



The Weiss-Livnat International MA Program in Holocaust Studies



Yad Vashem
The Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority
The International Institute for Holocaust Research



BEIT LOHAMEI HAGHETAOT
THE GHETTO FIGHTERS' HOUSE

Course Title	The Second World War		
Name of Instructor	Dr. Daniel Uziel	Number of Credit Points	4
Instructor Email	duziel@yahoo.com	Time Course is offered	Fall Semester. Wednesdays 2:00-6:00

Course description

Since the end of the Cold War the historiography of WWII has changed significantly. New sources as well as new perspectives - sometimes using novel inter-disciplinary approaches – help us to create a deeper and more balanced history of the largest armed conflict in history. In this course we will examine the modern history of WWII through different prisms, including the central role of culture in warfare and its memory.

Course requirements

- Active participation and reading the weekly reading items.
- A 3-page analytical essay on one of the reading items marked with a *.
Should be submitted by 31 December 2016.
- A term paper (around 10 pages) or a seminar paper (25-30 pages) on a topic approved by the teacher. The deadline for term paper submission is 27 February 2017; for seminar paper: 20 June 2017.

Final Grade

Term/Seminar paper: 50%

Essay: 30%

Active participation: 10%

Course outline and reading

1) Introduction: New Histories of WWII

*Kevin W. Farrel, "Recent Approaches to the German Army of WWII: Is the Topic more Accessible after 65 years?", in: *Global War Studies*, 7 (2), 2010, pp.131-156.

2) The Great War – WWI and its Aftermath

Marks, Sally, *The Ebbing of European Ascendancy: An International History of the World 1914-1945*, London: 2002, pp.19-99.

3) Warming-up the Engines – Armed Conflicts of the 1930s

Johnson, Paul, *Modern Time. The World from the Twenties to the Nineties*, New York: 2001, pp.309-340.

4) The Axis – Interests, Plans, Preparations

Kershaw, Ian, *Fateful Choices. Ten Decisions that changed the World, 1940-1941*, New York: 2007, pp.54-80, 91-110, 129-146.

5) Blitzkrieg – Germany's Conquests, 1939-1941

Weinberg, Gerhard, *A World at Arms. A Global History of WWII*, New York: 1994, pp.122-186.

6) The End of the Empire: Great Britain in WWII

Keegan, John, *The Second World War*, New York: 1990, pp.88-123.

7) Hitler turns East I: Plans and Preparations for Operation Barbarossa

*Jürgen Förster, "Operation Barbarossa in Historical Perspective", in: MGFA (ed.), *Germany and the Second World War*, vol.IV, Oxford 1996, pp.1245-1255.

[Führer's Directive No.21: Barbarossa, 18/12/1940.](#)

[Annex to Führer's Directive No.21: Barbarossa, 13/3/1941.](#)

8) Hitler turns East II: The Campaign in the East until the End of 1941

Weinberg, *A World at Arms*, pp.234-309.

9) December 1941: The Turn of the Tide

Kershaw, *Fateful Choices*. pp.331-430.

10) Sideshow: The War in the Mediterranean

Keegan, *The Second World War*, pp.310-368.

11) Economies and Industries at War

*Overy, Richard J., *War and Economy in the Third Reich*, Oxford: 2002, pp.259-314, Tables 9.13, p.305, 9.15, p.312.

12) The Home Front: Societies in WWII

*Hester Vaizey, "Parents and Children in Second World War Germany: An Inter-generational Perspective on Wartime Separation", in: *Journal of Contemporary History*, vol.46 (2), 2011, pp.364-382.

13) Science and Scientists in the Service of War

*Burghard Ciesla & Helmuth Trischler, "Legitimation through use: rocket and aeronautical research in the Third Reich and the USA", in: Walker, Mark, *Science and Ideology: A Comparative History*, Abingdon 2003, pp. 156-181.

14) The Great Alliance: Leaders, Leadership and Cooperation Mechanisms

*Overy, Richard, *Why the Allies Won*, New York: 1997, pp.245-281.

15) Airpower – Aerial Warfare and its Consequences

*Ibid, pp.101-133.

16) Operation Blue – The German Offensive in the East, 1942

[Führer's Directive No.41: Case Blue, 5/4/1942.](#)

17) The Long Retreat – Germany's defeat in the East

Overy, Richard, *Russia's War. A History of the Soviet War Effort 1941-1945*, New York: 1998, pp.186-254.

18) Invasion: The Allies return to Western Europe

*Weinberg, Gerhard, *Germany, Hitler and World War II*, Cambridge: 1995, pp.254-273.

19) "To end the war until Christmas" – The Liberation of Europe

Weinberg, *World at Arms*, pp.750-779.

20) Rise and decline of the Rising Sun

Weinberg, Gerhard, *Germany, Hitler*, pp.205-216.

*Cameron, Craig M., *American Samurai. Myth, Imagination and the Conduct of Battle in the First Marine Division 1941-1951*, Cambridge: 1994, pp.89-129.

21) The End on the Horizon – Preparing for the Postwar Era

Best, Anthony, *An International History of the Twentieth Century*, London: 2004, pp.207-211.

22) Victory and Crisis – The End of Germany and the beginning of the Cold War

Overy, Richard, *Russia's War*, pp.255-289.

Best, *An International History*, pp.216-229.

23) The Bomb – The Genesis of the Nuclear Era

*Richard Rhodes, "[The Atomic Bomb in the Second World War](#)", in: Kelly, Cynthia C.,(ed.), *Remembering the Manhattan Project. Perspectives on the Making of the Atomic bomb and its Legacy*, Singapore: 2004, pp.17-30.

24) War and Memory

*Mosse, George L., *Fallen Soldiers: Reshaping the Memory of the World Wars*, Oxford 1990, pp.201-226.