

HIST 307/JWST 345  
Spring 2007

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Office Hours: M 1-2; W 12-2 ; and  
by appointment

### THE HOLOCAUST OF EUROPEAN JEWRY

Required Texts: Debórah Dwork and Robert Jan Van Pelt, *Holocaust: A History* \*  
Donald Niewyk, *The Holocaust: Problems and Perspectives*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed.  
Marion Kaplan, *Between Dignity and Despair: Jewish Life in Nazi Germany*  
Dawid Sierakowiak, *The Diary of Dawid Sierakowiak*  
Adam Czerniakow, *The Warsaw Diary of Adam Czerniakow*  
Primo Levi, *Survival in Auschwitz*

These books are available in paperback in the campus bookstores. Articles and chapters in books listed on the syllabus not from these books are available on e-reserve at the library.

\* Please note: I originally ordered a textbook by Leni Yahil, *The Holocaust*. Very recently, the bookstore informed me that this book was no longer in print, and thus, a week before classes I had to decide on a new textbook. The Dwork/van Pelt is very good. It should be available in the bookstores by the second week of class. I apologize for any inconvenience.

Course Requirements: Midterm, Monday, March 12  
Final, Tuesday, May 15, 8:00 AM-10:00 AM  
Paper, Comparison of the diaries of Sierakowiak and Czerniakow, 10  
pages, details to follow; due Wednesday, April 18

Students must attend lectures and discussion sections. They must also complete all assignments in order to receive a grade. Grades for the course will be based on the midterm (25%); paper (25%); final exam (35%); and participation in discussion section, including quizzes there (15%).

Code of Academic Integrity: “The University of Maryland, College Park, has a nationally recognized Code of Academic Integrity, administered by the Student Honor Council. This Code sets standards for academic integrity at Maryland for all undergraduate and graduate students. As a student you are responsible for upholding these standards for this course. It is very important for you to be aware of the consequences of cheating, fabrication, facilitation, and plagiarism. For more information on the code of Academic Integrity or the Student Honor Council, please visit <http://www.studenthonorcouncil.umd.edu/whatis.html>.

Honor Pledge: Following the new rules of the University Senate, all students will have to sign the following Honor Pledge on all exams and major assignments:

“I pledge on my honor that I have not given or received any unauthorized assistance on this assignment/examination.”

**Please note:** Because of the Jewish holiday of Passover, we will not hold our regularly scheduled classes on Wednesday, April 4 and Monday, April 9. We will have a 2-hour make-up class at a mutually acceptable time. There will be no discussion sections those days as well.

Course Outline and Syllabus:

Part I: The Roots of Tragedy

1/24 Introduction: The Meaning of the Holocaust

1/29 The Antisemitic Tradition

Dwork/van Pelt, pp. 3-14  
Niewyk, pp. 12-24

1/31 Modern Antisemitism

Dwork/van Pelt, 14-28  
Peter Pulzer, *The Rise of Political Antisemitism in Germany and Austria*,  
rev. ed., pp. 27-70 (29-73 in orig. ed)  
Handout: selections from Stoecker, Treitschke, Protocols

2/5 Racial Antisemitism

George Mosse, *The Crisis of German Ideology*, pp. 126-145  
Handout: selections from Fritsch, Chamberlain

2/7 The Nazi Rise to Power

Dwork/van Pelt, pp. 29-62

2/12 The Nazi State: The Role of Hitler and his Goals

Dwork/van Pelt, 63-69, 77-83  
Niewyk, pp. 1-7, 24-55  
Handout: selections from Hitler's *Mein Kampf* and Hitler's 1/30/1939 speech

Part II: The 1930s: Prelude to Catastrophe

2/14 Nazi Policy to the Jews in the 1930s

2/19 Dwork/van Pelt, pp. 69-77, 83-99

2/21 German Jewry Faces the Nazis

Kaplan, pp. 3-118

2/26 Kristallnacht and the End of German Jewry  
Dwork/vanPelt, pp. 99-102  
Kaplan, pp. 119-129

2/28 The Refugee Crisis of the 1930s  
3/5 Dwork/van Pelt, pp. 103-132  
Kaplan, pp. 129-144

### Part III: World War and Annihilation

3/7 Overview: The War and the Jews  
Dwork/van Pelt, pp. 133-201  
Kaplan, pp. 145-172

3/12 MIDTERM EXAMINATION

3/14 The Ghettos in Poland  
Dwork/van Pelt, pp. 202-238  
Sierakowiak, pp. 4-143

3/19/3/21 SPRING BREAK; NO CLASS

3/26 The Issue of the Jewish Councils  
3/28 Dwork/van Pelt, pp. 239-258  
Sierakowiak, pp. 145-268

4/2 Nazi Policy: From Genocide to “Final Solution”  
Saul Friedländer, “The Extermination of the European Jews in Historiography,” pp. 79-91 and Götz Aly, “The Planning Intelligentsia and the Final Solution,” pp. 92-105, in Omer Bartov, ed. *The Holocaust: Origins, Implementation, Aftermath*

4/4 No Class; First Day of Passover  
4/9 No Class: Seventh Day of Passover

4/11 Mobile Killing Operations  
Dwork/van Pelt, pp. 259-277  
Niewyk, pp. 57-103

4/16 Deportations to the Killing Centers  
Dwork/van Pelt, pp. 277-284, 294-315  
Niewyk, pp. 179-231

- 4/18 Deportations, continued  
Kaplan, pp. 173-200
- 4/23 Gas and Death: The Killing Centers  
Dwork/van Pelt, pp. 285-294, 356-374
- 4/25 Life and Death in the Concentration Camps  
Primo Levi, Survival in Auschwitz

Part IV: Resistance to the Nazis

make up class (2 hours):

- The Issue of Physical Resistance  
Niewyk, pp. 139-176
- 4/30 The Issue of Spiritual Resistance  
5/2 Niewyk, pp. 105-136  
Kaplan, pp. 201-237
- 5/7 World Response to the Holocaust  
Dwork/van Pelt, pp. 316-355  
Niewyk, pp. 233-274
- 5/9 Evaluation: Some Final Words on the Meaning of the Holocaust  
Dwork/van Pelt, pp. 375-386