EUH 4464 Section 0098  
Twentieth-Century Germany

German National People’s Party (DNVP) election poster, ca. 1930, encouraging voters to flee “out of the democratic parties”

Class times:  
Tuesday 4th period (10.40-11.30 a.m.) &  
Thursday 4th-5th period (10.40 a.m.—12.35 p.m.)  
Keene-Flint Hall 117

This is a 6000-word Gordon Rule course, which also satisfies Humanities or International credit

This course aims to take a more detailed look at Germany in the first half of the twentieth century. Students will investigate through a close examination of primary source documents (available in English translation) how Germany’s first democratic republic collapsed so quickly; and how Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party were able to take over the country and hang on to power for the next dozen years, even while unleashing a devastating world war and an unparalleled act of genocide. The focus will rest not so much on Hitler personally as on his followers and the ordinary Germans who ensured support for the regime and its murderous policies. The war itself and the Holocaust are dealt with more thoroughly in my separate course, EUH 3033, every Spring Semester.
The UF library has probably the best source collection in the Southeast for the history of 20th-century Germany, and a research paper will form the main assignment for the class.

**Required Readings** (paperback editions listed):

*Online only at the website of the German Historical Institute, Washington, DC: “German History in Documents and Images” (GHD) at:*
http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/

Especially the chapters on “Weimar Germany 1918/19-1933” and “Nazi Germany, 1933-1945”

**Recommended Reading**

**Assignments and grades**
The following will count toward the final grade:
- A 4,000-word research paper (ca. 13 pages) on a topic chosen in consultation with me [40%]
- A mid-term essay examination [30%]
- Two short topical papers (ca. 600 words/2 pages each) [20%]
- Participation, including research assignments [10%]
- There will be no final examination

More detailed advice on the presentation of these assignments will be provided in class, and at my website [www.clas.ufl.edu/users/ggiles].

- **Attendance:** Please note that **attendance** at every class is mandatory. Non-attendance will lower your final grade. If you are unable to attend on medical grounds, you must provide documentation.
- **Make-ups:** A **make-up examination** is only ever granted by **prior** agreement with me before the exam takes place.
- **Cell-phone policy:** If I hear a cell phone ringing during class, I will immediately suspend our activity and give a pop quiz on the readings for that week to the entire class, the grade for which will be figured into everyone's final grade! You can imagine how unpopular this will make you with the rest of the students in this class. Every semester I have to give some of these in my classes, and many students do very badly. So please learn to respect your peers, in order to avoid this drastic solution. **Make sure that your cell phone is turned off before entering the classroom!**
- **Laptop policy:** You may wish to take notes on your laptop, which is fine. But if I suspect and confirm that you are doing email or Facebook, or surfing the web during class (on your laptop or smartphone), I reserve the right to give you a grade penalty for the semester. This is disrespectful not only to me, but to other students who are engaging in the discussions, etc.
- **Plagiarism:** In writing papers, be certain to give proper credit whenever you use words, phrases, ideas, arguments, and conclusions drawn from someone else's work. Failure to give credit by quoting and/or footnoting is **PLAGIARISM** and is unacceptable.
Please review the University's academic honesty policy at http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php

- **Disabilities**: Students requesting **classroom accommodations** for a disability (e.g. a notetaker) must first register with the Dean of Students [http://www.dso.ufl.edu]. The Disability Resource Center will then provide documentation to the student, who passes this sealed envelope to the instructor when requesting accommodation.

- **Other concerns**: Please do not hesitate to contact me during the semester if you have any **individual concerns or issues** that need to be discussed.

**Course outline**

*The book chapters noted on the right-hand side of the page below should all be read by the **beginning** of that week. Please note that there is a considerable amount of reading, so that it makes good sense for you to read ahead as much as possible. You should be ready to discuss the readings, and especially the documents, in class.*

**Readings**

- W = Weitz; C = Caplan; F = Fritzsche; SG = Stoltzfus & Gellately
- GHDI = German History in Documents & Images

**January**

10  Introduction, explanation of assignments
12  The German empire after 1871
17  The approach of war  GHDI: WWI 7-8
19  German propaganda in World War One
24  The collapse in 1918 & the stab in the back  GHDI: WWI 9-10, WR 1
26  The German revolution 1918-19  GHDI: WWI 9-10, WR 1
31  The Weimar constitution

**February**

2  Hyperinflation and stresses to the Republic  W 4; GHDI: WR 3
7  The rise of the Nazi Party & the Beer Hall Putsch  C 1&2; W 5; GHDI: WR12
9  Music and song as propaganda
14  Weimar popular culture: the nudist movement  W 6-8; GHDI: WR 7-8
16  Weimar cinema
21  The polarization of politics  W 9; GHDI: WR13
23  The Nazi seizure of power

**March**

1  Mid-term examination
6/8  **Spring Break—No classes**
13  Propaganda in the Third Reich  C 4&6; GHDI: 3R 11
15  Nazi cinema
20  Mobilizing the masses  C 5; F 1; GHDI: 3R 3&7
Keeping the masses in order

A social revolution?  
Women in Nazi Germany

April

“German art”  
Social outsiders

Social outsiders  
The fate of gays and lesbians under the Nazis

Hitler’s war  
The Holocaust

Resistance against Hitler

Research paper due