



Department of History

HTST 333
The Age of Totalitarianism
Winter 2022

Instructor: Dr. Keith Hann

Email: hannk@ucalgary.ca. I will respond to all email within 24 hours, excepting weekends.

Office: Zoom-based

Office Hours: Tue & Thurs 12:00-1:00 (Keith), plus an additional hour with the teaching assistant (TBD). Appointments also available: just mail whichever one of us you want to talk to. **All questions about the document analysis** should be sent to Gorata, as she is marking them.

Class Time: Asynchronous/pre-recorded. Formal class time is MWF 12:00-12:50, but this only matters to indicate the time by which recordings of lectures are available.

Teaching Assistant: Gorata Sello

Teaching Assistant Email: gorata.sello@ucalgary.ca

Description

This course will offer a broad overview of 20th-century European totalitarian regimes, with a focus on Italian Fascism, Germany Nazism, and Soviet Communism. However, other states will be considered in lighter detail, such as Spain, Cambodia, China, and various regimes in Eastern Europe. The course will primarily focus on historical analysis, but there will be elements of political theory and analysis as well, as we consider the doctrinal frameworks of these parties and regimes.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the class a student should be able to: differentiate between communism, socialism, conservatism, liberalism, and fascism; understand how these terms have been manipulated to demonize opponents and confuse political issues historically; understand the difference between totalitarianism and more typical authoritarianism; and to understand the historical background leading to the rise and fall of both fascism and communism as major political ideologies.

Required Texts for Purchase

Robert O. Paxton. *The Anatomy of Fascism*. Vintage, 2005.

Chapters 1-6 and chapter 8 should be read in time for the final exam, which will be heavily based on this material. This can be purchased from the University bookstore. They will ship to you (<https://www.calgarybookstore.ca>) once the book arrives in stock, and are also offering an on-campus pickup location. The book is also available on Chapters.ca and other online retailers in both physical and electronic versions, but check how long it will take to ship before you order a hardcopy.

Assessment

30%	Midterm Exam:	Distributed February 18, due February 20
35%	Document Analysis:	Due March 14
35%	Take-home Final Exam:	Distributed April 14, due April 19

Assignments and Exams

We will discuss these further in class, and a special additional video lecture will be made covering my expectations and giving general guidance on writing history papers.

Completed assignments are to be submitted electronically, on the course's D2L Dropbox. **Only** .rtf, .doc, .docx, or .pdf formats will be accepted (notably, .pages is not accepted). Corrupt or otherwise inaccessible file attachments will **not** be accepted as a reason for late work: if I cannot open the file, your work will be treated as if it has not yet been handed in.

As library access cannot be 100% counted on, no research beyond the materials you will be provided (lecture material, text book, documents I upload) will be required for any assignment.

All assignments will be distributed via D2L and submitted via Dropbox.

All assignments and exams are non-collaborative. You must complete all work on your own.

Midterm Exam—Distributed February 18 (noon), due February 20 (noon)

30% of course grade

You will be given a series of terms covering the in-class material to date. You will be expected to write mini-essays (1 page each) on three of these terms of your choice.

Document Analysis—March 14

35% of course grade – marked by TA – all questions on this go to the TA

You will be provided with sets of documents. You will pick one of these sets and write a collected analysis of their specific content, while also tying it into the material covered in the class on the broader topic the documents reference (e.g., “totalitarianism”, “communism”, “fascism”, etc). The precise approach you take is up to you, but your essay must **analyze** the contents, not just sum up or otherwise repeat it. Your analysis should be roughly five double-space pages in length.

Take-home Final Exam—Distributed April 14 (noon), due April 19 (noon)

35% of course grade – Non-cumulative – Uses textbook material

You will be given three essay topics, spanning the major themes of the post-midterm course material, with an emphasis on the textbook. You will have to write on only one of these topics. Your essay should be roughly five double-space pages in length.

Grading Policy

Letter grades will be given for all tests and assignments, rather than percentages.

I am willing to work around scheduling conflicts and unexpected events and am usually open to modest extensions on assignments. However, **adequate** advanced notice (i.e., not the day before) is **mandatory**. Late work will be penalized a straight 10% per day (e.g., 80% to 70%): these penalties will be strictly enforced to ensure fair treatment for all students.

Schedule

Dates	Lecture Topic
Jan 10-14	Introduction & historical background
Jan 17-21	Marx, socialism, and communism; the Russian Revolution
Jan 24-28	Versailles, the Great Depression, and the rise of fascism
Jan 31-Feb 4	The totalitarian consolidation of power
Feb 7-11	Life in the Soviet Union
Feb 14-16	Portugal, Spain, and the Spanish Civil War
Feb 18/20	MIDTERM EXAM
Feb 21-25	TERM BREAK, no classes
Feb 28-Mar 4	Life in Fascist Italy
Mar 7-11	Life in the Third Reich
Mar 14-18	Enemies of the state: police, persecutions, pogroms, and purges
Mar 21-25	The Second World War
Mar 28-30	Other European regimes
Apr 1, 4	Postwar Soviet Union and the Eastern Bloc
Apr 6-8, 11	China and Maoism
Apr 14/19	FINAL EXAM

Online Teaching

Classes will be delivered remotely. Each lecture will be pre-recorded and uploaded to D2L by the (previously) scheduled class time of Mon-Wed-Fri. Office hours will be live over Zoom, a video conferencing program (<https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/zoom>): the meeting link will be provided via email and D2L. In addition to the scheduled office hour blocks, I heartily encourage you to contact myself or the TA and book something outside the official time if your schedule does not allow you to make the official time.

These are chaotic times, and everything from technology to policy to infrastructure to teaching methods are in flux. As such, I ask that you be patient as we figure out things, sometimes on the fly.

In return, I know that some of you may face difficulties due to all this. If you have a problem, or the technology and approach to the base class format is not working for you in some fashion, please don't hesitate to email me or speak to me after class: it's absolutely not a bother. I'll do my best to ensure that you're not left behind, within the limits of technology, university policy, and the needs of the class as a whole.

Tech Requirements: Students in this course will need reliable access to the following: a current web browser; the ability to open Microsoft PowerPoint file, PDFs, and .mp4 video files; a microphone (for office hours); and a broadband internet connection.

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.

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

Please Note: Students are expected to reach the grade range to receive that letter grade (i.e. to receive an A- a student will have earned an 80 or 3.7 in the course). Assume that there will be no rounding up unless a faculty member announces otherwise.

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 schedule. 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 this course 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](#).

Academic Misconduct

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For more information, please see the University of Calgary [Student Academic Misconduct Policy](#) documents, and visit the [Academic Integrity Website](#).

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 calendar](#).

Academic Accommodation

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the [Student Accommodations policy](#). Students needing an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in accordance with the [Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities](#). Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than Disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [Student Accessibility Services](#).

Research Ethics

If a student is interested in undertaking an assignment that will involve collecting information from members of the public, they should speak with the course instructor and consult the [CFREB Ethics](#) website before beginning the assignment.

Instructor Intellectual Property

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

Copyright Legislation

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on [Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright](#) and requirements of [the Copyright Act](#) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under [the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy](#).

Copyright of Educational Materials

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](#).

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy

Student information will be collected in accordance with usual classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty and teaching assistants. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard.

Media Recording

The instructor may use media recordings to record the delivery of a lecture for various reasons, including lecture capture and self-assessment. Students will be informed of media recordings in advance and the recording device will be fixed on the instructor. In the event that incidental student participation is recorded, the instructor will ensure that any identifiable content (video or audio) is masked, or will seek consent from identifiable students, before making a recording available to the class.

Media Recording for the Assessment of Student Learning

The instructor may use media recordings as part of the assessment of students, by prior arrangement. This may include but is not limited to classroom discussions, presentations, clinical practice, or skills testing that occur during the course. These recordings will be used for student assessment purposes only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

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

Department of History Twitter @ucalgaryhist

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