanneng2.html>
 Himmler's speech at Posen
<http://www.nizkor.org/hweb/people/h/himmler-heinrich/posen/oct-04-43/ausrottung-transl-imt.html>
- Mar. 19-23 Spring Break
- Week 11
- Mar. 26 Defeat, 1942-1945
 Readings: Orlow, 219-229
 A Nazi Christmas
<http://www.calvin.edu/academic/cas/gpa/weihnacht44.htm>
- Mar. 28 Occupation
 Readings: Orlow, 229-252
- Mar. 30 The division of Germany
 Readings: Orlow, 252-256
- Week 12
- Apr. 2 The Federal Republic
 Readings: Orlow, 257-265

Apr. 4 The Economic Miracle
Readings: Orlow, 265-272

Apr. 6 The German Democratic Republic
Readings: Orlow, 295-327
 The decision to build the Berlin Wall
http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/docpage.cfm?docpage_id=29

Week 13

Apr. 9 West Germany in the 1960s and 1970s
Readings: Orlow, 272-278
 Flyer on Benno Ohnesorge
http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/sub_document.cfm?document_id=892
 Life in a commune
http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/docpage.cfm?docpage_id=1629

Apr. 11 Germany in the 1970s and '80s
Readings: Orlow, 278-294
 Call to violence
http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/sub_document.cfm?document_id=897
 Brandt on Eastern Policy
http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/sub_document.cfm?document_id=168

Apr. 13 Discussion of Ash, *The File*

Week 14

Apr. 16 Reunification
Readings: Kohl's Ten-Point Program of November 28, 1989
http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/sub_document.cfm?document_id=223

Apr. 18 The burden of German history

Apr. 20 Germany in the twenty-first century
Readings: Orlow, 328-end
 Research paper due

Week 15

Apr. 23 Discussion of Ladd
Readings: Ladd, *Ghosts of Berlin*

Mandatory Final Examination

Monday, April 30, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm