Modern Germany: From Bismarck to Hitler

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Class meets Tuesday and Thursday, 3:30– 4:50 pm, 2111 WLH

This is an upper-division lecture/discussion course on the history of imperial and Weimar Germany. Covering the years from the unification of the German empire to the rise of Hitler (1866-1933), the course provides students with an overview of the political, economic, social, and cultural developments of a crucial period in German history.

Required Texts:
- Volker Berghahn, Imperial Germany 1871-1918: Economy, Society, Culture and Politics
- Eric D. Weitz, Weimar Germany: Promise and Tragedy
- Theodor Fontane, Effi Briest
- Erich Maria Remarque, All Quiet on the Western Front
- Irmgard Keun, The Artificial Silk Girl
- Hans Fallada, Little Man, what now?

Books are available for purchase at the campus bookstore and on reserve in the library. To access the material, please enter the following password: mf 154

Course Requirements:
- Attendance* & Participation 15%
- Midterm 20%
- Research Paper 35%
- Final 30%  
  *More than two unexcused absences will lower your grade.

Midterm and Final:
The Midterm and the Final are in-class exams. The Midterm is scheduled on Tuesday, October 29. The final will be given on Monday, December 9, 3:30-5:59pm (Room TBA). The Research Paper is due Thursday, December 5, in class. All students must submit a hardcopy AND an electronic version (through TED) of the Research Paper. The assignment for the Research Paper (8-10pp) will be handed out on Thursday, October 31. NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Academic Integrity is not an option; it is mandatory. For details refer to: http://students.ucsd.edu/academics/academic-integrity/index.html
CLASS SCHEDULE

OPENING WEEK
Thursday, September 26
Introduction

WEEK 1
Tuesday, October 1
The Making of a Unified Germany (1866-1871)

Thursday October 3
The New Economy
READING: • Volker R. Berghahn, Imperial Politics, pp. 1 - 37

WEEK 2
Tuesday, October 8
Political Culture in Wilhelminian Germany
READING: • Volker R. Berghahn, Imperial Politics, pp. 176-254

Thursday, October 10
Society, Social Mobility, Minorities
READINGS: • Berghahn, Imperial Politics, pp. 38-120
• Begin: Theodor Fontane, Effi Briest, pp. 3-94

WEEK 3
Tuesday, October 15
Gender Issues and the Customs of the Wilhelminian Nobility – *Come prepared for class discussion of “Effi Briest”*
READING: • Finish: Theodor Fontane, Effi Briest, pp. 94-178

Thursday, October 17
The Imperial Age
READINGS: • Sebastian Conrad, Globalization and the Nation in Imperial Germany (Cambridge UP 2010), pp. 27-76 (e-reserve) • Berghahn, Imperial Politics, pp. 254-263

WEEK 4
Tuesday, October 22
The First World War
READINGS: • Berghahn, Imperial Politics, pp. 264-300 • Begin: Erich Maria Remarque, All Quiet on the Western Front, pp. 1 – 194
Thursday, October 24
Defeat and the Legacy of War: All Quiet on the Western Front – *Come prepared for class discussion*
READING: • Finish: Erich Maria Remarque, All Quiet on the Western Front, pp. 195-296

WEEK 5
Tuesday, October 29
*IN-CLASS MIDTERM* Please bring a blue book to class

Thursday, October 31
1918: The End of Monarchy and the Birth of the Weimar Republic

ASSIGNMENT FOR THE RESEARCH PAPER WILL BE HANDED OUT

WEEK 6
Tuesday, November 5
The New Democracy in Crisis
READING: • Eric D. Weitz, Weimar Germany, pp. 81-103; pp. 129-145

Thursday, November 7
Deceptive Stability: Politics and Economics (1924-1929)
READING: • Eric D. Weitz, Weimar Germany, pp. 81-127; pp. 129-168 • The Dawes Committee Report (Kaes/Jay/Dimendberg, The Weimar Republic Sourcebook, pp. 64-67) (e-reserve)

WEEK 7
Tuesday, November 12
Culture in the Weimar Republic
READING: • Eric D. Weitz, Weimar Germany, pp. 169-296

Thursday, November 14
Challenges of Modernity and the Transformation of Every Day Life
WEEK 8
Tuesday, November 19
The Rise of the New Woman- *Come prepared for class discussion of “The Artificial Silk Girl”*

Thursday, November 21
The Great Depression

WEEK 9
Tuesday, November 26
The Great Depression (continued) - *Come prepared for class discussion of “Little Man, what now?”*

Thursday, November 28
*Thanksgiving Holiday*

WEEK 10
Tuesday, December 3
Political Radicalization
READING • Eric D. Weitz Weimar Germany, pp. 331-368

Thursday, December 5
The Demise of Democracy and Hitler’s Rise to Power
READING • Sebastian Haffner, „The Hitler Era“ (S. Haffner, The Ailing Empire: Germany from Bismarck to Hitler), pp. 181-216 (e-reserve)
RESEARCH PAPER DUE