

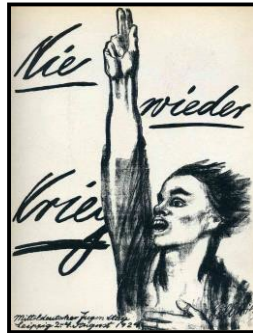
HIS 238-01

## 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

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

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### 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, *History of Germany, 1780-1918: The Long Nineteenth Century* 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Paper. Blackwell Publishing, 2003 [ISBN: 063123196X]

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, *The Sorrows of Young Werther* trans. Michael Hulse. Paper. Penguin Classics, 1989 [ISBN: 9870140445039]

Christopher Browning, *Ordinary Men*. 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 the internet, or 3) handed out in class. Please note that the scheduling of all reading assignments is subject to change based on the ebb and flow of class discussions.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

For the most part, our course meetings center upon discussion of assigned primary and secondary sources, and it is through the free and open exchange of ideas that we all benefit the most from the class. Occasional lectures will elaborate upon the political and economic background provided by the textbook readings. Your preparation and engagement, then, are crucial to its success. Because discussion figures so heavily in the way we spend class time and wrestle together with the course materials, I sometimes send out discussion questions via email before we meet as a tool to help us focus on common themes and issues.

Please come to class awake and on time with the appropriate reading materials in hand. You are expected to attend class regularly, except in case of dire emergency. By definition, every absence from class has a negative impact upon the overall quality of our conversations. Your grade will be impacted accordingly. After three uncommunicated absences you will receive an F for the participation portion of the course grade. After four uncommunicated absences you will fail the course entirely. Please note that I place considerable emphasis on the *quality* of your contributions. Finally, because it can be difficult for everyone to participate equally in classes as large as ours, I will adjudicate your overall participation grade through a variety of mechanisms in addition to regular course discussions.

In addition to the mid-term and final exam requirements for this class, each student must complete a **historiographical research project** outside of class. You will work closely with the professor on the development of your topic, and the basic requirements include that you work with a minimum of four scholarly sources. At least two must be monographs and at least one must be an article or chapter. This project culminates in a **paper of 7-8 pages** due near the end of the term. This assignment will be explained in detail early in the semester, and the relevant deadlines for its successful completion are indicated on the syllabus.

Finally, this semester we will take advantage of the special exhibit at Grinnell's Faulconer Gallery entitled "Playing it Forward: **German Expressionism** and Expressionism Today," which runs from 23 Jan - 15 Mar 2015. Class visits to the Gallery and Burling's Print and Drawing Study

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.

Your overall grade will be calculated according to the following formula:

Participation	30%
Mid-Term Exam	15%
German Expressionism Short Papers	10%
Historiographical Paper Components (proposal, thesis + outline, draft)	5%
Historiographical Paper	20%
Final Exam	20%

Students with any form of documented disability are encouraged to contact me early in the semester so that we can arrange for your learning needs to be met and for you to participate fully in the class. You will also need to provide documentation of your condition(s) to the Dean for Student Academic Support and Advising, Joyce Stern, on the third floor of the JRC (x3702).

## COURSE SCHEDULE

W 21 January Introduction

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### PROLOGUE

F 23 Jan Lecture: Enlightenment/Absolutism  
Textbook Reading/Discussion: Blackbourn, Prologue: Germany in the Eighteenth Century (pp. 1-33)

M 26 Jan Discussion: Enlightenment Perspectives on Reason, Religion, and Politics

- Marquis de Condorcet, excerpt from "Sketch of a Historical Picture of the Human Mind" (1795)
- Frederick II of Prussia, Essay on the Form of Government (1777)
- Joseph II of the Habsburg Empire, Edict of Toleration (1781)
- Immanuel Kant, "What is Enlightenment?" (1784)

W 28 Jan Discussion: The Enlightenment and its Discontents

- Goethe's *The Sorrows of Young Werther* (1774)

### I THE AGE OF REVOLUTIONS, 1789-1849

F 30 Jan The French Revolution and Napoleonic Wars  
Lecture: Phases of the Revolution, Phases of Response  
Textbook: Blackbourn, Chapter I: "In the Shadow of France" (pp. 37-68)

M 2 February Faulconer Gallery German Expressionism Exhibit Visit I  
CLASS MEETS AT THE FAULCONER GALLERY IN BCA

- 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 *Vormärz*  
 Textbook: Blackbourn, Chapter II: "Germany in Transition" (pp. 69-103)  
 • Eyewitness Account of the Wartburg Festival (1817)  
 • Carlsbad Decrees excerpts (1819)  
 • *Bursenschaft* 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 *Journal of Social History* (Summer 1997): 873-904 <http://www.jstor.org/stable/3789787>  
 PRELIMINARY HISTORIOGRAPHY PROJECT PROPOSAL DUE  
 5:00 p.m. by electronic submission
- 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 *Reminiscences* (1907)  
 • Opening of German National Assembly, Frankfurt am Main, May 18, 1848  
 • Frankfurt Constitution of 1849, excerpts  
 • Anonymous articles [Richard Wagner] published in *Volksblätter*: "Man and Established Society" and "The Revolution" Dresden, 1849  
 • Frederick William IV's rejection speech, May 15, 1849  
 • Prussian constitution of 1850, excerpts
- F 13 Feb Discussion: Representing the Revolution: Festivals and Imagery  
 • Jonathan Sperber, "Festivals of National Unity in the German Revolution of 1848-1849" *Past + Present* 136 (Aug 1992): 114-138  
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/650903>  
 • Peter Paret, "The German Revolution of 1848 and Rethel's *Dance of Death*" *The Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 17/1, The Evidence of Art: Images and Meaning in History (Summer, 1986): 233-255  
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/204132>
- II THE AGE OF THE NATION, 1849-1914**
- M 16 Feb Faulconer Gallery German Expressionism Exhibit Visit II  
 CLASS MEETS AT THE FAULCONER GALLERY IN BCA
- W 18 Feb Discussion: Creating the Nation: *Realpolitik* and *Kulturkampf*  
 Textbook: Blackbourn Chapter V: "From Reaction to Unification" (pp. 171-203)  
 Chapter VI: "Religion" section (pp. 214-227)  
 Chapter VII: "Organized Interests, Poles + State" (pp. 254-264)

W 18 Feb (cont)

- Bismarck, Iron and Blood speech (1862)
- Constitution of 1871
- Anti-Socialist Law (1878)
- Bismarck, speech on Workplace Accident Insurance Bill Draft (1881)
- Helmut Walser Smith, "The *Kulturkampf* and German National Identity" in *German Nationalism and Religious Conflict* (1995), pp. 19-49

F 20 Feb

Individual Consultations re: Historiography Project  
 FORMAL PROJECT PROPOSAL DUE 9:00 p.m. by electronic submission  
*This assignment consists of 1) two or three paragraphs of prose describing your topic and the research question you seek to answer, and 2) an annotated bibliography of the texts you have chosen to work with to get there.*

M 23 Feb

Discussion: Imperial Culture and Society I: The Domestic World  
 Textbook: Blackbourn, Chap. IV: "Economy + Society Transformed" (pp. 135-70)  
 • Nancy R. Reagin, "The *Habitus* of Domesticity" in *Sweeping the German Nation: Domesticity and National Identity in Germany, 1870-1945* (2007): 16-48  
 • Doris Viersbeck, cook and house maid, autobiographical excerpts (1889-90)

W 25 Feb

Imperial Culture and Society II: The Dominance of the Bourgeoisie  
 Textbook: Blackbourn, Chapter VI: "Culture of Progress" section (pp. 204-214)  
 • Carl Schorske, "The *Ringstrasse*, Its Critics, and the Birth of Urban Modernism" in *Fin-de-Siècle Vienna: Politics and Culture* (1981): 24-115

F 27 Feb

Discussion: Imperial Culture and Society III: Entertainment and Transgression  
 Textbook: Blackbourn, Chapter VIII: "Society and Culture" pp. 265-303  
 • Peter Jelavich, "Cabaret as Metro Montage" in *Berlin Cabaret* (1993): 10-35

M 2 March

Discussion: Imperial Outsiders, Imperial Critics I: Social/Intellectual Backlash  
 Textbook: Blackbourn, Chapter VI: "Doubts and Anxieties" section (pp. 227-233)  
 • Wilhelm Busch, excerpts from *The Knopp Trilogy* (1875-77)  
 • Friedrich Nietzsche, excerpts from *Beyond Good and Evil* (1886)

W 4 Mar

Discussion: Imperial Outsiders, Imperial Critics II: Social Democracy  
 Textbook: Blackbourn, Chapter VII: "Germany and the International Economy" section (pp. 249-254) and Chap. IX: "Elites, Parties, and Popular Politics" section (pp. 304-321)  
 • Nikolaus Osterroth, clay miner, autobiographical excerpts (1890s)  
 • Excerpts from the Erfurt Program of the SDP (1891)

F 6 Mar

Discussion: Imperial Outsiders, Imperial Critics III: The Case of Africa  
 Textbook: Blackbourn, Chapter IX: "Nationalism, Imperialism, Racism" section (pp. 321-334)  
 • Andrew Zimmerman, "Race and World Politics: Germany in the Age of Imperialism, 1878-1914" in *The Oxford Handbook of Modern German History* (2011): 359-377  
 • Excerpts from a German 1) settler, 2) officer, 3) missionary in Africa, 1904-07

- M 9 Mar MIDTERM REVIEW  
DRAFT THESIS STATEMENT AND OUTLINE DUE
- W 11 Mar MIDTERM EXAM
- F 13 Mar Individual Consultations re: Historiography Project
- SPRING BREAK

**III THE AGE OF EXTREMES, 1914-1945**

- M 30 Mar Lecture: Understanding the Drive to War  
Textbook: Blackbourn, Chapter IX: "Germany and the Coming of War" section (pp. 334-347)
- Heinrich von Treitschke, excerpt from *Politics* (1899-1900)
  - Friedrich von Bernhardi, excerpt from *Germany and the Next War* (1911)
  - Manifesto of German University Professors (1914)
  - Social Democrat speech in favor of the war (1914)
- W 1 Apr Discussion: World War I and the Domestic Front  
Textbook: Blackbourn, Epilogue: "Germany at War, 1914-1918" (pp. 348-368)
- Magda Trott, essay on women's war work (1915)
  - Käthe Kollwitz, diary excerpts (1914-1916)
- F 3 Apr Russia, Revolution and Collapse  
Textbook: Fulbrook, "The 'Last Revolution from Above'" and "The Incomplete Revolution of November 1918" (pp. 21-25)
- Demands of the Strike Directorate in Berlin, January 29, 1918
  - Spartacus Manifesto, November 26, 1918
- M 6 Apr Discussion: The Weimar Republic I: Chaos and Stability  
Textbook: Fulbrook, "The Weimar Constitution + Treaty of Versailles," "Political Unrest/Economic Chaos" "Apparent Stabilization, 1924-29" (25-33)
- Käthe Kollwitz, social commentary in prints, woodcuts, sketches (early 1920s)
  - Friedrich Kroner, "Overwrought Nerves," 26 Aug 1923
- W 8 Apr Discussion: The Weimar Republic II: Culture and Entertainment  
Textbook: Fulbrook, "The Golden 20s? Society and Culture in the Weimar Republic" (25-37)
- Alice Gerstl, "Jazz Band" (1922)
  - Ivan Goll, "The Negroes are Conquering Europe" (1926)
  - Friedrich Hollaender, "Cabaret" (1932)
  - Günter Berghaus, "Girllkultur: Feminism, Americanism, and Popular Entertainment in Weimar Germany" *Journal of Design History* 1, no. 3/4 (1988): 193-219 <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1315711>

- F 10 Apr Discussion: The Weimar Republic III: Crisis and Collapse
- B. Traven, "Bank Failures" (1929)
  - Hans Ostwald, "A Moral History of the Inflation" (1931)
  - FILM: *Cabaret* (Bob Fosse, 1972) IN CLASS VIEWING
- M 13 Apr Individual Meetings re: Historiography Papers
- W 15 Apr BURLING LIBRARY PRINT ROOM VISIT  
CLASS MEETS IN THE BASEMENT OF BURLING LIBRARY
- F 17 Apr NO CLASS – I WILL BE AWAY AT A CONFERENCE  
GERMAN EXPRESSIONISM RESPONSE PAPER #2 DUE  
*electronic submission, 9:00 p.m.*
- M 20 Apr Discussion: Weimar Collapse, NSDAP Rise  
Textbook: Fulbrook, Chapter III: "The Collapse of Democracy and the Rise of Hitler" (pp. 38-55)
- Adolf Hitler, *Mein Kampf* (excerpts) (1925-26)
  - Kurt Ludecke, "The Demagogic Orator" (c. 1930)
  - The Horst Wessel Song, (1930)
  - Ludwig Bauer, "The Middle Ages" (1932)
  - Heinrich Hauser, "The Unemployed" (1933)
- HISTORIOGRAPHY PAPER DRAFT DUE  
*electronic submission, 9:00 p.m.*
- W 22 Apr Discussion: Life Under National Socialism  
Textbook: Fulbrook, Chapter IV: "A 'National Community'?: State, Economy, and Society, 1933-1939" (pp. 56-72)
- George Mosse, "Bookburning and the Betrayal of the German Intellectuals" in *New German Critique* 31 (1984): 143-155 <http://www.jstor.org/stable/487893>
  - The Enabling Act (March 24, 1933)
  - Ernst Huber, "Constitutional Law of the Greater German Reich" excerpt (1939)
  - Nuremberg Laws: Citizenship Law, Law for Protection of Blood/Honor (1935)
  - Jakob Graf, "Heredity and Racial Biology for Students" (1935)
  - Hertha Nathorff, diary excerpts (1933-1938)
- F 24 Apr Discussion: Nazi Propaganda and the Buildup to War  
Textbook: Fulbrook, Chapter IV: "The Radicalization of the Regime" (pp. 72-79)
- Joshua Hagen, "Parades, Public Space, and Propaganda: The Nazi Culture Parades in Munich" *Geografiska Annaler* 90, no. 4 (2008): 349-367 <http://www.jstor.org/stable/40205064> (then click Go To Article)
  - FILM: *Triumph of the Will* (Leni Riefenstahl, 1935) IN CLASS VIEWING
  - David Buffum, *Kristallnacht* in Leipzig (1938)
  - Hitler's speech to his generals on Poland, August 1939
- M 27 Apr Discussion: World War II and the Collapse of the Third Reich  
Textbook: Fulbrook, Chapter V: "War, Extermination, and Defeat" (pp. 80-109)

- M 27 Apr cont) • Alfred Mierzejewski, "A Public Enterprise in the Service of Mass Murder: The Deutsche Reichsbahn and the Holocaust" *Holocaust and Genocide Studies* 15/1 (Spring 2001): 33-46
- Anton Dragan, memoir excerpt on Battle of Stalingrad (1942)
  - Joachim Wieder, excerpt from *Stalingrad: Memories and Reassessments* (1962)
  - Hermann Graebe, eyewitness account of Jewish slaughter in Ukraine (1942)
  - Marie Neumann, memoir excerpt from *A Terrible Revenge* (1948/1994)
- W 29 Apr Discussion: The Doing of the Holocaust
- Christopher Browning, *Ordinary Men*
- 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: *The Lives of Others* (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, Ways of Forgetting Nazism in West Germany" in *Journal of Modern History* 65, no. 3 (Sep., 1993): 542-572 <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2124850>
- F 8 May Course Wrap-Up and Final Review
- WEDNESDAY FINAL EXAM  
13 May 9:00 a.m.