

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO
HIS 3415E: Modern Germany, 1815 to the Present
Fall/Winter 2016-2017
SSC3024
Mondays, 6:30 – 9:30pm

Instructor: Dr. Karen Priestman
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(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: The Divided Nation*. (4th ed., Blackwell, 2015). ***This book is available online through Weldon***

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*. (8th ed., Bedford/St. Martin's, 2015).

NOTE: It is perfectly acceptable to buy a used and/or earlier 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:		15%
Primary Source Workshops:	17 Oct. & 6 Mar.	10%
Butcher's Tale Assignment	31 October	5%
Proposal and Bibliography:	5 December	5%
Mid-term exam:	December exam period	15%
Book Summary (Allen book):	23 January	10%
Research Essay:	3 April	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. As a general rule, I assign a 4/10 to those who attend but do not participate in discussion.* 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.

Primary Source Workshops: (17 October and 6 March)

Once each semester, the entire class will engage in a primary source workshop. There are many fascinating primary sources related to the history of Germany, some of which you will read and discuss in your tutorials. In tutorials we are usually focused on the contents of these sources which means we rarely have time to examine them critically. To this end, students will choose primary sources from a list provided and answer certain questions based on those sources. We will then discuss our findings in class. Your written answers will comprise 10% of your final grade – 5% each semester. Your participation in in-class activities will count towards your participation. More details will be provided in class.

***A Butcher's Tale* Whodunnit: (DUE 31 October 2016)**

Students are required to read Helmut Walser Smith's book, *A Butcher's Tale* in its entirety. This book centres around a murder that was never solved. Who did it? In a paper of no more than 6 pages (double spaced) students must identify the most likely murder. Explain why you believe this person is the most likely murderer using the evidence presented in the book. Doing so may require you to eliminate other possible murderers. Since the murder was never solved, there is no 'correct' answer. The success of this endeavour will be in the way you use the available evidence to make your case.

We will also have a class discussion on *A Butcher's Tale*. Details about this discussion will be given in class.

****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 October 31st, so everyone must have the book read by then.

Summary Paper: (DUE 23 January 2017)

Students are required to read to the end of Chapter 12 (The Terror System) of William Sheridan Allen's *The Nazi Seizure of Power: The Experience of a Single German Town, 1930-1935*. Students will then write a summary of this book. This summary should be no more than 10 pages double-spaced. Though this may seem like a very simple task, summaries require considerable skill. Students must accurately relate the contents of the book in very few pages. This means you must correctly identify the essential information and omit all non-essential information. Only if you truly understand Allen's book will your summary be accurate. You must include the author's thesis and main arguments. In addition, students are also required to comment on the book's importance. Of the hundreds of thousands of books written on Nazi Germany, why did I assign this one, originally published fifty years ago? In assessing the book's overall importance, students would benefit from consulting book reviews.

****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 23rd, so everyone must have the book read by then.

Proposal and Bibliography: (DUE 21 November 2016)

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 relatively 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.

Choosing a Topic:

I encourage you to explore all of your options – don't just choose your topic based on a lecture or tutorial we've already had. Look through the entire syllabus before considering a topic. Peruse your textbooks – look through the table of contents and read a few pages here and there when something piques your interest. Go to the library (physically go there!) and wander through the German history section. Pick up a book now and then that looks interesting, look through its table of contents, maybe read a bit of the introduction. All of these things will help you to choose a topic that truly interests you and will make writing your paper a more enjoyable experience. 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 Essay: (DUE: 3 April 2017)

Students are required to submit a 10-12 page (double spaced) research essay on a topic of their choosing pertaining to German History. 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. 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:

Unless otherwise noted, all assignments should be double-spaced using 12 point New Times Roman font.

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.

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

Lectures at a Glance
(subject to change)

Date:	Topic:
Sept. 12	Introduction
Sept. 19	Napoleon's Europe and the Congress of Vienna
Sept. 26	<i>Vormärz</i> and 1848 Discussion #1a
Oct. 3	Bismarck and German Unification Discussion #1b
Oct. 10	THANKSGIVING – NO CLASS
Oct. 17	Primary Source Workshop #1
Oct. 24	Bismarck's Germany
Oct. 31	<i>A Butcher's Tale</i> Discussion
Nov. 7	Wilhelm and <i>Weltpolitik</i> Discussion #2a
Nov. 14	The Naval Race and the Outbreak of War Discussion #2b
Nov. 21	The First World War: The Battlefield Discussion #3a
Nov. 28	The First World War: The Homefront Discussion #3b
Dec. 5	The End of the War in Germany +Review
*** WINTER BREAK***	
Jan. 9	Revolution and the Birth of the Weimar Republic
Jan. 16	The Crises of the Weimar Republic and the Rise of the Nazis
Jan. 23	The Consolidation of Power <i>Nazi Seizure of Power: Group A</i>
Jan. 30	Nazi Germany: Ideas Into Practice <i>Nazi Seizure of Power: Group B</i>
Feb. 6	The Second World War: Battlefield
Feb. 13	The Second World War: Homefront and Holocaust
Feb. 20	READING WEEK
Feb. 27	The End of the War and the Division of Germany
Mar. 6	Primary Source Workshop #2
Mar. 13	Divided Germany: East and West Before the Wall Discussion #5a
Mar. 20	Divided Germany: East and West After the Wall Discussion #5b
Mar. 27	The Reunification of Germany
Apr. 3	Germany Ascendant + Final Exam Review

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

****Other than the assigned textbooks, all readings can be found on Owl*

Date	Lecture Topic and Readings	Discussion Topic and Readings
Week 1 (Sept. 12)	Introduction -Blackbourn, “Prologue” and Ch.1.	
Week 2 (Sept. 18)	Napoleon’s Europe and the Congress of Vienna -Blackbourn, Chs. 1-3.	
Week 3 (Sept. 26)	Vormärz and the Revolutions of 1848	Discussion #1 Group A: Germany’s Special Path? - Kocka, Jurgen. “German History Before Hitler: The Debate About the German Sonderweg.”
Week 4 (Oct. 3)	Bismarck and German Unification - Blackbourn, Chs. 4&5.	Discussion #1 Group B: Germany’s Special Path? See above readings.
Week 5	THANKSGIVING – NO CLASS	
Week 6 (Oct. 17)	Primary Source Workshop #1	
Week 7 (Oct. 24)	Bismarck’s Germany -Blackbourn, Chs. 7&8. (+ch. 6) - Frevert, Ute. “Women in German History.” - Kelley, Alfred. “Adelheid Popp.”	
Week 8 (Oct. 31)	A Butcher’s Tale Class Discussion ➤ Butcher’s Tale Assignment Due	
Week 9 (Nov. 7)	Wilhelm II and Weltpolitik	Discussion #2 Group A: The Outbreak of War - Retallack, James. “Rattling the Sabre: Weltpolitik and the Great War.” - Martel, Gordon. “Excerpts.” <i>Origins of the First World War.</i>
Week 10 (Nov. 14)	The Naval Race and the Outbreak of War -Blackbourn, Ch. 9 & “Epilogue”	Discussion #2 Group B: The Outbreak of War
Week 11 (Nov. 21)	The First World War: Battlefield ➤ Proposal Due ❖ As we will be halfway through our scheduled discussions for the course, I will be providing tutorial grades on Owl this week.	Discussion #3 Group A: WWI -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. 28)	The First World War: Homefront - Fulbrook, Ch. 2.	Discussion #3 Group B: WWI
Week 13 (Dec. 6)	The End of the First World War in Germany + Review	
*** WINTER BREAK ***		
Week 14 (Jan. 9)	Revolution and the Birth of the New Republic - “The Rise of the New Woman.”	
Week 15 (Jan. 16)	The Crises of Weimar Germany and the Rise of the Nazis -Fulbrook, Ch. 3.	
Week 16 (Jan. 23)	The Consolidation of Power ➤ Summary Paper Due	Discussion #4 Group A: The Nazi Seizure of Power -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. 30)	Nazi Germany: Ideas Into Practice - Fulbrook, Ch. 4. - Hitler, Adolf. “Excerpts.” <i>Mein Kampf</i> . - “The Four-Year Plan.” - “Hossbach Memorandum”	Discussion #4 Group B: The Nazi Seizure of Power
Week 18 (Feb. 6)	The Second World War: Battlefield	
Week 19 (Feb. 13)	The Second World War: Homefront and Genocide -Fulbrook, Ch. 5.	
*** READING WEEK ***		
Week 20 (Feb. 27)	End of the War and the Division of Germany - Fulbrook, Ch. 6 & 10. - “Basic Law of West Germany.”	
Week 21 (Mar. 6)	Primary Source Workshop #2 In addition to the assigned documents, all students must read Christopher Browning, “One day in Josefov.”	
Week 22 (Mar. 13)	Divided Germany: East and West Before the Wall -Fulbrook Ch. 7 (+ 9, 11, 12).	Discussion #5 Group A: Lives Behind the Wall
Week 23 (Mar. 20)	Divided Germany: East and West After the Wall -Fulbrook, Ch. 8 (+ 9, 11, 12). - Von Weizacker, Richard. “May 8, 1985 Speech to the Reichstag.” - Herf, Jeffrey. “Conclusion.”	Discussion #5 Group B: Lives Behind the Wall
Week 24 (Mar. 27)	The Reunification of Germany -Fulbrook, Ch.13	
Week 25 (Apr. 3)	Germany Ascendant? Final Exam Review ➤ Research Paper Due	

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

The Dean has exempted this course from Senate regulation (2016 04) which reads: “At least one week prior to the deadline for withdrawal from a course without academic penalty, students will receive assessment of work accounting at least 15% of their final grade. For 3000- or 4000-level courses in which such a graded assessment is impracticable, the instructor(s) must obtain an exemption from this policy from the Dean and this exemption must be noted on the corresponding course syllabus.” See the full text at:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/evaluation_undergrad.pdf

In other words, the instructor of this course is NOT required to provide an assessment of work accounting for at least 15% of the final grade one week prior to the deadline for withdrawal from the course.

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 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, <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, Rebecca Dashford, Undergraduate Program Advisor, Department of History, 519-661-2111 x84962 or rdashfo@uwo.ca