

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO
HIS 3415E: Modern Germany, 1815 to the Present
Fall/Winter 2015-2016
WL 258
Monday, 6:00 – 9:00pm

Instructor: Dr. Karen Priestman
Office Hours: Mondays, 2:30-5:30pm
Office: Lawson 2233
Phone: ext. 84922
Email: kpriest2@uwo.ca

(Email will be checked on weekdays, between 10:00am and 4:00pm. If you do not receive a reply from me within 48 hours, please resend the email.)

Course Description:

This course analyzes the cataclysmic history of modern Germany. Our examination will include the influence of Napoleon, the failed revolutions of 1848, the unification of Germany under the influence of Bismarck, and the outbreak of the First World War. Particular attention will be paid to the legacy of the First World War in Germany, the rise of Nazism, the Second World War, and the Holocaust. Moving beyond the Second World War, this course will explore the postwar division of Germany, its role in the Cold War, and the subsequent re-unification of Germany. Throughout this course we will also be addressing certain underlying themes of German history such as its supposed uniqueness, the failure of liberalism, the role of Bismarck, the political and psychological influence of the Holocaust, and Germany's position in the contemporary world.

Course Objectives:

- Students will be able to place Germany within its broader European historical context.
- Students will become familiar with historiographical issues common in German history.
- Students' analytical and writing skills will be improved through significant engagement with primary and secondary sources.
- Students' skills of oral expression will be enhanced through class discussions and participation in the group activity.

Required Books:

Main Textbooks:

- David Blackbourn, *History of Germany 1780-1918: The Long Nineteenth Century*. (2nd ed., Blackwell, 2003)
- Mary Fulbrook, *History of Germany, 1918-2000: A Divided Nation*. (4th ed., Wiley Blackwell, 2015).

Required Supplemental:

- Helmut Walser Smith, *A Butcher's Tale: Murder and Anti-Semitism in a German Town*. (Norton, 2002).
- William Sheridan Allen, *The Nazi Seizure of Power: The Experience of a Single German Town, 1922-1945*. (Echo Point Books and Media, 2014. Reprint).
- Other readings available on Owl

Optional Book:

- Mary Lynn Rampolla, *A Pocket Guide to Writing in History*. (6th ed., Bedford/St. Martin's, 2010).

NOTE: It is perfectly acceptable to buy a used version of any or all of these books. Abebooks.com is an excellent source for cheap history books. Amazon.ca is also always reliable, but pricier.

Evaluation:

Participation:		20%
Group Activity:	26 October	10%
Proposal and Bibliography:	16 November	5%
Mid-term exam:	December exam period	15%
Summary paper (Allen book):	19 January	10%
Research Essay:	28 March	25%
Final exam:	April exam period	15%

Assignments:

Participation:

Participation in tutorial is a key component of the student's final mark. In order to participate effectively students must complete the readings for each tutorial. Simple attendance does not ensure a passing participation grade. In assigning a participation mark, I evaluate quality, rather than quantity. It is not necessarily the volume of remarks made that earns a high mark, but whether your comments and questions have stimulated discussion and led to a deeper understanding of the material and subject at hand. Like any other assignment, an 'A' in tutorial is earned through consistent outstanding performance. *Simply attending tutorial without participating will not result in a passing grade.* Participation in tutorial discussions is meant to enhance your ability to communicate orally. This requires you to become comfortable speaking in public as well as formulate an argument and articulate it convincingly.

Proposal and Bibliography: (DUE 16 November 2015)

Students are required to submit a 500-word proposal outlining your chosen essay topic, a working thesis, and possible arguments to support that thesis. It is understood that this thesis is likely to change as you complete more research and come to better understand your topic. This proposal must be accompanied by a bibliography listing at least eight (8) sources [2-3 articles count as one (1) source]. This assignment is meant to make you choose a topic early and find sources for that topic. The earlier you begin thinking about your paper in a concrete way, the more likely it is that you will produce a paper you are proud of and will learn something from.

Group Activity - Mock Trial: (October 26, November 2)

Students are required to participate in a group activity based upon Helmut Walser Smith's *A Butcher's Tale: Murder and Anti-Semitism in a German Town*. The accused murderer in this book is Adolph Lewy. Students are required to summarize the evidence supporting and contradicting his guilt. This written summary should be 2 pages, single-spaced – 1 page summarizing the evidence for, and 1 page summarizing the evidence against, Adolph Lewy. ***Students must bring this summary with them to class on 26 October and must also submit it to the instructor.*** This summary will be marked on a complete/incomplete basis and is worth 2% of your final mark. On 26 October, students will choose a character from the book whose experiences they will represent in a mock trial. On 2 November, students will then stage the mock trial of Moritz Lewy. This group activity (including summary [2%] and trial participation [8%]) is worth 10% of your final mark.

Summary Paper: (DUE 18 January 2016)

In this class, students are expected to read pages 1-200 of William Sheridan Allen's *The Nazi Seizure of Power: The Experience of a Single German Town, 1930-1935*. To reflect the high demand this places upon the student, the accompanying tutorial (Discussion #5) will carry twice the weight of a regular tutorial. In addition, students are asked to write a summary paper of no more than eight (8) pages double-spaced on *The Nazi Seizure of Power*. This summary must include the author's thesis, and main arguments. It should also make some comment upon the validity or value of the thesis/book. This paper will comprise 10% of your final mark.

****Please Note: Late papers will be assessed a 10% penalty on the first day.**** Thereafter, the late penalty will be assessed as usual (2% per calendar day). This is because we will be having a discussion on the book on January 18th, so everyone must have the book read by then.

Research Essay: (DUE 30 March 2015)

Students are required to submit a 12-15 page (double spaced) research essay on a topic of their choosing pertaining to the period of German history examined in this course. This essay should utilize at least eight (8) monograph-length secondary sources (2-3 articles count as one source). Primary sources are not required, but are not prohibited either. For ideas on possible topics, students should begin by perusing the lecture titles in this syllabus and looking through the table of contents of your textbooks. If you are having difficulty choosing a topic, formulating a research question, or are concerned about the suitability of your topic, please come and see me. Research essays should include a title page and bibliography. *You must also attach your marked proposal and bibliography to your essay.*

Students are required to submit their research essays to Turnitin.com (the link is under 'Assignments on Owl).

Late Penalties:

Unless otherwise noted, all late assignments will be penalized **2% per calendar** day (this includes weekends).

Other Matters:

Students must consult with the instructor concerning absences from tutorial and late assignments worth less than 5% of the final mark.

No electronic devices are allowed during midterms or final exams.

Lectures at a Glance
(subject to change)

Date:	Topic:	
Sept. 14	Introduction	
Sept. 21	Napoleon's Europe, the Congress of Vienna, <i>Vormärz, 1848</i>	
Sept. 28	Bismarck and German Unification	Discussion #1a
Oct. 5	Bismarck's Germany	Discussion #1b
Oct. 12	THANKSGIVING – NO CLASS	
Oct. 19	From Bismarckian to Wilhelmine Germany	Discussion #2a
Oct. 26	<i>A Butcher's Tale</i>	Discussion #2b
Nov. 2	<i>A Butcher's Tale: Group Activity</i>	
Nov. 9	Wilhelmine Germany	Discussion #3a
Nov. 16	<i>Weltpolitik</i> , the Naval Race, and the Outbreak of War	Discussion #3b
Nov. 23	The First World War: The Battlefield	Discussion #4a
Nov. 30	The First World War: The Homefront	Discussion #4b
Dec. 7	The End of the War in Germany +Review	
*** WINTER BREAK***		
Jan. 4	Revolution and War Finances	
Jan. 11	Weimar Germany	
Jan. 18	The Nazi Seizure of Power?	Nazi Seizure of Power: Group A
Jan. 25	The Consolidation of Power	Nazi Seizure of Power: Group B
Feb. 1	Ideas Into Practice: The Treaty of Versailles and the Jews and Other 'Undesirables'	
Feb. 8	The Second World War: Hitler's War and Total War	
Feb. 15	READING WEEK	
Feb. 22	The Holocaust	Discussion #6a
Feb. 29	The Holocaust	Discussion #6b
Mar. 7	The End of the War and the Division of Germany	Discussion #7a
Mar. 14	Divided Germany: East and West Before the Wall	Discussion #7b
Mar. 21	Divided Germany: East and West After the Wall	Discussion #8a
Mar. 28	The Reunification of Germany	Discussion #8b
Apr. 4	Germany Neutered? + Final Exam Review	

Detailed Schedule of Lectures, Discussions, and Readings
(Subject to Change)

	Lecture Topic and Readings	Discussion Topic and Readings
Week 1 (Sept. 14)	Introduction -Blackbourn, "Prologue" and Ch.1.	
Week 2 (Sept. 21)	Napoleon's Europe, Congress of Vienna, Vormärz, 1848 -Blackbourn, Chs. 1-3.	
Week 3 (Sept. 28)	Bismarck and German Unification, - Blackbourn, Chs. 4&5.	Discussion #1 Group A: Germany's Special Path? - Kocka, Jurgen. "German History Before Hitler: The Debate About the German Sonderweg." Owl.
Week 4 (Oct. 5)	Bismarck's Germany -Blackbourn, Ch. 6. - Kelley, Alfred. "Adelheid Popp." Owl.	Discussion #1 Group B: Germany's Special Path? See above readings.
Week 5 (Oct. 12)	THANKSGIVING – NO CLASS	
Week 6 (Oct. 19)	From Bismarckian to Wilhelmine Germany -Blackbourn, Chs. 7&8. - Frevert, Ute. "Women in German History." Owl.	Discussion #2 Group A: Life in the Age of Bismarck The following documents can be found on Owl: -“Telephones and Electric Light” -“Interior of Workers’ Homes” -“Interior of a Leipzig Law Professor’s Home” -“Household of a Large Working-Class Family” -“Prussian Junkers as Farmers and Huntsmen” -“The Rural Landlord and ‘His’ People” -“Franz Rehbein, Farm Worker” -“Working Class Hierarchies in a Steel Factory” -“Food Expenditures of Two Working-Class Families” -“Lifestyle and Expenditures of a Skilled Worker’s Family in Berlin” -“Lifestyle and Expenditures of a Public Servant’s Family in Berlin” -“The Double Standard: Marital Infidelity among Men and Women” -“Age of Registered Prostitutes in Berlin” -“Occupation of Parents of Registered Prostitutes in Berlin” -“Former Occupation of Registered Prostitutes in Berlin” -“Report of a Poor-Relief Doctor in Berlin”
Week 7 (Oct. 26)	A Butcher's Tale Group Activity	Discussion #2 Group B: Life in the Age of Bismarck
Week 8 (Nov. 2)	A Butcher's Tale Group Activity	

Week 9 (Nov. 9)	Wilhelmine Germany	Discussion #3 Group A: The Outbreak of War - Retallack, James. "Rattling the Sabre: Weltpolitik and the Great War." II. Owl. - Martel, Gordon. "Excerpts." <i>Origins of the First World War</i> . Owl.
Week 10 (Nov. 16)	Weltpolitik, the Naval Race, and the Outbreak of War -Blackbourn, Ch. 9 & "Epilogue" ➤ <i>Proposal Due</i>	Discussion #3 Group B: The Outbreak of War
Week 11 (Nov. 23)	The First World War: Battlefield	Discussion #4 Group A: WWI (all documents listed here can be found on Owl) -Gen. Friedrich Bernhardt "The Inevitability of War" -"The Kaiser Speaks from the Balcony of the Royal Palace" -"The Socialists Support the War" -"The September Memorandum" -"Bulletins from the Front I (1914)" -"Bulletins from the Front II (1918)" -"Soldiers Describe Combat I: Eduard Schmieder" -"Soldiers Describe Combat V: Peter Hammerer" -"Censorship Guidelines I" Censorship Guidelines II" -"Censorship in Practice" -"Suppression of Anti-War Sentiment" -"War and the Working Class" -"Rationing in Practice" -"Dancing the Polonaise" -"Erich Ludendorff Admits Defeat" -"The First German Note to President Woodrow Wilson"
Week 12 (Nov. 30)	The First World War: Homefront - Fulbrook, Ch. 2.	Discussion #4 Group B: WWI
Week 13 (Dec. 7)	The End of the First World War + Review	
	*** WINTER BREAK ***	
Week 14 (Jan. 4)	Revolution and War Finances - "The Rise of the New Woman." Owl.	
Week 15 (Jan. 11)	Weimar Germany	
Week 16 (Jan. 18)	Nazi Seizure of Power? -Fulbrook, Ch. 3. ➤ <i>Summary Paper Due</i>	Discussion #5 Group A: The Nazi Seizure of Power (Weighted Double) -William Sheridan Allen, <i>The Nazi Seizure of Power: The Experience of a Single German Town, 1922-1945</i> (pp. 1-200)
Week 17 (Jan. 25)	Nazi Consolidation of Power	Discussion #5 Group A: The Nazi Seizure of Power (Weighted Double)

Week 18 (Feb. 1)	Ideas Into Practice: The Treaty of Versailles, and the Jews and Other 'Undesirables' - Fulbrook, Ch. 4. - Hitler, Adolf. "Excerpts." <i>Mein Kampf</i> . Owl. - "The Four-Year Plan." Owl. - "Hossbach Memorandum" Owl.	
Week 19 (Feb. 8)	The Second World War: Hitler's War and Total War -Fulbrook, Ch. 5.	
*** READING WEEK ***		
Week 20 (Feb. 22)	The Holocaust	Discussion #6 Group A: Holocaust and War - "Nuremberg Laws." Owl. - "Reports on Kristallnacht." Owl. - Kaplan, Marion. "Between Dignity and Despair." Owl. - "Persecution of the Jews." Owl. - "Speech by the Führer to the Reichstag, September 1, 1939." Owl. - Browning, Christopher. "One Day in Josefov: Initiation to Mass Murder." Owl. - Bartov, Omer. "Soldiers, Nazis and War in the Third Reich." Owl. - "Protocol of the Wannsee Conference." Owl.
Week 21 (Feb. 29)	The Holocaust	Discussion #6 Group B: Holocaust and War
Week 22 (Mar. 7)	End of the War and the Division of Germany - Fulbrook, Ch. 6 & 10. - "Basic Law of West Germany." Owl.	Discussion #7 Group A: The Cold War and Denazification - Slatt, Vincent E. "Nowhere to Go." Course Pack. - Herz, John H. "Fiasco of Denazification." Owl.
Week 23 (Mar. 14)	Divided Germany: East and West Before the Wall -Fulbrook Ch. 7 (+ 9, 11, 12).	Discussion #7 Group B: The Cold War and Denazification
Week 24 (Mar. 21)	Divided Germany: East and West After the Wall -Fulbrook, Ch. 8 (+ 9, 11, 12).	Discussion #8 Group A: Memory - Von Weizacker, Richard. "May 8, 1985 Speech to the Reichstag." Owl. - Herf, Jeffrey. "Conclusion." Owl.
Week 25 (Mar. 28)	The Reunification of Germany Fulbrook, Ch.13 ➤ <i>Research Paper Due</i>	Discussion #8 Group B: Memory
Week 26 (Apr. 4)	Germany Ascendant? +Final Exam Review	

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

Prerequisites and Antirequisites:

Unless you have either the requisites for this course, as described in the Academic Calendar description of the course, or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites. The Academic Calendar description of each course also indicates which classes are considered antirequisites, i.e., to cover such similar material that students are not permitted to receive academic credit for both courses.

Academic Offences:

Scholastic Offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitute a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offense (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

The following rules pertain to the acknowledgements necessary in academic papers.

A. In using another writer's words, you must both place the words in quotation marks and acknowledge that the words are those of another writer.

You are plagiarizing if you use a sequence of words, a sentence or a paragraph taken from other writers without acknowledging them to be theirs. Acknowledgement is indicated either by (1) mentioning the author and work from which the words are borrowed in the text of your paper; or by (2) placing a footnote number at the end of the quotation in your text, and including a correspondingly numbered footnote at the bottom of the page (or in a separate reference section at the end of your essay). This footnote should indicate author, title of the work, place and date of Publication and page number. Method (2) given above is usually preferable for academic essays because it provides the reader with more information about your sources and leaves your text uncluttered with parenthetical and tangential references. In either case words taken from another author must be enclosed in quotation marks or set off from your text by single spacing and

indentation in such a way that they cannot be mistaken for your own words. Note that you cannot avoid indicating quotation simply by changing a word or phrase in a sentence or paragraph which is not your own.

B. In adopting other writer's ideas, you must acknowledge that they are theirs.

You are plagiarizing if you adopt, summarize, or paraphrase other writers' trains of argument, ideas or sequences of ideas without acknowledging their authorship according to the method of acknowledgement given in 'A' above. Since the words are your own, they need not be enclosed in quotation marks. Be certain, however, that the words you use are entirely your own; where you must use words or phrases from your source; these should be enclosed in quotation marks, as in 'A' above.

Clearly, it is possible for you to formulate arguments or ideas independently of another writer who has expounded the same ideas, and whom you have not read. Where you got your ideas is the important consideration here. Do not be afraid to present an argument or idea without acknowledgement to another writer, if you have arrived at it entirely independently. Acknowledge it if you have derived it from a source outside your own thinking on the subject.

In short, use of acknowledgements and, when necessary, quotation marks is necessary to distinguish clearly between what is yours and what is not. Since the rules have been explained to you, if you fail to make this distinction, your instructor very likely will do so for you, and they will be forced to regard your omission as intentional literary theft. Plagiarism is a serious offence which may result in a student's receiving an 'F' in a course or, in extreme cases, in their suspension from the University.

Medical Issues:

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Please go to https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_accommodations_link_for_OOR.pdf to read about the University's policy on medical accommodation. This site provides links to the necessary forms. In the event of illness, you should contact Academic Counselling as soon as possible. The Academic Counsellors will determine, in consultation with the student, whether or not accommodation should be requested. They will subsequently contact the instructors in the relevant courses about the accommodation. Once the instructor has made a decision about whether to grant an accommodation, the student should contact his/her instructors to determine a new due date for tests, assignments, and exams.

SUPPORT SERVICES:

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to [Mental Health@Western](mailto:MentalHealth@Western), <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.

If you have any further questions or concerns please contact, Morgan Sheriff, Undergraduate Program Advisor, Department of History, 519-661-2111 x84999 or msherif5@uwo.ca