

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO  
Department of History  
HIEU 154  
Fall Quarter 2009

Armin Owzar  
Office: H&SS Building 4005  
Email: [aowzar@ucsd.edu](mailto:aowzar@ucsd.edu)  
Phone: (858) 534-2733

## From Bismarck to Hitler: Modern Germany, 1871-1945

Room: Peterson Hall 103

Time: Monday, 5-6.20 pm and Wednesday, 5-6.20 pm

Office Hours: Monday, 4-4.50 pm and Wednesday 4-4.50 pm, H&SS 4005

### Course Description

This course pursues two aims. First, it will provide a survey of the German history from unification in 1871 to the end of World War II. It will focus on the political and social structures of Imperial Germany, the Weimar Republic and the so-called Third Reich. Secondly, this course will discuss different interpretations in historiography. Of central concern is the attention historians have paid to the continuities leading from the Bismarck-Reich to Nazism. Another point of interest is the question why German Democracy failed in 1930/33. Special attention will be paid to the political structures of Nazi dictatorship and the role of Adolf Hitler in it.

### Readings

The following **required book** is available in the UCSD Bookstore:

- Frank B. Tipton, *A History of Modern Germany Since 1815*, Berkeley/Los Angeles 2003.

The following **recommended books** are available in the UCSD Bookstore:

- *Imperial Germany 1871-1918*, ed. by James Retallack (The Short Oxford History of Germany), Oxford/New York 2008
- Eric D. Weitz, *Weimar Germany. Promise and Tragedy*, Princeton, NJ 2007

- Richard Evans, *The Third Reich in Power*, London 2006.
- Richard Evans, *The Third Reich at War*, New York 2008.

### **General Course Requirements**

The course requirements include a midterm exam (30 %), an essay (6-8 pages, plus a bibliography, 30 %) and a final exam (40 %). To pass this class you must reasonably satisfy all the course requirements!

Except where extensions are arranged in advance, late papers will be penalized one-third of a grade per day. A more detailed handout on the papers (including a list of suggestions) will follow.

Midterm Exam:        Monday, November 2

Paper:                Wednesday, November 25

Final Exam:         Thursday, December 10, 7-10 pm at TBA

UCSD has a university-wide Policy on Integrity of Scholarship, which is on the web at <http://www-senate.ucsd.edu/manual/appendices/app2.htm>. You are responsible for understanding and acting in accordance with UCSD guidelines on academic integrity.

## Schedule Plan

- Week 1                    Germany in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century  
(Required readings: Tipton, *A History of Modern Germany*, pp. 157-163)
- September 28            Problem of Modern German History
- September 30            Making a Unified and Constitutional Germany
- Week 2                    The German Reich, 1871-1918  
(Required readings: Tipton, *A History of Modern Germany*, pp. 133-155 and 184-193; recommended readings: Brett Fairbairn, Economic and Social Developments, in: *Imperial Germany*, ed. by J. Retallack, pp. 61-82)
- October 5                Social and Economic Developments  
A Specific German Mentality?
- October 7                Film: *The Kaiser's Lackey* by Wolfgang Staudte (1951)
- Week 3                    The German Reich, 1871-1918  
(Required readings: Tipton, *A History of Modern Germany*, pp. 163-179 and 223-243; recommended readings: Christopher Clark, Religion and Confessional Conflict, in: *Imperial Germany*, ed. by J. Retallack, pp. 83-101; Thomas Kühne, Political Culture and Democratization, in: *Imperial Germany*, ed. by J. Retallack, pp. 182-186)
- October 12                The Center Party and the *Kulturkampf*  
The Social Democrats and the Anti-Socialist Laws  
Liberals and Conservatives
- October 14                Anti-Semitism and Nationalism
- Week 4                    Imperialism, World War I and the Revolution of 1918  
(Required readings: Tipton, *A History of Modern Germany*, pp. 243-322; recommended readings: Roger Chickering, Militarism and Radical Nationalism, in: *Imperial Germany*, ed. by J. Retallack, pp. 196-218; Jeffrey Verhey, War and revolution, in: *Imperial Germany*, ed. by J. Retallack, pp. 242-263)
- October 19                Colonialism, Imperialism and Militarism
- October 21                World War I and the Revolution of 1918

- Week 5**                      **Weimar Republic, 1918-1933**  
(Required readings: Tipton, *A History of Modern Germany*, pp. 323-340 and 391-410; recommended readings: Weitz, *Weimar Germany*, pp. 81-127)
- October 26                      From Crisis to Relative Stability
- October 28:                      The Collapse of Democracy
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- Week 6**                      **Weimar Republic, 1918-1933**  
(Required readings: Tipton, *A History of Modern Germany*, pp. 410-417; recommended readings: Weitz, *Weimar Germany*, pp. 331-360)
- November 2                      Midterm Exam
- November 4                      The National Socialist Movement and Hitler's Voters
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- Week 7**                      **The "Third Reich", 1933-1945**  
(Required readings: Tipton, *A History of Modern Germany*, pp. 424-427 and 459-468; recommended readings: Evans, *The Third Reich in Power*, pp. 20-118)
- November 9                      The Establishment of the Nazi Dictatorship and the Political Structures of the "Third Reich"
- November 11                      no class, Veteran's Day
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- Week 8**                      **The "Third Reich", 1933-1945**  
(Required readings: Tipton, *A History of Modern Germany*, pp. 468-486; recommended readings: Evans, *The Third Reich in Power*, pp. 477-503 and Evans, *The Third Reich at War*, pp. 321-432)
- November 16                      The Myth of the "Führer"
- November 18                      World War II and the Establishment of a "New Order" in Europe
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- Week 9**                      **The "Third Reich", 1933-1945**  
(Required readings: Tipton, *A History of Modern Germany*, pp. 451-455 and 486-493; recommended readings: Evans, *The Third Reich in Power*, pp. 506-610 and Evans, *The Third Reich at War*, pp. 217-318)
- November 23                      The Persecution of the Jews: Anti-Semitic Politics, 1933-1938

November 25      The Extermination of the Jews: The Holocaust  
Deadline for the Papers

Week 10            The “Third Reich” and Its Aftermath  
(Required readings: Tipton, *A History of Modern Germany*, pp. 547-555)

November 30      The Resistance and the Nazi Past in Postwar Germany

December 2        A Résumé

### Finals Week

December 10      Final exam (Location is TBA)  
(Thursday)  
7-10 pm