DIRECTED READINGS ON THE HOLOCAUST: SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed for students who are concurrently enrolled in Hist 133D or have a substantial prior knowledge of the Holocaust or German history. Thus all participants should have taken a course in the UCSB Hist 133 series, or the equivalent in another department or at another school.

We will read and discuss significant works about various aspects of the Holocaust in order to examine some of the issues it raises. This is an intensive reading course: We will read 300-400 pages per week for class. Each week students will write an informal reflection about the reading. Members of the topic groups will also present their (preliminary) research results to the class.

This course fulfills the proseminar requirement for History majors, so all students are required to write (and present) a research essay on one of the course topics. Each group of students will also create a web project integrating the group's work, which will be published on the course website.

REQUIREMENTS

- 1. Regular, active **participation** in class discussion, which counts for 25% (!) of the final grade. There is also a required lecture on Feb. 23; possibly other outside events as well.
- 2. There are six book discussion meetings during the quarter. Each week all students will submit a **short informal paper** comprised of their reading notes and questions about that work.
 - These papers are due on **Mondays, by 10am**, on the GauchoSpace course website. Each is worth 5% of the final grade for a total of 25%.
- 3. A **individual term paper of 12-15 pages** in length, including an annotated bibliography/ linkography, which draws on additional secondary and primary sources to examine an aspect of a course topic in greater depth.
- 4. A group web project and oral presentation to the class of each web project. (10% of final grade).
 - In the latter part of the term individuals and topic groups may present their web projects during the regular class meetings; otherwise the presentations will be during the last class.
- 5. An **oral final review**. Each project group will meet with the professor for 20-30 minutes to discuss how they designed their web project, what its goals are, and what they learned from creating it.

TOPIC LIST:

- 1. Autobiographies by Holocaust survivors and/or their children
- 2. Key events in German/Holocaust history
- 3. Histories of concentration camps (or just Auschwitz)
- 4. Autobiographies of "Aryan" Germans (Nazis) and/or their children
- 5. The reception of the Holocaust in the United States (and/or other countries)

COMPONENTS OF GRADE:

discussion: 25%; short papers: 25%; term paper: 40%; web project & oral presentation: 10%.

<u>REQUIRED BOOKS</u> (in the order we will read them; purchase details on the course web site)

- 1. Art Spiegelman, Maus: A Survivor's Tale, vols. 1 & 2 (Pantheon, 1986, 1991)
- 2. Peter Fritzsche, Germans into Nazis (Harvard UP, 1998)
- 3. Laurence Rees, Auschwitz: A New History (Public Affairs Press, 2006)
- 4. Melissa Mueller, Anne Frank: The Biography (Holt/Owl, 1998)
- 5. Ursula Mahlendorf, The Shame of Survival: Working Through a Nazi Childhood (Penn, 2009)
- 6. Peter Novick, *The Holocaust in American Life* (Mariner Books, 2000)

HIST 133Q, WINTER 2010 Schedule of Topics

Jan. 4	Introduction and creation of project groups	Project Group:
II	Maus: A Survivor's Tale, vols. I & II by Art Spiegelman (1986, 1991), 159+136 pages	
Jan. 11		
Jan 18	Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday	
III	Germans into Nazis by Peter Fritzsche (1998), 264 pages	
Jan. 25		
IV	Auschwitz: A New History by Laurence Rees (2006), 299 pages	
Feb. 1		
V	Anne Frank: The Biography by Melissa Müller (1998), 318 pp.	
Feb. 8		
Feb. 15	President's Day Holiday	
VI Esh 22	<i>The Shame of Survival: Working Through a Nazi Childhood</i> by Ursula Mahlendorf (2009) Also: evening lecture Tue 2/23, 7:xx pm	
Feb. 22		
VII	<i>The Holocaust in American Life</i> by Peter Novick (2000), 352 pages	
Mar. 1		
VIII	Oral Presentations by topic groups	
Mar. 7	Possibly also on another date to be determined.	
Mar. 16	Tuesday (or sooner), 1-4pm: final papers due and oral "examinations," in my office, HSSB 4222	

Plagiarism—presenting someone else's work as your own, or deliberately failing to credit or attribute the work of others on whom you draw (including materials found on the web)—is a serious academic offense, punishable by dismissal from the university. It hurts the one who commits it most of all, by cheating them out of an education. Offenses will be reported to the appropriate university authorities for disciplinary action.