HIS 238-01

The Making of Modern Germany

Spring Semester 2015 MWF 9:00 - 9:50 a.m. ARH 120









COURSE INFORMATION

Dr. Kelly J. Maynard, Grinnell College Department of History

Office: Mears #305

Office Phone: (641) 269-4465

Office Hours: R 4:00-5:15 p.m. at the Grill, F 2:15-3:15 p.m. in Burling, and by appointment

Email: maynardk@grinnell.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course traces the rise of the modern German nation from the rise of so-called enlightened despotism in the mid-eighteenth century through the Cold War. We examine the gradual decline of Habsburg dominance; the ascent of a powerful economic, military, and intellectual "Germany" dominated by Prussia by 1871; the rupture of World War I and the ensuing radicalism of the Weimar Republic; the rise and fall of the Third Reich; and Germany's recovery from the catastrophes of the early twentieth century. We address the role of geography, culture, ethnicity and ideas in the construction of national identity and concentrate especially the ongoing interplay between politics and culture.

COURSE MATERIALS

David Blackbourn, 2nd ed. Paper.

Blackwell Publishing, 2003 [ISBN: 063123196X]

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, trans. Michael Hulse. Paper.

Penguin Classics, 1989 [ISBN: 9870140445039]

Christopher Browning, . Paper. Harper Perennial Reprint, 1993

[ISBN: 978-0060995065]

All other readings, indicated by a bullet [•], will be 1) available on Pioneer Web, 2) accessible on

Room will acclimate us to reading visual texts, and students will produce **two short pieces of analytical and reflective writing** related to these visits over the course of the semester.

W 4 Feb Discussion: Revolutionary Response, Revolutionary Backlash

• Johann Gottlieb Fichte, Addresses to the German Nation (1808)

• Ernst Moritz Arndt, "The Spirit of the Times" (c. 1806-1809)

F 6 Feb Discussion: Political Ex/Repression during the

Textbook: Blackbourn, Chapter II: "Germany in Transition" (pp. 69-103)

• Eyewitness Account of the Wartburg Festival (1817)

• Carlsbad Decrees excerpts (1819)

meeting (1820)

GERMAN EXPRESSIONISM RESPONSE PAPER #1 DUE IN CLASS

M 9 Feb Discussion: Popular Politics under Wraps

• James M. Brophy, "Carnival and Citizenship: The Politics of Carnival Culture in

the Prussian Rhineland, 1823-1848" in

(Summer 1997):

873-904 http://www.jstor.org/stable/3789787

PRELIMINARY HISTORIOGRAPHY PROJECT PROPOSAL DUE

W 11 Feb Discussion: Triumph and Collapse of Liberalism, 1848-1849

Textbook: Blackbourn, Chapter III: "The Revolutions of 1848-49" (pp. 104-131)

• Carl Schurz, excerpt from (1907)

₩ 0 ст 0 ЛП)s(6.9-)n(2.7)oi (**bu**Spening

W 18 Feb

- Bismarck, Iron and Blood speech (1862)Constitution of 1871
- Anti-Socialist Law (1878)
- Bismarck, speech on Workplace Accident Insurance

HIS238/Maynard/MMG/S15/p.6

M 27 Apr cont) • Alfred Mierzejewski, "A Public Enterprise in the Service of Mass Murder:

The Deutsche Reichsbahn and the Holocaust"

15/1 (Spring 2001): 33-46

• Anton Dragan, memoire excerpt on Battle of Stalingrad (1942)

• Joachim Wieder, excerpt from

(1962)

• Hermann Graebe, eyewitness account of Jewish slaughter in Ukraine (1942)

• Marie Neumann, memoire excerpt from

(1948/1994)

W 29 Apr Discussion: The Doing of the Holocaust

· Christopher Browning,

F 1 May Discussion: Undoing the Reich: Recovery and Cold War

Textbook: Fulbrook Chapter VI: "Occupation/Division, 1945-1949" (pp. 113-142)

• The Potsdam Declaration, 1945

• The Nuremberg Verdicts (excerpts), 1946 HISTORIOGRAPHY FINAL PAPER DUE electronic submission by 9:00 p.m.

IV EPILOGUE: AFTER THE APOCALYPSE, 1945-

M 4 May Discussion: East Germany: Politics, Culture, and Contestation

Textbook: Fulbrook, Chapter X: "Politics and the State" (pp. 206-222)

Chapter XI: "Dissent and Opposition" (pp. 223-243)

• FILM: (Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck, 2007)

IN-CLASS VIEWING

W 6 May Discussion: West Germany: Memory and Forgetting

• Alf Lüdtke, "Coming to Terms with the Past": Illusions of Remembering, Wayy94 Tw Tc 0 Tw 1.62