Germany Since 1871

Class Location: CPS 104
Class Meeting Times: Tuesday/Thursday 11:30-12:50
Professor: Dr. Eva Giloi
Office Hours: by arrangement
Email: evagiloi@newark.rutgers.edu

Course description

This course explores German history from 1815 to the 1970s. It begins with the run-up to and unification of Germany into a single nation-state, and the nature of the German Empire as created by Otto von Bismarck. It follows the dramatic political, social, and cultural developments at the beginning of the twentieth century, as a backdrop to the origins of World War I. It then turns to the Weimar Republic, its idealism and dislocations; the rise of the Nazi party and its allure; Hitler’s seizure of power, domestic and foreign policies, descent into war and Holocaust. The last third of the course examines how Germany – East and West – put itself back together again after the war, with topics including the Marshall Plan and the Cold War; the European Union; East German communism; the West German welfare state and consumerism; Ostpolitik, terrorism, and the youth movements of the 1960s and 1970s.

Against this political and social backdrop, we will also examine intellectual and cultural developments to understand what moved Germans to act with idealism and violence. We will read historians’ different analyses of how German history led to the rise of Nazism, and how Germans lived and acted during and after the Hitler regime. To get a greater insight into the mentality of the times, we will analyze a variety of primary source documents: newspaper articles, speeches, autobiographies, song lyrics, films, art works, and architecture. We will discuss these views and sources in class, as students learn to read sources closely and critically, i.e., to read between the lines and analyze evidence in the historical context of its time. Students will also regularly practice their writing and critical reading skills in several short assignments, a term paper, and a final exam.

Learning Objectives

In this course, students will practice the following skills:
-- Analyzing evidence with a critical mind: students will analyze primary source readings and ask relevant questions about how to evaluate different types of sources.
-- Writing clear and concise summaries of evidence: in homework assignments, students will write summations and opinions about the historical materials they read and will learn to craft persuasive arguments supported by facts and evidence.
-- Evaluating ‘subject positions’ by analyzing how different class, social, racial, and economic backgrounds affected people’s viewpoints and choices.

Course Requirements

In-class Participation: 15%
Reading Responses (5) = 7% each: 35%
Term Paper: 20%
Final Exam: 30%
1. **Participation in class discussion**: There are two lectures per week. Attendance is required, and participation is worth 10% of the course grade. For many class sessions, students are expected to read assigned texts before the start of class. Those readings are marked as “Required Readings” and are available on Canvas.

The In-class Participation Grade is calculated in the following way: The more you talk in the class, the better your grade will be. This grade will be cumulative at the end of the semester: I will not be grading each individual in-person course session but will be giving a grade covering your participation in class as a whole to cover the entire semester. If you come to class regularly but don’t participate in any discussions, you can expect to receive a C. If you participate occasionally, you would be likely to get a B. And if you participate regularly, then you would probably get an A.

2. **Reading Responses**: There are 5 required Reading Response papers due during the semester. These assignments are designed to help students keep up with the readings and to prompt participation in class discussion. The Reading Responses must be a minimum of a full 2 pages in length, double-spaced. The Reading Responses must answer the discussion prompts posted on Canvas.

3. **Term Paper**: This paper page minimum is 3-4 pages, double-spaced, due November 29. See Canvas for the paper prompt.

4. **Final Exam**: There is a cumulative, in-class, open-book, open-note exam on Tuesday, Dec. 20, 11:45-2:45. The exam will be open book, based on the course lectures and readings in the class. I will provide a study sheet in advance to help students prepare for the exam.

**Class Attendance Policy**

Attendance in class is required. There will be no make-up opportunities for missed classes.

*Excused vs. Unexcused absences*: The Rutgers-Newark Undergraduate catalog (http://catalogs.rutgers.edu/generated/nwk-ug_current/pg576.html) states: “The recognized grounds for absence are illness requiring medical attention, curricular or extracurricular activities approved by the faculty, personal obligations claimed by the student and recognized as valid, recognized religious holidays, and severe inclement weather causing dangerous traveling conditions.”

If you plan to claim a religious holiday as an excused absence, you must inform me of this fact within the first two weeks of class.

If you have more than four unexcused absences, your overall course grade will be lowered by a partial grade (from B+ to B, for example). If you have more than six unexcused absences, your grade will be lowered by one full grade (B+ to C+, for example). Any student who misses eight or more sessions through any combination of excused and unexcused absences will have missed more than a quarter of the class time and will not earn credit in this class. Such students should withdraw from the course to avoid an F.

**Submitting Papers**

All written work must be submitted on Canvas. All students must agree to the Rutgers Honor Code Pledge on their assignments. The wording of the pledge is: “On my honor, I have neither received nor given any unauthorized assistance on this assignment.”
The Grade Scale for this course is:
A    -- 93.0-96.9
A-   -- 90.0-92.9
B+   -- 87.0-89.9
B    -- 83.0-86.9
B-   -- 80.0-82.9
C+   -- 77.0-79.9
C    -- 73.0-76.9
C-   -- 70.0-72.9
D+   -- 67.0-69.9
D    -- 63.0-66.9
D-   -- 60.0-62.9
F    -- 00.0-59.9

The Grade Scale applies to the final course grade as a range. If your combined assignment and discussion grades fall into one of these ranges, you will get the corresponding letter grade at the end of the semester.

Grades on individual assignments:
For the grades to be reflected accurately in the Canvas Gradebook, I will be giving the following point numbers to correspond to the following letter grades:
A    = 95
A-   = 91
B+   = 88
B    = 85
B-   = 81
C+   = 78
C    = 75
C-   = 71
D    = 65
F    = 50

What the grades mean in descriptive terms:
A:    Outstanding
A-:   Outstanding, with one or two areas of improvement
B+:   Very good
B:    Good
B-:   Good overall, with some significant weaknesses
C+:   Satisfactory, with some potential for improvement
C:    Satisfactory, but needs significant development
C-:   Barely satisfactory
D:    Poor: overwhelming flaws
F:    Failing: doesn’t complete assignment

The grades are applied to your work in the class: at the college level, this means the final product of your work – what you hand in to me – and not the amount of effort you put into the work. (In other words, students don’t get an “A for effort” at the college level.) “Outstanding” is not defined as how the final product compares to your own previous work, but how it compares to other students’ work. All of this reflects the real world: in the professional working world, you will be assessed according to how effective you are compared to other people.
I am happy to talk to you about assignments at any time during the semester, but I will only do so in office hours. I will not review paper drafts or answer in-depth questions via email, since email is not an effective tool for this kind of review. You can send me short informational questions via email, but for an evaluation of your work (including rough drafts) you must contact me to schedule an office hours appointment.

**Late Reading Response papers**

For each day that a Reading Response paper is late, the grade will be lowered by one-third of a grade for up to three days. For example: one day late would reduce a grade from a B+ to a B; three days late would reduce a grade from B+ to C+. I will not accept Reading Response papers that are more than three days late.

**Policy on Academic Integrity (Cheating and Plagiarism)**

Rutgers University treats cheating and plagiarism as serious offenses. Cheating is both a moral and an ethical offense. It violates both your own integrity and the ethics of group commitment: when you cut corners and cheat, you undermine those students who took the time to work on the assignment honestly. As a standard minimum penalty, students who are suspected of cheating or plagiarism are reported to the Office of Academic Integrity. Pending investigation, further penalties can include failure of the course, disciplinary probation, and a formal warning that further cheating will be grounds for expulsion from the University.

The University’s Academic Integrity policy can be found at: [http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu](http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu)

**Important!!** = You may only use the texts assigned in this syllabus to complete the assignments in this course. Resist the urge to cut and paste either literally or figuratively by using other people’s ideas. If I find that you have used other people’s ideas (ex: Wikipedia, Amazon reviews, book jacket descriptions, etc.), I will not accept the assignment because I will not be able to consider it your own work. You will get a failing grade (0 points) for that assignment and will not be able to make it up.

**Disabilities**

Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation: [https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines](https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines). If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus’s disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at: [https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form](https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form). For more information please contact the Office of Disability Services in the Paul Robeson Campus Center, in suite 219 or contact odsnewark@rutgers.edu.

For the full Accommodation and Support statement, see Appendix A at the end of this syllabus.

**Required Readings**
The Required Readings are all available on Canvas, either as PDFs or accessible through links to an online version. If you would like to have a textbook to accompany the course, I would recommend: Sam Mustafa, *Germany in the Modern World*: ISBN-13: 978-1442265134

**Schedule of Classes**

Tues., Sept. 6: Germany in 1871

Thurs., Sept. 8: Germany on the Ground
{Recommended reading = Mustafa: Chapters 4-5}

Tues., Sept. 13: Germany in the Mind
**Required reading:**
-- “Deutschlandlied”
[http://german.about.com/library/blmus_deutschland.htm](http://german.about.com/library/blmus_deutschland.htm)

Thurs., Sept. 15: Otto von Bismarck
{Recommended = Mustafa: Chapter 6}

Tues., Sept. 20: Wars of Unification

Thurs., Sept. 22: A Liberal Empire?

Tues., Sept. 27: Forces of Change: Socialism, New Right

Thurs., Sept. 29: Kaiser Wilhelm II
**Required reading:**
-- Maurice Leudet, “A Day with Kaiser Wilhelm II, 1898”
[http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1898wilhelm2.html](http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1898wilhelm2.html)
-- Wilhelm II, “Hun Speech”
-- Wilhelm II, “Daily Telegraph Affair”

**Reading Notes due** = see prompt on Canvas.

Tues., Oct. 4: Lead-up to World War I

Thurs., Oct. 6: The Great War
**Required reading:**
-- Peter Fritzsche, “July 1914” (*Germans into Nazis*), pp. 13-29

**Reading Notes due** = see prompt on Canvas.

Tues., Oct. 11: War and Aftermath
Thurs., Oct. 13: The Versailles Treaty  
**Required reading:**  
-- Woodrow Wilson, “Speech on the Fourteen Points, January 8, 1918”  
[http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1918wilson.html](http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1918wilson.html)

Tues., Oct. 18: The Birth of the Weimar Republic  
{Recommended = Mustafa: Chapter 7}

Thurs., Oct. 20: The Challenges of the Mid-1920s

Tues., Oct. 25: Bauhaus: Utopia and Dystopia  
**Required reading:**  

Thurs., Oct. 27: The Hitler Myth and the Nazis’ Rise to Power  
**Required reading:**  
-- Ian Kershaw, “Hitler and the Germans” (*Life in the Third Reich*), pp. 41-55  
**Reading Notes due =** see prompt on Canvas.

Tues., Nov. 1: Nazi Seizure of Power Part I  
{Recommended = Mustafa: Chapter 8}

Thurs., Nov. 3: Nazi Seizure of Power Part II  
**Required reading:**  
-- Sebastian Haffner, *Defying Hitler*, pp. 79-94, 110-123

Tues., Nov. 8: Nazi Foreign Policy

Thurs., Nov. 10: Inside the Third Reich: Domestic Policy

Tues., Nov. 15: The Racial State

Thurs., Nov. 17: Repression and Resistance  
**Required reading:**  
-- Peukert, “Order and Terror” (*Inside Nazi Germany*), pp. 197-206  
**Reading Notes due =** see prompt on Canvas.

Tues., Nov. 22: The Potsdam Conference and the Nuremberg Trials  
**Required reading:**  
-- William Carr, “Nazi Policy against the Jews” (*Life in the Third Reich*), pp. 69-82

Thurs., Nov. 24 = Thanksgiving = No Class

Tues., Nov. 29: Post-War/Cold War  
***Term Paper due =** see prompt on Canvas.
Thurs., Dec. 1: West Germany and the European Common Market
{Recommended = Mustafa: Chapter 9}

Tues., Dec. 6: East Germany: The German Democratic Republic?

Thurs., Dec. 8: Ostpolitik: Willy Brandt and Erich Honecker

Tues., Dec. 13: Long March through the Institutions or Red Army Faction
Required reading:
-- Ulrike Meinhof, “From Protest to Resistance”
-- Richard Huffman, “The Gun Speaks” @ http://www.baader-meinhof.com/the-gun-speaks/intro-chapter/
Reading Notes due = see prompt on Canvas.
{Recommended = Mustafa: Chapter 10}

Final Exam = in-person, open-book, open-note exam = Tuesday, Dec. 20, 11:45-2:45

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Accommodation and Support Statement
Rutgers University Newark (RU-N) is committed to the creation of an inclusive and safe learning environment for all students and the University as a whole. RU-N has identified the following resources to further the mission of access and support:

For Individuals with Disabilities: The Office of Disability Services (ODS) is responsible for the determination of appropriate accommodations for students who encounter barriers due to disability. Once a student has completed the ODS process (registration, initial appointment, and submitted documentation) and reasonable accommodations are determined to be necessary and appropriate, a Letter of Accommodation (LOA) will be provided. The LOA must be given to each course instructor by the student and followed up with a discussion. This should be done as early in the semester as possible as accommodations are not retroactive. More information can be found at ods.rutgers.edu. Contact ODS at (973)353-5375 or via email at ods@newark.rutgers.edu.

For Individuals who are Pregnant: The Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance is available to assist with any concerns or potential accommodations related to pregnancy. Students may contact the Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance at (973) 353-1906 or via email at TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu.

For Absence Verification: The Office of the Dean of Students can provide assistance for absences related to religious observance, emergency or unavoidable conflict (e.g., illness, personal or family emergency, etc.). Students should refer to University Policy 10.2.7 for information about expectations and responsibilities. The Office of the Dean of Students can be contacted by calling (973) 353-5063 or emailing deanofstudents@newark.rutgers.edu.

For Individuals with temporary conditions/injuries: The Office of the Dean of Students can assist students who are experiencing a temporary condition or injury (e.g., broken or sprained limbs,
concussions, or recovery from surgery). Students experiencing a temporary condition or injury should submit a request using the following link: https://temporaryconditions.rutgers.edu.

**For English as a Second Language (ESL):** The Program in American Language Studies (PALS) can support students experiencing difficulty in courses due to English as a Second Language (ESL) and can be reached by emailing PALS@newark.rutgers.edu to discuss potential supports.

**For Gender or Sex-Based Discrimination or Harassment:** The Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance can assist students who are experiencing any form of gender or sex-based discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, relationship violence, or stalking. Students can report an incident to the Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance by calling (973) 353-1906 or emailing TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu. Incidents may also be reported by using the following link: tinyurl.com/RUNReportingForm. For more information, students should refer to the University’s Student Policy Prohibiting Sexual Harassment, Sexual Violence, Relationship Violence, Stalking and Related Misconduct located at http://compliance.rutgers.edu/title-ix/about-title-ix/title-ix-policies/.

**For support related to interpersonal violence:** The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance can provide any student with confidential support. The office is a confidential resource and does not have an obligation to report information to the University’s Title IX Coordinator. Students can contact the office by calling (973) 353-1918 or emailing run.vpva@rutgers.edu. There is also a confidential text-based line available to students; students can text (973) 339-0734 for support.

**For Crisis and Concerns:** The Campus Awareness Response and Education (CARE) Team works with students in crisis to develop a support plan to address personal situations that might impact their academic performance. Students, faculty and staff may contact the CARE Team by using the following link: tinyurl.com/RUNCARE or emailing careteam@rutgers.edu.

**For Stress, Worry, or Concerns about Well-being:** The Counseling Center has confidential therapists available to support students. Students should reach out to the Counseling Center to schedule an appointment: counseling@newark.rutgers.edu or (973) 353-5805. If you are not quite ready to make an appointment with a therapist but are interested in self-help, check out TAO at Rutgers-Newark for an easy, web-based approach to self-care and support: https://tinyurl.com/RUN-TAO.

**For emergencies,** call 911 or contact Rutgers University Police Department (RUPD) by calling (973) 353-5111.