



UNIVERSITY OF  
CALGARY

## Department of History

HTST 333  
The Age of Totalitarianism  
Summer 2021

**Instructor:** Dr. Victoria Bucholtz

**Email:** victoria.bucholtz@ucalgary.ca

**Office Hours and Method:** TBD

**Course Delivery:** Online

**Synchronous Class Times:** Monday, Wednesday 4:00 – 6:45 pm

### Description

This course focuses on the rise of regimes that have commonly been described as ‘totalitarian.’ Beginning with an introduction of theories of totalitarianism, this course will focus primarily on Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union. Major themes will include violence, propaganda, surveillance, ideological developments, resistance and compliance, and the viability of ‘totalitarianism’ as a tool for understanding these regimes. This course focuses on the first half of the twentieth century and concludes with the death of Stalin.

### Learning Outcomes

This course is designed to develop students’ critical analytical abilities. Particular focus will be given to engaging in academic debates and discussion, specifically to make students aware of major differences between various schools of thought and the contested nature of historical analysis.

Learning Goals for Students:	Specific Student Learning Outcomes:
Gained an understanding of Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union, including assessment of historical causation and of continuity and change.	Understand the rise and development of National Socialism and Communism in Russia.  Analyze systems of rule and mechanisms of authority.  Understand the importance and limitations of propaganda.
Learned how to access and analyze scholarly peer-reviewed sources.	Use of databases.  Be able to critically assess secondary literature.

Learned how to evaluate and synthesize historians' interpretations of the past.	Critically evaluate historical debates.  Assess the ways that history is a selective process in how historians analyze the past.
Communicated their analyses in written and/or oral form.	Organize and express their thoughts clearly and coherently in writing.  Organize and present research, deliver clear argument and evidence in written form.

### Reading Material

Robert Gellately, *Lenin, Stalin, and Hitler: The Age of Social Catastrophe*, New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2007.

This source is available in the University Bookstore.

#### Articles (Available on D2L)

Hannah Arendt, *The Origins of Totalitarianism, 1951* – Selected Readings.

- Stanley Payne, "Franco, the Spanish Falange and the Institutionalisation of Mission" in *Totalitarian Movements and Political Religions* 17 No., 191-201.
- David Welch, "Nazi Propaganda and the Volksgemeinschaft: Constructing a People's Community" *Journal of Contemporary History* 39, No. 2 (2004), 213-234. (Available through the University of Calgary Library – JSTOR)
- Zeev Sternhell, "Fascism as an Alternative Political Culture" *The Birth of Fascist Ideology: From Cultural Rebellion to Political Revolution*, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1994.
- Karl Marx, *The Communist Manifesto*.
- NSDAP, *The 25 Point Programme of the NSDAP*

### Assessment

Midterm: 30%

Essay Assignment: 40%

Final Exam: 30% - Take Home Exam

### Grading Policies

Grades will be administered by the professor and any issues or concerns regarding grading should be referred to them directly. Grades will be awarded by percentage.

### Details on Methods of Assessment

## **MIDTERM EXAMINATION**

**DUE: July 15-17**

**30% of Course Grade**

The exam questions will be available by 12:01 am on July 15, 2021. Students will have three days (the 12<sup>th</sup>, the 13<sup>th</sup>, and the 14<sup>th</sup>) to answer the questions. The exam will be submitted as a single submission to the D2L Dropbox.

The midterm examination will consist of two sections. Each section will contain two essay options. Students will write one essay from each section. Papers should be 3-4 pages in length. This examination is based on the first half of the course,

## **RESEARCH PAPER**

**DUE: August 3 11:59 pm on D2L**

**40% of Course Grade**

Term papers should be 2500 words (about 8-10 pages) in length, and be drawn from some of the most important works relevant to the topic. You must make use of an appropriate number of different sources—at least **SIX** monographs, or the equivalent in academic articles (about two articles are equivalent of one book). The course textbooks do **NOT** count toward this total. Pay attention to when and where the books were published, very old or Soviet/Chinese Communist books, for example, should be treated with extra awareness and caution. In most cases you will also be able to use primary sources, which are available in many forms in the university library and on the library website.

If you wish to use an internet-based source, you **MUST** have it approved by the instructor first. Failure to do so will result in penalties.

A list of possible essay topics will be posted on D2L. If you wish to examine a topic that is not on the list, you **MUST** have the topic approved by the instructor.

## **FINAL EXAM**

**Take Home Examination**

**30% of Course Grade**

**Aug 12-14**

The exam questions will be available by 12:01 am on August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Students will have three days (the 12<sup>th</sup>, the 13<sup>th</sup>, and the 14<sup>th</sup>) to answer the questions. The exam will be submitted as a single submission to the D2L Dropbox.

The final examination will consist of two sections. Each section will contain two essay options. Students will write one essay from each section. Papers should be 3-4 pages in length. This examination is not cumulative.

## **Learning Technologies Requirements**

There is a D2L site for this course that contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials. In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students in this course will need reliable access to the following technology: A computer with a supported operating system; a current and updated web browser; a webcam (built-in or external); a microphone and speaker (built-in or external or headset); broadband internet connection.

## **Guidelines for Synchronous Sessions**

[Zoom is a video conferencing program that will allow us to meet at specific times for a “live” video conference, so that we can have the opportunity to meet each other virtually and discuss relevant course topics as a learning community. Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions. Students will be advised by their instructor when they are expected to turn on their webcam (for group work, presentations, etc.).

To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor’s permission. Only students registered in this course are allowed to be involved in course activities.

I have created a re-occurring Zoom Meeting. This means for each week you will use the same meeting ID number. Given the sensitive nature of the material we will be discussing, these meetings are closed to the general public and a password is required.

**Zoom ID:** 824-711-1186

**Password:** Cougars

## **Inclusiveness, Accommodation, and Classroom Conduct**

I am committed to creating an inclusive learning environment for all registered students. If you have conditions or circumstances that require accommodations, you are encouraged to contact Student Accessibility Services and to contact me by email or during office hours to discuss reasonable measures that will ensure your success in this course. Such accommodation may include disability (physical or mental wellness, whether visible or not), the need to nurse or occasionally bring a child to class, the wish to be called a different name or pronoun, assistance with writing, or adjusting deadlines because of personal circumstances.

Part of creating an inclusive learning environment involves respecting your fellow classmates. In meeting any university’s mandate of encouraging free and open inquiry, we will occasionally discuss topics about which you might be uncomfortable or have a set viewpoint. In such situations, it is essential that we understand that others share different experiences and perspectives, and that listening respectfully to and showing tolerance toward opposing viewpoints is part of the process of emerging as active, engaged citizens.

To protect the privacy of others, students may not record in any format any activity that occurs within the classroom or online. Permission to record lectures will only be given to students registered with Student Accessibility Services. All material in this course, including but not limited to lectures, quizzes, worksheets, handouts, and the textbook, are under the protection of copyright and may not be distributed to third parties under any circumstances.

## Schedule

### COURSE READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Weekly Topics/Lectures</u>	<u>Readings/Assignments</u>
28 June	1 - Syllabus 2 – Theories of Totalitarianism 3 – Background, The Long 19th Century and WWI	Arendt Article
30 June	1 – Italian Fascism I 2 – Italian Fascism II	Payne Article Sternhell Article
5 July	1 – Germany and Revolution, 1918-1923 2 – The Rise of the NSDAP	
7 July	1 – Nazism 2 - Founding the Third Reich	NSDAP “25 Points”
12 July	1 - The Third Reich in Power 2 – Violence, Terror and the Nazi Police Services	Welch Article
14 July	1 – Nazi Propaganda 2 – Essay Prep	<b>MIDTERM JULY 15-17</b>
19 July	1 – War and Nazism 2 – The Holocaust	
21 July	1 – Marx, Marxism and Marxists 2 – Leninism 3 – Romanovs and Revolution	Marx, The Communist Manifesto Gellately, Part One
26 July	1 – The October Revolution 2 – Lenin to Stalin	Gellately, Part Three
2 Aug	<b>NO CLASS</b>	<b>RESEARCH PAPER</b>

		<b>DUE AUG 3</b>
4 Aug	1 – Stalinism	Gellately, Part Five
9 Aug	1 – The Great Patriotic War	Gellately, Part Seven
11 August	1 – Late Stalinism and the Cold War 2 – Conclusions: Totalitarianism Revisited	Gellately, Part Ten <b>FINAL EXAM</b> <b>Aug 12-14</b>

**There is no registrar-scheduled final exam. There will be a take-home final exam.**

**THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION APPEARS ON ALL DEPARTMENT OF  
HISTORY COURSE OUTLINES**

**Departmental Grading System**

The following percentage-to-letter grade conversion scheme is used in all Canadian Studies, History, and Latin American Studies courses, except for HTST 200.

<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Grade Point Value</b>	<b>Description</b>
90-100	A+	4.00	Outstanding performance
85-89	A	4.00	Excellent performance
80-84	A-	3.70	Approaching excellent performance
77-79	B+	3.30	Exceeding good performance
73-76	B	3.00	Good performance
70-72	B-	2.70	Approaching good performance
67-69	C+	2.30	Exceeding satisfactory performance
63-66	C	2.00	Satisfactory performance
60-62	C-	1.70	Approaching satisfactory performance.
56-59	D+	1.30	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
50-55	D	1.00	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
0-49	F	0	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

### Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- For program advising in the Faculty of Arts, contact the [Arts Students Centre](#) (ASC).
- For questions about admissions, student awards, common registration issues, financial aid and student fees, contact [Enrolment Services](#)
- Sometimes unexpected circumstances may affect your time table. You can change your registration during the course change period. Please see the [Registration Changes and Exemption Requests](#) page.

*Attention history majors: History 300 is a required course for all history majors. You should normally take it in your second year.*

### Writing

All written assignments and written exam responses are assessed partly on writing skills. Writing skills include surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) and general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented according to the format described in [The History Student's Handbook](#).

### Plagiarism

Plagiarism occurs when students submit or present the ideas and/or writing of others as if they were their own or when they submit their own work to two different classes. Please see [The History Student's Handbook](#) for more details, but to summarize, plagiarism may take several forms:

- Failing to cite sources properly
- Submitting borrowed, purchased, and/or ghostwritten papers
- Submitting one's own work for more than one course without the permission of the instructor(s) involved
- Extensive paraphrasing of one or a few sources, even when referenced properly, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those works

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence, and written work that appears to contain plagiarized passages will not be graded. All such work will be reported to the Faculty of Art's associate deans of students who will apply the penalties specified in the *University of Calgary Calendar*, [Section K: Integrity and Conduct](#).

### Academic Accommodations

Students needing an accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should contact [Student Accessibility Services](#) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities in the [Student Accommodation Policy](#).

Students needing an accommodation based on a protected ground other than disability should contact, preferably in writing, the course instructor.

### **Copyright**

The University of Calgary has opted out of the Access Copyright Interim Tariff proposed by the Copyright Board. Therefore, instructors in all University of Calgary courses will strictly adhere to Copyright Act regulations and the educational exceptions permitted by the Act for both print and digital course material. No copyrighted material may be placed on course D2L or web sites without the prior permission of the copyright holders. In some cases, this may mean that instructors will require you to purchase a print course pack from the University of Calgary bookstore or consult books on reserve at the library. Please see the [University of Calgary copyright page](#).

### **Sexual Violence Policy**

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's sexual violence policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the [sexual violence policy](#).

### **Other Useful Information**

Please see the Registrar's [Course Outline Student Support and Resources](#) page for information on:

- Wellness and Mental Health
- Student Success
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk
- Campus Security (220-5333)

**Department of History Twitter @ucalgaryhist**

*SpSu 2021*