HIST 4490
Modern German History
Semester: Spring 2017
Location: ECF 129
Meeting Time: T/TH, 9:30-10:45am

Instructor: Jonathan Gentry
Office: Social Sciences Building 4090
Office Hours: Wednesday, 3:30-4:30 and Thursday, 11:15-12:15
Office Phone: 470-578-6149
Email address: jgentr30@kennesaw.edu (Use this address, not D2L)

Course Communication. Students are encouraged to contact “Professor Gentry” via his Kennesaw.edu email and by coming to office hours. Do not email him through D2L. Emails will only be returned during normal business hours and if they are from another Kennesaw.edu email.

Electronic Communications. The University provides all KSU students with an “official” email account with the address “students.kennesaw.edu.” As a result of federal laws protecting educational information and other data, this is the sole email account you should use to communicate with your instructor or other University officials.

Course Description: This course examines the development of German history from the dissolution of the Holy Roman Empire in 1806 to the present. Particular emphasis with be placed on national (re)unification, rapid modernization, cultural romanticism, National Socialism, and postwar liberalization. The course will help students place the Nazis and their notorious legacy within the larger narrative of German history. However, the course will also explore many other “Germanys,” including contemporary Germany and how it has (somewhat ironically) become the arch defender of classical liberalism in Europe.

Learning Objectives: The first major objective of this course is for students to understand the major themes and turning points in German history. The readings, lectures, and assignments will give students resources useful for teaching German history, as well as Romanticism, the World Wars, the Holocaust, and European history more broadly. Additionally, students will be expected to comprehend the major debates in German historiography, particularly the questions of “what went wrong?” A baseline understanding of German history and historiography will be assessed in 2 exams, both of which include a take home essay. The second major objective of this course is for students to hone the craft of primary source analysis. Much of the reading, writing assignments, and in-class discussion focuses on making arguments based on primary sources. As the most important and basic skill practiced by historians, students’ ability to master this skill will be assessed in the final primary source analysis essay.

Required Reading:

Attendance Policy: Students are permitted 3 absences without being penalized. It does not matter if they are excused or unexcused. They can be for any reason. Students do not need to notify the professor or provide a note for their first 3 absences. After 3, every absence results in the loss of 1 participation point. Exceptions are official University and government functions, for which students must supply documentation (but only after their first 3 absences). Students with medical emergencies lasting 3 weeks or longer are urged to consider applying to the Dean of Students for medical withdrawal. To verify attendance, students must sign the attendance sheet. It is the responsibility of students to make sure they sign the attendance sheet every class. Students do not get to decide when during class they sign it. It may be passed around in the beginning, middle, or end of class. Students are solely responsible for managing their enrollment status in a class; nonattendance does not constitute a withdrawal.

Participation Policy: Twenty percent of the grade (or 20 points) is based on participation. Half of the participation points are based on attendance and half are based on the discussions. There are 12 in-class discussions during this course. Failure to “actively participate” in any discussion will result in the loss of 1 participation point. Active participation means listening, speaking, and sharing your ideas with your discussion group.

Discussion Policy: Whether in class or online, it is vital to the learning process that we respect each other during discussion. Part of being respectful means not attacking other people’s identities or challenging the validity of their experiences. Identities include and are not limited to gender, race, ethnicity, sexuality, religion, nationality and class. However, to have a healthy discussion it is necessary for participants to challenge each other’s ideas. Respectful discussion means challenging each other’s ideas in a good natured manner without attacking identities.

Electronic Devices Policy: The use of cell phones is strictly forbidden during normal class time. They must be put away and out of sight. Cell phone use is only allowed when explicitly condoned by the instructor. Laptops and tablets may only be used in the class to take notes. In order to use these devices in class students must put their notetaking device in airplane mode. The use of the internet or having the internet turned on during class time are strictly forbidden. The use of headphones during class time is also strictly forbidden. Any violation of these rules will result in the loss of 2 points of the participation grade.

Course Assignments and Grade Calculations:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Primary Source Analysis Essay</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Primary Source Analysis</td>
<td>5%</td>
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Participation – 20%
Overviews/Alternative – 10%

There is no extra credit in this course.

**Late Assignments and Makeup Exams:** Late papers will be penalized one grade. Papers more than 2 weeks late will not be accepted. If, on a day an assignment is due, a student has to miss class for official University or government functions, the deadline extends to the next class meeting. Extensions for other reasons are only granted in rare cases. All missed exams will be made up at the end of the semester by scheduling an exam time with the instructor. It is the student’s responsibility to schedule make up exams.

**Grading Scale.** Students are evaluated on the following scale:
- A - (90-100%)
- B - (80-89.9%)
- C - (70-79.9%)
- D - (60-69.9%)
- F - (59.9% and below)

I—Indicates an incomplete grade for the course, and will be awarded only when the student has done satisfactory work up to the last two weeks of the semester, but for nonacademic reasons beyond his/her control is unable to meet the full requirements of the course. Incomplete grades are only valid after submission of the Incomplete Grade form (signed by both the instructor and student) to the Department Chair’s office.

**Academic Integrity Statement:** Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section 5. C of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the university’s policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to university materials, misrepresentation/falsification of university records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the Department of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity (SCAI), which includes either an “informal” resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct’s minimum one semester suspension requirement. See also [https://web.kennesaw.edu/scai/content/ksu-student-code-conduct](https://web.kennesaw.edu/scai/content/ksu-student-code-conduct).

Violation of the Student Code of Conduct will be reported to the university. This includes plagiarism and cheating.

**ADA Compliance:** Students with qualifying disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act who require “reasonable
accommodation(s)” to complete the course may request those from Department of Student Success Services. Students requiring such accommodations are required to work with the University’s Department of Student Success Services rather than engaging in this discussion with individual faculty members or academic departments. If, after reviewing the course syllabus, a student anticipates or should have anticipated a need for accommodation, he or she must submit documentation requesting an accommodation and permitting time for a determination prior to submitting assignments or taking course quizzes or exams. Students may not request retroactive accommodation for needs that were or should have been foreseeable. Students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations. For more information please visit their website, sss.kennesaw.edu/sds.

Contact information is as follows:
SDS Email: sds@kennesaw.edu
Primary number for Kennesaw campus: 470-578-2666
Primary number for Marietta campus: 678-915-7244

Course Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Topic:</th>
<th>Readings and Assignments</th>
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| January 10/12 | Introduction / The Peculiarities of German History | Blackbourn: Prologue
Fulbrook: Chapter 1
D2L Documents |
| January 17/19 | Napoleon and Bourgeois Society                | Blackbourn: Chapters 1-2
D2L Documents
Due the 19th – Chapter Overview (Blackbourn, 1-2) |
| January 24/26 | German Nationalism and Romanticism            | D2L Documents                                                                            |
| Jan 31/Feb 2 | The Revolutions of 1848                       | Blackbourn: Chapter 3
D2L Documents
Quiz (1/31)
Due the 2nd - Primary Source Analysis (submit in class) |
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading Material</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 7/9</td>
<td>Unification and the Bismarck Era</td>
<td>Blackbourn: Chapters 4-5 D2L Documents</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 14/16</td>
<td>Nation Building and Empire</td>
<td>Blackbourn: Chapters 6-7 (and pages 321-334) D2L Documents</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 21/23</td>
<td>Mass Politics and Mass Culture</td>
<td>Blackbourn: Chapters 8-9 D2L Documents</td>
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<td>Feb 28/March 2</td>
<td>World War I</td>
<td><strong>Midterm (2/28)</strong> Blackbourn: Epilogue D2L Documents</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 7/9</td>
<td>November Revolution and the Weimar Republic</td>
<td>Fulbrook: Chapter 2 D2L Documents</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 14/16</td>
<td>Constitutional Crisis and the Rise of Hitler</td>
<td>Fulbrook: Chapter 3 D2L Documents</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 21/23</td>
<td>Nazi Germany</td>
<td>Fulbrook: Chapter 4 D2L Documents</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 28/30</td>
<td>WWII, the Holocaust, and Allied Occupation</td>
<td>Fulbrook: Chapters 5-6 D2L Documents</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 11/13</td>
<td>Liberalization and Communism</td>
<td>Fulbrook: Chapter 7-8, 12 D2L Documents</td>
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April 18/20  |  Globalization and the fall of Communism  |  Fulbrook: Chapters 9, 11, 13  
D2L Documents  
Due the 20th - Chapter Overview (Fulbrook, 4-9)  
Final Due date for Alternative Projects – 4/20

April 25/27  |  Reunited Germany and the EU  |  Fulbrook: Chapters 14-15

The Final Exam will be Tuesday, May 2nd, 10:30am-12:30pm

Chapter Overviews –

The “Chapter Overview” is an assignment designed to improve/ensure reading comprehension and prepare students for the exams. The task of this assignment is to identify the major concepts and themes of the chapter and explain them using events, people, and proper nouns. The format of this assignment is an informal, but readable 500-word essay. The length of the assignment is the same (at least 500 words, but no more than 700) regardless of the number of chapters overviewed in the essay. Students are encouraged to make their own analysis of the chapter’s major concepts and themes. Chapter Overviews should be submitted via D2L by class time on the deadline. Overviews correctly executed and submitted on time will receive at least an 80%. To receive a 100%, an Overview must draw its concepts, themes, events, people, and proper nouns from a majority of each chapter. Additionally, the Overview must select events, people, and proper nouns that clearly illuminate the concepts and themes.

Alternative Projects –

Students can also opt out of the Chapter Overviews and do an “alternative” assignment of their choosing. Students must communicate their desire to do an alternative project in writing (email) and before the due date of the first Chapter Overview (Jan 19th). Alternative projects must be writing intensive and produce a formal 4-5 page essay. They include, but are not limited to, Book Response Papers, Museum Exhibition Analysis, and Historiographic Essays. Alternative projects must be selected in consultation with the instructor and receive his approval.