

## HIST 4397 The Era of World War II

Spring 2021

**Dr. Mandy Link**

**Zoom Office Hours:** Thursdays 1 pm-2 pm or by appointment

**Email:** [mlink@uttyler.edu](mailto:mlink@uttyler.edu) or through Canvas

### **Course Description:**

The Second World War was one of the most important, cataclysmic events of the twentieth century. In this course we will focus on understanding the roots of World War II in World War I and the interwar period. We will focus on the global nature of the war and spend the end of the course examining the long-term consequences of the war. While this course will explore the military and strategic aspects of the war, it will primarily focus on the social and cultural reasons and consequences of the war.



### **Online Structure:**

This course is asynchronous, which means there will be live lectures BUT it is not mandatory to attend. These lectures will be recorded and posted on Canvas immediately afterwards and you can watch them whenever works for you. This is the best way to bridge the gap between face-to-face instruction and the flexibility needed for the world we're currently living in.

Whether you decide to attend the live lectures or watch the recordings, you are responsible for all the course material (lectures, any extra videos, and readings) for each week. During these live lectures you do not need to have your video or mic on, but you can ask questions in real time. You are welcome to voice your questions through the Zoom chat or by turning your microphone on. As with any class, I expect professionalism and polite discourse both in your communications with me and with your classmates.

The live lectures will be Tuesdays and Thursday at 2-3:30 pm. Extra credit will be earned by attending the live lectures.

### **Course Objectives:**

By the end of the course, students should be able to do the following:

- analyze significant issues, trends and developments in the era of World War II
- demonstrate knowledge that history is not simply the recitation of names and dates, but instead is a fluid subject where interpretations are constantly changing as a result of different methodologies and patterns of analysis
- analyze and synthesize sources in order to put forward a well-supported argument of their own
- make a clearly written and clearly-presented argument, including a thesis and sufficient and well-used supporting detail

**Required Readings:**

Edith Hahn Beer, *The Nazi Officer's Wife: How One Jewish Woman Survived the Holocaust*

Svetlana Alexievich, *Last Witnesses: An Oral History of the Children of World War II*

Art Spiegelman, *The Complete Maus*

John Hersey, *Hiroshima*

Additional readings to be distributed throughout course via Canvas.

**Requirements and Grades:**

Weekly responses (11 x 15 points)	165 points
Essays (3 x 100 points)	300 points
Final Exam	200 points
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	<b>765 points</b>

**Explanation of Assignments:**

**Weekly Responses:** You will be required to write **11** weekly responses out of the semester. These responses should be two *full* pages in length and should address the major issues of the week, critically analyze these major issues, and include a discussion of the week's readings. Strong responses will synthesize lecture and the readings. Throughout the semester there will be movie and podcast additions to the weekly material. These must be included in your weekly response.

These are geared to help you prepare your thoughts for discussions and will provide a helpful tool when preparing for the final exam. These are also designed to make sure you're writing every week as this is the best way to improve your writing and analytical skills. **These are due Sundays by 11:59pm to Canvas. No late submissions accepted.**

**Essays:** You will be required to write a 5-7-page paper on three required books (*The Nazi Officer's Wife*, *Last Witnesses*, and *The Complete Maus*). The fourth book by John Hersey, *Hiroshima*, will factor in your final exam rather than be a separate essay.

- **The prompts for the essays will be posted two weeks ahead of the deadline.**

**Final Exam**

A take-home final exam will be due during finals week. The prompt for this exam will be distributed the week before finals. It will consist of an essay as well as short identification terms. The exam will cover material from the entire semester.

**Extra Credit Opportunities**

Attending live lectures can earn a student 5 points/lecture for up to 20 points of extra credit. Other ways to earn extra credit will be announced during the semester, including attending the Department of Political Science and History's EDEN Film Series (virtually) and submitting a one page write up to Dr. Link.

In total, a maximum of 20 points of extra credit can be earned over the semester from the various opportunities. These points are added to the final point tally.

**THERE WILL BE NO INCOMPLETES** for failure to complete an assignment. Assignments not turned in will result in a 0 for that assignment.

### **Course Structure:**

1. Make sure to have your Canvas notifications sent to your email. You are responsible for staying up to date on deadlines, announcements, etc.
  - a. You are responsible for all class lectures, readings, and any other videos assigned.
2. Late papers lose **10 points** from their grade for each day the paper is late. All assignments are due by the assigned due date on Canvas. Assignments turned in after that will lose points. Weekly responses are the exception and late submissions will not be accepted.
3. **No** emailed assignments are accepted. Assignments **must** be submitted in hard copy or on Canvas as directed on the assignment.
4. The classroom is a place for intellectual growth and to achieve that we must all be respectful and courteous to each other. Respect is a must! We will not always all agree (that is the heart of academics!) but it is crucial that we express our ideas in a respectful way. Students who do not adhere to this will be asked to leave.
  - i. Be courteous: Remain patient, ask/wait for clarification, avoid assumptions and rushed judgement. Forgive mistakes and apologize for errors.
  - ii. Be a good colleague: Remember your role as a student in the course. Make sure you're following directions. Be authentic and collaborative with colleagues. Be aware of your behavior and how others interpret your communication.
  - iii. Be professional: Proofread your own writing for spelling, grammar, and punctuation to prevent miscommunication. Avoid slang, sarcasm, or emotionally charged writing. Profanity and offensive language will not be tolerated.
5. When you email me, I will make sure to respond to you within 24 hours on weekdays. On weekends it may take longer but I will definitely get back to you within 48 hours at the latest.
  - a. When you email me, address your email to: Professor/Dr. Link and sign it with your name.
  - b. If you have a procedural question –about due dates, what the assignment requirements are, etc. –check the syllabus and the materials on Canvas, as your answer may be there, and you can know immediately, rather than awaiting an email reply.
  - c. I will always address you directly and respectfully in my emails to each of you; I ask the same courtesy in return. If students continue to refuse to address the faculty by name, I reserve the right to not reply to the email.

### **COVID-19 related information**

1. If you contract COVID-19 or are caring for a sick loved one, please let me know asap so that we can arrange alternate deadlines. No doctor's note is required.
2. Students are required to wear face masks covering their nose and mouth, and follow social distancing guidelines, at all times in public settings (including classrooms and laboratories), as specified by [Procedures for Fall 2020 Return to Normal Operations](#). The UT Tyler community of

Patriots views adoption of these practices consistent with its [Honor Code](#) and a sign of good citizenship and respectful care of fellow classmates, faculty, and staff.

3. Students who are feeling ill or experiencing symptoms such as sneezing, coughing, or a higher-than-normal temperature will be excused from class and should stay at home and may join the class remotely. Students who have difficulty adhering to the Covid-19 safety policies for health reasons are also encouraged to join the class remotely. Students needing additional accommodations may contact the Office of Student Accessibility and Resources at University Center 3150, or call (903) 566-7079 or email [saroffice@uttyler.edu](mailto:saroffice@uttyler.edu).

#### **4. Recording of Class Sessions**

- a. Class sessions may be recorded by the instructor for use by students enrolled in this course. Recordings that contain personally identifiable information or other information subject to FERPA shall not be shared with individuals not enrolled in this course unless appropriate consent is obtained from all relevant students. Class recordings are reserved only for the use of students enrolled in the course and only for educational purposes. Course recordings should not be shared outside of the course in any form without express permission.

#### **Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR):**

University of Texas at Tyler is committed to creating a learning environment that meets the needs of its diverse student body. Reasonable accommodations are available for students who have a documented disability. If you should need accommodations, please let me know and contact Student Accessibility and Resources to discuss a range of options. They are located in UC 3150 and can be reached at (903) 566-7079 or [saroffice@uttyler.edu](mailto:saroffice@uttyler.edu). Once you have made arrangements with SAR they will contact your professors and we can work with you from there.

#### **Student Absence due to Religious Reason:**

Observance Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester. (Revised 05/17)

#### **Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities:**

If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor *at least two weeks prior* to the date of the planned absence. At that time, the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

#### **Student Standards of Academic:**

As adults and college students I expect the work you turn in to be your work and your work alone. I do not tolerate plagiarism, cheating, or collusion (see definitions below) and if you do any of these you will receive a 0 on that assignment with no option of resubmitting. You may also receive a 0 in the class depending on the egregiousness of the scholastic dishonesty and be reported to Judicial Affairs. Dr. Link reserves the right to adjudicate punishment for each individual case.

Conduct Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

i. "Cheating" includes, but is not limited to:

- copying from another student's test paper;
- using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
- failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;
- possession during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed "crib notes". The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test;
- using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
- collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;
- discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;
- divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructor has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student;
- substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;
- paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program or information about an unadministered test, test key, home solution or computer program;
- falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit;
- taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of The University of Texas at Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct; and



· misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit or injuring another student academically or financially.

ii. "Plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another's work and the submission of it as one's own academic work offered for credit.

iii. "Collusion" includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty.

iv. All written work that is submitted will be subject to review by plagiarism software.



\*The following class schedule is a rough guide and is subject to change.

### **Class Schedule:**

#### **Week 1: Roots of war**

**Readings:** Start reading Svetlana Alexievich, *Last Witnesses: An Oral History of the Children of World War II*

#### **Week 2: Interwar period**

**Readings:** Lenin excerpt (uploaded via Canvas), continue reading Svetlana Alexievich, *Last Witnesses: An Oral History of the Children of World War II*

#### **Week 3: Road to War**

**Readings:** Hitler and Mussolini excerpts (uploaded via Canvas), continue reading Svetlana Alexievich, *Last Witnesses: An Oral History of the Children of World War II*

#### **Week 4: War in Europe**

**Readings:** Continue reading Svetlana Alexievich, *Last Witnesses: An Oral History of the Children of World War II*

#### **Week 5: War in the Pacific**

**Readings:** Start reading Edith Hahn Beer's *The Nazi Officer's Wife*

**Essay on Alexievich due March 5 by 11:59 pm**

**Week 6: Women at War**

**Readings:** Continue reading Edith Hahn Beer's *The Nazi Officer's Wife*

**Week 7: Women at War**

**Readings:** Continue reading Edith Hahn Beer's *The Nazi Officer's Wife*

**Week 8: Empires and Race**

**Readings:** Edith Hahn Beer's *The Nazi Officer's Wife*

**Essay on Edith Hahn Beer's *The Nazi Officer's Wife* due February 12 by 11:59 pm**

**\*Spring Break March 8-12\***

**Week 9: Empires and Race**

**Readings:** Start reading Art Spiegelman's *Maus*

**Week 10: The Holocaust**

**Readings:** continue reading Art Spiegelman's *Maus*

**Week 11: The Holocaust**

**Readings:** continue reading Art Spiegelman's *Maus*

**Week 12: Ending the war in Europe**

**Readings:** Art Spiegelman's *Maus*

**Essay on Art Spiegelman's *Maus* due April 19 by 11:59 pm**

**Week 13: Ending the war in the Pacific**

**Readings:** John Hersey's *Hiroshima*

**Week 14: Consequences of the war**

**Readings:** Continue Reading John Hersey's *Hiroshima*

**Finals Week**

Final exam will be posted one week in advance of the university determined final exam day.

## University Policies

### UT Tyler Honor Code:

Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do. Students Rights and Responsibilities To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: <http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php>

### Campus Carry:

We respect the right and privacy of students 21 and over who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at <http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>

### UT Tyler a Tobacco-Free University:

All forms of tobacco will not be permitted on the UT Tyler main campus, branch campuses, and any property owned by UT Tyler. This applies to all members of the University community, including students, faculty, staff, University affiliates, contractors, and visitors. Forms of tobacco not permitted include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kreteks, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other tobacco products. There are several cessation programs available to students looking to quit smoking, including counseling, quitlines, and group support. For more information on cessation programs please visit [www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free](http://www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free)

### Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies:

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. (For Fall, the Census Date is Sept. 12.) Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar. Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date (Sept. 12th) is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions of which students need to be aware. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a "W" grade)



- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid State-Mandated Course

**Drop Policy:**

Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date). Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

Disability/Accessibility Services In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University of Texas at Tyler offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. If you have a disability, including a non-visible diagnosis such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment, you are encouraged to visit <https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler> and fill out the New Student application. The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office will contact you when your application has been submitted and an appointment with Cynthia Lowery, Assistant Director of Student Services/ADA Coordinator. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at <http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices>, the SAR office located in the University Center, # 3150 or call 903.566.7079.

**UT Tyler Resources for Students:**

- UT Tyler Writing Center (903.565.5995), [writingcenter@uttyler.edu](mailto:writingcenter@uttyler.edu) · UT Tyler Tutoring Center (903.565.5964), [tutoring@uttyler.edu](mailto:tutoring@uttyler.edu)
- The Mathematics Learning Center, RBN 4021, this is the open access computer lab for math students, with tutors on duty to assist students who are enrolled in early-career courses.
- UT Tyler Counseling Center (903.566.7254)

**Social Security and FERPA Statement:**

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

**Emergency Exits and Evacuation:**

Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in

the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.