



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

HISTORY PROGRAMME

HIST 425: A TOPIC IN EUROPEAN HISTORY 3:

A USABLE PAST:

NORMALISING THE EXTREME IN POSTWAR GERMANY

30 POINTS

TRIMESTER 1 AND 2, 2015

Important dates

Trimester dates: 2 March to 15 November 2015

Teaching dates: 2 March to 16 October 2015

Easter/Mid-trimester break: 3–19 April 2015

Mid-year break: 2–12 July 2015

Mid-trimester break 2/3: 24 August to 6 September 2015

Last assessment item due: 5 October 2015

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Seminar times and location

Seminars: Thursdays, 10:00am - 11:50am

Venue: OK 406 (Wood Seminar Room)

Meeting dates in 2015: first meeting on 12 March, then 19 March, 26 March, 23 April, 30 April, 7 May, 21 May, 28 May, 6 August, 20 August, 17 September, 1 October

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Dr Simone Gigliotti

Room No: OK 505

Phone: 04 463 4775

Email: simone.gigliotti@vuw.ac.nz

Office hours: Thursdays 12.00pm - 1.00pm

Communication of additional information

This course does not use Blackboard. The coordinator will update students verbally, and also email students with updates about readings, assessment, and other items, as they arise.

Prescription

What conditions make for a usable past? How has this past been interpreted, silenced and seemingly normalised in the Germanys that emerged after 1945? The course addresses how totalitarianism, the Nazi past and the Holocaust have been understood in legal, social, and political terms in postwar Germany (West and East). It explores how the Nazi regime and its crimes were represented (and silenced) in perpetrator and victim testimony and in war crimes trials, and how these crimes were addressed politically in Allied occupation policies, democratisation strategies and Communist dictatorship, constitutional reform, reparations, social protest, and policies on social cohesion and immigration. It explores how this extreme past was normalised and often contested in politics, memorials, literature, art and film.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students passing the course should be able to:

1. demonstrate familiarity with different textual, oral, and visual sources as it relates to wartime and postwar German and European history;
2. achieve competency in conducting independent research and writing essays on themes that are relevant to the course;
3. demonstrate familiarity with historiographical debates about the narration of the Nazi past and the Holocaust in postwar Germany (1945-1949, West, East, post-unification);
4. demonstrate competency in analytical and interpretive skills through the completion of set writing and assessment tasks.

Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)
Review Essay: Profile & Impact Study (2,000 words); due 11 May, 12 noon	20%	1, 4
Research Essay (4,000-4,500 words): due 13 August, 12 noon	45%	1, 2, 4
Reflective Visual Workbook (3,000 words): due 5 October, 12 noon	35%	3, 4

All assessment items' word count EXCLUDES footnotes/endnotes and bibliography.

A full list of all assessment items, topics, CLOs, respective marking criteria for each item, and set seminar readings will be distributed at the first seminar on Thursday 12 March. The course coordinator will be in email contact with students prior to that time with any updates on readings required for the first seminar.

Teaching format

HIST 425 is delivered as a two-hour seminar throughout trimesters 1 and 2.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

1. complete all three set assessment tasks
2. attend at least **10 out of 12** seminars
3. present a topical overview of HIST 425 research essays during the seminar of 6 August
4. lead ONE seminar discussion on set seminar readings and source an additional relevant reading for the discussion.

Workload

In accordance with University Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote **300 hours** to the course throughout the two trimesters, which is approximately 12.5 hours a week across the two trimesters. This total includes the following:

- 24 hours: attendance at seminars in trimesters 1 and 2

- 48 hours: completion of all set weekly readings for seminars (assumes four hours reading/seminar)
- 4 hours: completion of topical overview presentation of HIST 425 research essay
- 6 hours: preparation for seminar lead discussion and selection of additional reading
- 218 hours: devoted to preparation, research and writing of assessment tasks

Submission and return of work

All essays are due before 12 noon on the due date.

Submission: All work submitted for assessment must be dropped off in HARD COPY at the History Office in the slots provided with an essay cover sheet. You must ADD the name of your Course Coordinator and the course code. We reserve the right to ask for an electronic copy of any assessable work for checking in Turnitin.com (see www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin)

Email copies of all assessment must also be sent to the Course Coordinator by the due date and time.

Graded essays will be returned to you in seminars in the first instance, and then returned to the History Office, OK 405, where they can be collected between the hours of 1.00-2.00 pm, Monday to Friday.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

Honours students are expected to manage their workloads sufficiently to submit assignments on time. If you have any problems please see your course coordinator as soon as possible, or the Honours Coordinators, or the Head of Programme.

Penalties

History Programme policy stipulates that late submission of essays is penalised. Students lose 5% for the first day late and 2% thereafter for a maximum of 10 working days. After 10 days, work can be accepted for mandatory course requirements but will not be marked.

Materials and equipment and/or additional expenses

Students will have to pay for the cost of printed articles. The course coordinator will explain arrangements during the first seminar. The total cost for trimesters 1 and 2 should not exceed \$40.

Practicum/placement/field trip/internship arrangements

Field trips to one or all of the Holocaust Centre of New Zealand, Te Papa and the Goethe Institute will be arranged with dates advised to students in due course.

Set texts

Students are expected to pay for printed seminar readings issued by the History Administrator and/or Course Coordinator. These articles will be left near the History Office or distributed in seminars.

Recommended reading

- Beyond Berlin: twelve German cities confront the Nazi past.* Eds. Gavriel D. Rosenfeld and Paul B. Jaskot (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2008)
- Timothy Scott Brown, *West Germany and the global sixties: the anti-authoritarian revolt, 1962-1978* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2013)
- Thomas Elsaesser, *German cinema: terror and trauma: cultural memory since 1945* (New York: Routledge, 2014)
- Norbert Frei, *Adenauer's Germany and the Nazi past: the politics of amnesty and integration.* trans. Joel Golb. (New York: Columbia University Press, 2002)

- Mary Fullbrook, *German National Identity after the Holocaust: Toward a Multicultural Society?* Cambridge, UK: Polity Press; Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishers, 2002
- Dagmar Herzog, *Sex after fascism: memory and morality in twentieth-century Germany* (Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 2007)
- Anton Kaes (et al), *Germany in Transit: Nation and Migration, 1955-2005* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2007)
- Politics and Culture in Twentieth-Century Germany*, eds. William Niven and James Jordan. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2013)
- Screening war: perspectives on German suffering*, eds. Paul Cooke and Marc Silberman, (Rochester, N.Y.: Camden House, 2010)
- W.G. Sebald, *Austerlitz* (New York: Modern Library, 2001)
- Catherine Wilkins, *Landscape imagery, politics, and identity in a divided Germany, 1968-1989* (Farnham, Surrey; Burlington: Ashgate, 2013)

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the course coordinator during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first seminar. Students may wish to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

Student feedback

This course is being taught for the first time in 2015. There is no prior feedback. Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz