

**History 642-01
Readings in the Holocaust
Spring 2005**

Professor L. Powell
209 Hebert Building
200 Broadway, Suite 105

Office Hours: Thurs. 1-3 pm
or by appointment

REQUIRED READING

SPRING 2005

Louis Begley, Wartime Lies
Christopher Browning, Ordinary Men
Richard Bessel, ed., Life in the Third Reich
Eberhard Jaeckel, Hitler's World View
Primo Levi, Survival in Auschwitz
Michael Marrus, The Holocaust in History
Lawrence N. Powell, Troubled Memory
Richard Rubinstein, The Cunning of History
Gitta Sereny, Into That Darkness

RECOMMENDED

Raul Hilberg, The Destruction of the European Jews (Student Edition)
Lucy Dawidowicz, The War Against the Jews

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

There are no exams, but you will be required to write two short thought essays (about 5 pages each) and a 12-15 page term paper. All papers must be typed. I will assign topics for the two short papers, the first of which will be on the origins of the Final Solution, but the term paper can be on a subject of your choice. Some examples: hidden children, the Allies, Hitler's Euthanasia program, the other "Holocausts," bystanders (both individuals, institutions, countries), Jewish resistance and accommodation, the Jewish Councils, the SS, postwar adjustments. The possibilities are practically endless.

In addition, except on days when the class doesn't meet or when one of the thought essays are due, you will be expected to submit a concise summary of that week's assigned reading. The summary needs only be a paragraph or two, and it can be submitted via e-mail or hard copy placed in my history department mailbox. But it must be turned in no later than the morning of that day's scheduled class meeting.

Attendance is mandatory.

SCHEDULE

WEEK 1 (Jan. 11) COURSE OVERVIEW

READING: Marrus, The Holocaust in History, 1-30

WEEK 2 (Jan. 18) IS THE HOLOCAUST GENERALIZABLE?

READING: Rubinstein, The Cunning of History

WEEK 3 (Jan. 25) GERMANS INTO NAZIS

READING: Bessel, ed., Life in the Third Reich

WEEK 4 (Feb. 1) HITLER'S WORLD VIEW

READING: Jaeckel, Hitler's World View

WEEK 5 (Feb. 8) MARDI GRAS BREAK

WEEK 6 (Feb. 15) THE FINAL SOLUTION

READING: Marrus, The Holocaust in History, 31-155

FIRST PAPER DUE: "Intentionalists v. Functionalists: The Debate over the Final Solution."

Read the following material on closed reserve and in course pack:

1. Browning, "The Decision for the Final Solution"
2. Lucy Dawidowicz, The War Against the Jews, 1933-1945 (New York, 1975), 88-166
3. Karl Schleunes, "Retracing the Twisted Road," in F. Furet, Unanswered Questions (New York, 1989), 54-70.

WEEK 7 (Feb. 22) ORDINARY PERPETRATORS

READING: Browning, Ordinary Men

WEEK 8 (Mar. 1) THE COMMANDANT IREADING: Sereny, Into That Darkness, 9-252**WEEK 9** (Mar. 8) THE COMMANDANT IIREADING: Sereny, Into That Darkness, 253-369**WEEK 10** (Mar. 15) THE CAMPSREADING: Levi, Survival in Auschwitz**March 15--SECOND PAPER DUE--**On a topic to be assigned**WEEK 11** (Mar. 22) **SPRING BREAK****WEEK 12** (Mar. 29) HIDINGREADING: Begley, Wartime Lies**WEEK 13** (Apr. 5) BYSTANDERS AND RESCUERSREADING: Marrus, The Holocaust in History, 156-202**WEEK 14** (Apr. 12) A FAMILY SAGAREADING: Powell, Troubled Memory, 1-292**WEEK 15** (Apr. 19) SURVIVING SURVIVALREADING: Powell, Troubled Memory, 293-499

WEEK 16 (Apr. 26) (ANNE LEVY TALK)

TERM PAPER DUE AT THE END OF SEMESTER