Course Title : HISTORY OF MODERN GERMANY

Course Code : HST363

No. of Credits/Term : 3

Mode of Tuition : Sectional approach

Class Contact Hours : 3 hours per week

Category in Major Prog. : Elective

Prerequisite(s) : None

Co-requisite(s) : None

Exclusion(s); : None

Exemption Requirement(s) : None

Brief Course Description : This course will survey the course of German history since

unification. In particular, it will discuss unification, industrialization, the two World Wars, the Cold War, reunification, and Germany's role in the European Union. It will discuss political, social, and cultural developments, including the experience of totalitarianism and the emergence of democracy; the post-1945 critical engagement with the Holocaust; and the development of consumer

society.

Aims : To assist students to understand the course of modern

German history, both as a means of understanding contemporary Germany in its historical context and as a means of understanding selected aspects of modernity in a

focused national context.

Learning Outcomes : After finishing the course, students will be able:

1) to understand the main contours of modern German history

2) to place modern German history within European and global contexts

3) to have a deeper understanding of such themes as nationalism, industrialization, cross-cultural exchange, total war, totalitarianism, and democratic politics, seen

within a focused national context

Indicative Content : I. Background to unification (1648-1848)

A. Impact of the 30 Years War

B. The Holy Roman Empire

C. Diplomacy in the 18<sup>th</sup> century

- D. The rise of Prussia
- E. The German Enlightenment and Romanticism
- F. The Napoleonic influence

### II. The rise of a unified Germany (1848-1870)

- A. Nationalism
- B. The 1848 Revolution
- C. "Big Germany vs. Little Germany"
- D. Bismarck's Wars of Unification

### III. The Kaiserreich (1870-1918)

- A. Building a unified polity: Kulturkampf and repression of socialists
- B. The structure of politics
- C. The Iron and Rye alliance
- D. Industrialization and the rise of the SPD
- E. Culture and Society
- F. The *Sonderweg* thesis
- G. Diplomacy and the origins of the Great War

# IV. Weimar Germany (1918-1933)

- A. The structure of politics
- B. The German War-Guilt thesis and international relations in the 1920s
- C. Culture and Society
- D. Hyperinflation and the question of reparations
- E. The Great Depression
- F. The collapse of German democracy

# V. Nazi Germany (1933-1945)

- A. The Nazi seizure of power
- B. Nazi ideology and culture
- C. Nazi methods of rule: the intentionalist vs. functionalist debate
- D. Gleichschaltung and totalitarianism
- E. Everyday life under the Nazis
- F. The Nazi war economy
- G. World War II and the Holocaust

### VI. A Divided Germany (1945-1989)

- A. The making of the Cold War
- B. Politics, culture, and society in the GDR
- C. Politics, culture, and society in the FRG
- D. The West German Economic Miracle
- E. Willy Brandt and Ostpolitik
- F. The road to German reunification

### VII. The Rise of German "Normalcy" (1945-present)

- A. The German model of industrial capitalism
- B. The Historians' Debate and the politics of

### remembering the Holocaust

# C. Germany in the European Union

Teaching Method : This course will employ a combination of lectures and

seminar discussions.

Measurement of Learning

Outcomes

: 1) Written essays analyzing primary and secondary sources

2) In-class discussions focused on assigned readings.

3) Examination covering the major themes covered in the

readings and lectures.

Assessment : Continuous Assessment 65%

Examination 35%

Required/ Essential Readings:

Carr, William and Mark Allinson, *A History of Germany*, 1815-2002, 5<sup>th</sup> ed. (London: Hodder Arnold, 2006).

Recommended/ Supplementary Readings:

Berghahn, V.R., *Modern Germany: Society, Economy and Politics in the Twentieth Century*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1987).

Blackbourn, David, *History of Germany*, 1780-1918: The Long Nineteenth Century, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (London: Wiley, 2008).

Blackbourn, David and Geoff Eley, *The Peculiarities of German History: Bourgeois Politics and Society in Nineteenth-Century Germany* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1984).

Blanning, T.C.W., The French Revolution in Germany (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1983).

Browning, Christopher, *Ordinary Men: Reserve Battalion 101 and the Final Solution in Poland*, New ed. (London: Penguin, 2001).

Browning, Christopher, *The Origins of the Final Solution: The Evolution of Nazi Jewish Policy, September 1939-March 1942* (Winnipeg: Bison Books, 2007).

Burleigh, Michael, *The Racial State: Germany 1933-1945* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1993).

Chickering, Roger, *Imperial Germany and the Great War*, 1914-1918, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004)

Craig, Gordon A., Germany, 1866-1945 (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1978).

Fritzsche, Peter, Germans into Nazis (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1999).

Fulbrook, Mary, A Concise History of Germany (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1990)

Fulbrook, Mary, Germany 1918-2000: The Divided Nation (London: Wiley, 2002)

Fulbrook, Mary, *The People's State: East German Society from Hitler to Honecker* (New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 2006).

Gay, Peter, Weimar Culture: The Outsider as Insider (New York: W.W. Norton, 2001).

Goldhagen, Daniel Jonah, *Hitler's Willing Executioners: Ordinary Germans and the Holocaust* (New York: Vintage, 1997).

Haffner, Sebastian, The Rise and Fall of Prussia (London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 1980).

Hamerow, Theodore S., *Restoration, Revolution, Reaction* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1966).

Hamerow, Theodore S., *The Social Foundations of German Unification*, 1858-71 (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1969).

Heneghan, Tom, Unchained Eagle: Germany after the Wall (London: Pearson Education, 2000).

Kershaw, Ian, The Nazi Dictatorship (London: Edward Arnold, 1985).

Kershaw, Ian, *Popular Opinion and Political Dissent in the Third Reich* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1983).

Koonz, Claudia, *The Nazi Conscience* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2005).

Maier, Charles S., *The Unmasterable Past: History, Holocaust, and German National Identity* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1988).

Maier, Charles S., *Dissolution: The Crisis of Communism and the End of East Germany* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1999).

Peukert, Detlev, *Inside Nazi Germany: Conformity, Opposition and Racism in Everyday Life* (New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 1987).

Peukert, Detlev, The Weimar Republic (London: Hill and Wang, 1993).

Patton, David, Cold War Politics in Postwar Germany (Basingstoke: Palgrave, 1999).

Schissler, Hannah, *The Miracle Years: A Cultural History of West Germany*, 1949-1968 (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2001).

Sheehan, James, German Liberalism in the Nineteenth Century (London: Methuen, 1982).

Smith, Helmut Walser, *The Butcher's Tale: Murder and Anti-Semitism in a German Town* (New York: Norton, 2002).

Smith, Helmut Walser, German Nationalism and Religious Conflict: Culture, Ideology, Politics, 1870-1914 (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1995).

Stephenson, Jill, Women in Nazi Germany (London: Longman, 2001).

Stern, Fritz, Einstein's German World (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1999).

Stern, Fritz, *The Politics of Cultural Dispair: A Study in the Rise of Germanic Ideology* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1974).

Turner, Henry A, German Big Business and the Rise of Hitler (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1985).

Turner, Henry A., *Hitler's Thirty Days to Power, January 1933* (Reading, MA: Addison Wesley, 1996).

Wehler, Hans-Ulrich, *The German Empire*, 1871-1918, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (London: Berg, 1997).