

Nazis in South America
PSCI 515
Spring 2014
Thursdays (5:30pm-8:15pm)
SS 134

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Office Hours: Tu/Th 10:00am-12:30pm, or by appointment

Course Description:

Welcome to an examination of Nazis in South America. We will begin the course with a broad analysis of how Nazi's escaped from Germany after World War II. The roles of The International Red Cross, The Vatican and Italy will be given particular emphasis. From there, the class will begin to focus on South America as a destination for Nazis fleeing justice. Then, more specific attention will be aimed toward Argentina, a country that had both a strong Jewish and German population, and would later become a haven for Nazis. The role of the Argentine government, and Juan Peron's regime in particular, played in providing sanctuary to these wars criminals will be examined. Finally, an emphasis will be placed on specific Nazi figures who resided in South America, including Erich Priebke, Gerhard Bohne, Josef Schwammberger, Josef Mengele, and finally, Adolf Eichmann. We will devote a significant amount of time to Eichmann, his capture, trial, and execution. The implications of the Nazi in South America are still felt to this very day.

Please note the following important items:

- This course involves extensive reading. It will be impossible to have productive discussions about the course material unless students have carefully read the assigned material before class. We will particularly aim to find, discuss and debate inconsistencies in the historical records. We will average 100 pages of readings per week.
- The nature of the material we will read, watch (through documentaries and other films), and discuss is of a tremendously disturbing nature. Students **ARE REQUIRED** to display maturity and respect for the themes that we will digest throughout the semester in an effort to better understand how and why the perpetrators of genocide escaped from Nazi Germany and found refuge in South America.

Format:

Each student will be responsible for presenting the assigned readings on a rotating basis (see Requirements/Assignments). Each class will involve a round-table discussion about the assigned readings. In addition, we will use videos and, if possible, invite guest speakers to further our understanding of Nazis in South America. Please note: ***This syllabus is subject to change at any time at the professor's discretion.***

Learning Outcome:

Students will understand how and why Nazis fled to South America after World War II and the political implications of the Nazi presence in Latin American countries.

NO PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES ARE ALLOWED IN CLASS AT ANY TIME.

THIS INCLUDES (BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO):

CELL PHONES,

LAPTOPS,

iPADS,

iPODS,

MP3 Players/Recorders,

Translation Devices

VIDEO CAMERAS

OR ANY OTHER AUDIO AND/OR VIDEO RECORDERS OF ANY KIND

IF ANY OF THESE DEVICES ARE PRESENT IN CLASS YOU WILL BE ASKED TO STORE THEM OR LEAVE THE CLASS IMMEDIATELY.

Requirements/Assignments

Papers:

You must produce one paper (14 pages -not more, not less-, typed 12-point font, double spaced, 1in margins all around). This is worth a total of 30% of your grade. The research paper must focus on a topic approved by the professor analyzing some aspect of Nazis in South America. Papers must be submitted in electronic form (as an email attachment) AND as a hard (printed) copy on the due dates. You will be provided with specific guidelines to complete each paper.

Note: Your research paper cannot be the same or similar to papers you submitted for another course. Likewise, you cannot use the research paper you write in this course for another class without the expressed permission of the other professor. **Late papers will NOT be accepted for ANY reason.**

Examinations:

Exams: There is one take-home exam in this course, worth 25% of your grade. The exam requires you to answer three questions (2 pages each, typed, double-spaced, 12 point font). You will be provided with specific guidelines to complete the take-home exam late in the semester. **Late exams will NOT be accepted for ANY reason.**

Attendance: 10% of your grade is based on your class attendance. Students are required to attend class and attendance will be taken at the end of each class session using a sign-in sheet. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that they have signed in. Arriving late and/or leaving early will negatively impact your attendance grade. *Attendance is critical, discussions are irreplaceable, and course sessions cannot be "made up."* **I will not be managing any excuses for absences. You can miss up to ONE class session without penalty for any reason. More than one absence will result in a reduction in your grade, REGARDLESS of the reason (excused OR unexcused).**

The attendance grade scale appears below.

- 0 absences = you will get a bonus of 2% added to your grade
- 1 absence= no penalty
- 2 absences= -2% from your grade
- 3 absences= -4% from your grade
- 4 absences= -6% from your grade
- 5 or more absences= -10% from your grade

Participation: Your participation in this course is worth 10% of your grade. Positive participation includes responding to my questions, asking your own questions, and contributing to class discussions. Your participation grade will be reduced if you use personal electronic devices in class, misbehave in class, or disrupt class in any way.

Pop Quizzes: These will be assigned randomly throughout the semester and will count for a total of 5% of your grade. If you are *absent* when a short writing assignment or pop quiz is given, you **cannot** make it up, irrespective of the circumstances. Pop quizzes will be graded on the basis of the content and clarity of your answers.

Readings Presentations: Each student will be assigned to **present readings** and help lead the discussions throughout the semester on an equitable and rotating basis. *These presentations must be accompanied by AN OUTLINE to be distributed to all of the students in the class. Each presentation will be strictly limited to 30 minutes each.* Your presentations are worth 20% of your grade.

Grades: Your grade in this course will be determined by the criteria listed below. Specifically, the following scale will be used to determine your grade:

- Research Paper (March 18): 30%
- Take-Home Exam (May 1): 25%
- Readings Presentations: 20%
- Attendance: 10%
- Participation: 10%
- Quizzes: 5%

A 90-100%; B 80-89.9%; C 70-79.9%; D 60-69.9%; F Below 60%

Notes on Academic Dishonesty of ANY kind: Any student who is caught committing any kind of academic dishonesty will receive an “F” in this course and will be reported to the University administration. “Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one’s own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), signing the attendance sheet for a student who is absent (or asking another student to sign you in when you are absent), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material” (Texas A&M University-Commerce Procedures A13.12). If you have any doubt as to what may constitute academic dishonesty, please consult with me prior to submitting any assignments.

Notes on plagiarism: All research papers will be submitted to *turnitin.com*, a digital plagiarism detection system. Any student who is caught plagiarizing will receive an “F” in this course and will be reported to the University administration for academic dishonesty. If you have any doubt as to what may constitute plagiarism, please consult me prior to submitting any written work.

In order to maximize your performance in this course, you must:

- ***TURN OFF ALL PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES BEFORE CLASS BEGINS. THIS INCLUDES (BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO): CELL PHONES, LAPTOPS, iPADS, IPODS, MP3 Players/Recorders, Translation devices, VIDEO CAMERAS, OR ANY OTHER AUDIO AND/OR VIDEO RECORDERS OF ANY KIND***
- ***IF ANYONE IS FOUND TO BE TEXTING OR ANSWERS A PHONE CALL DURING CLASS, THE ENTIRE CLASS WILL TAKE A POP QUIZ ON THE SPOT.***
- Attend each class session AND arrive ON TIME (the classroom door will not be opened for late arrivals **15 minutes after class starts**; Notify the professor in advance if you need to arrive late or leave early (this may affect your grade);
- ***Read the assigned material before class and be prepared to discuss the topics presented;***
- Refrain from reading materials or working on other homework during class;
- Do NOT get up in the middle of class to go to the bathroom unless absolutely necessary;
- Be courteous to -and respectful of- your fellow students and professor.

Code of Student Conduct: *Faculty have the authority to request students who exhibit inappropriate behavior to leave the class and may refer serious offenses to the University Police Department and/or the Dean of Students for disciplinary action.* Failure to comply with the Code of Student Conduct and commonsensical directions listed above may result in a verbal request to cease inappropriate behavior, your immediate removal from the class, being immediately dropped from the class, and/or a review by an appropriate university disciplinary agency. For more information on this subject, please see the Student Guidebook.

Note to Students with Disabilities: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library, Room 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835 Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu

Required Readings:

There are **THREE required texts** for this course:

Nazis on the Run

Gerald Steinacher
ISBN: 978-0-19-964245-8

The Real Odessa: Smuggling the Nazis to Peron's Argentina

Uki Goni
ISBN: 978-1-86-207552-8

Hunting Eichmann

Neal Bascomb
ISBN: 978-0-547-24802-8

Readings Packet

In addition to the texts, there is a **required readings packet** that you will need to download and print out from dropbox.com.

In-Class Readings

During most class sessions, you will receive a series of handouts that you will read and discuss in class.

Course Schedule:

Week 1 (January 16) Introduction to Course

Read:

- *Nothing-Please purchase your books and download the Readings Packet.*
- *Watch "Nazi Hunters" Documentary Videos*

Week 2 (January 23) Nazis on the Run: How Hitler's Henchman Fled Justice

Read: 111

- Introduction (12)
- Chapter 1: The Nazi Escape Route Through Italy (54)
- Chapter 2: The Co-Responsibility of the International Red Cross (45)

Week 3 (January 30) Nazis on the Run: How Hitler's Henchman Fled Justice

Read: 108

- Chapter 3: The Vatican Network (57)
- Chapter 4: The Intelligence Service Ratline (51)

Week 4 (February 6) Nazis on the Run: How Hitler's Henchman Fled Justice

Read: 77

- Chapter 5: Destination Argentina (59)
- Conclusion (18)

Week 5 (February 13) German Argentina

Read: 81

- Newton, Ronald C.: Introduction (8)
- Newton, Ronald C.: Part I Before 1939 (12)
- Newton, Ronald C.: Chapter 9 Refugees, Exiles, and the Antifascist Resistance 1933-1948 (34)
- Newton, Ronald C.: Part II War and Aftermath 1939-1947 (7)
- Newton, Ronald C.: Chapter 15 Very Handsome Hunks of Young Men: The Internment of Admiral Graf Spee's Crew 1939-1946 (20)

Week 6 (February 20) Jewish Argentina

Read: 67

- Elazar, Daniel: Argentina and Its Jews: Some Persistent Themes (11)
- Elazar, Daniel: Argentine Culture and the Immigrants (13)
- Elazar, Daniel: The Jews in Argentina (11)
- Elazar, Daniel: The Organizational Structures of the Jewish Community (23)
- Elazar, Daniel: Present and Future (9)

Week 7 (February 27) Juan Peron

Read: 83

- Lewis, Paul H.: Was Peron a Fascist? An Inquiry into the Nature of Fascism (15)
- Dorn, Glenn: Peron's Gambit: The United States and the Argentine Challenge to the Inter-American Order 1946-1948 (20)
- Bell, Lawrence D.: In the Name of Community: Populism, Ethnicity, and Politics Among the Jews of Argentina Under Peron 1946-1955 (31)
- Metz, Allan: Reluctant Partners: Juan Peron and the Jews of Argentina, 1946-1955 (17)

Week 8 (March 6) South America

Read: 104

- Turner, Ewart: German Influence in South Brazil (12)
- Friedman, Max: Specter of a Nazi Threat: United States-Colombian Relations 1939-1945 (26)
- Dorn, Glenn: Exclusive Domination or Short Term Imperialism: The Peruvian Response to US-Argentine Rivalry, 1946-1950 (21)
- Schindler, Emile Where Light and Shadow Meet *excerpt* (45)

Week 9 (March 13) SPRING BREAK

Read: *Nothing. No Class*

Week 10 (March 20) Nazis in Argentina Part I

Read: 111

- Goñi, Uki: Foreword (12)
- Goñi, Uki: Chapters 1-4 (50)
- Goñi, Uki: Chapters 5-7 (49)

Week 11 (March 27) Nazis in Argentina Part II

Read: 128

- Goñi, Uki: Chapters 8-12(63)
- Goñi, Uki: Chapters 13-15 (65)

Week 12 (April 3) Nazis in Argentina Part III

Read: 116

- Goñi, Uki: Chapter 16 (22)
- Goñi, Uki: Ch 17&18 Erich Priebke and Gerhard Bohne (21)
- Goñi, Uki: Ch 19&20 Josef Schwammberger and Josef Mengele (18)
- Goñi, Uki: Ch 21 Adolf Eichmann (27)
- Goñi, Uki: Conclusion&Afterword (28)

Week 13 (April 10) Adolf Eichmann

Read: 110 (no presentations)

- Bascomb, Neal: Hunting Eichmann (Pages 1-110)

Week 14 (April 17) Adolf Eichmann

Read: 107 (no presentations)

- Bascomb, Neal: Hunting Eichmann (Pages 111-218)

Week 15 (April 24) Adolf Eichmann

Read: 111 (no presentations)

- Bascomb, Neal: Hunting Eichmann (Pages 219-330)

Week 16 (May 1) Take-Home Exam DUE; Class Dinner and Discussion

Read:

- Submit Take-Home Exam.