Course Description:

This is a general course in the history of the Second World War, which will be studied in its full worldwide dimensions, beginning with its origins in World War I and the pressures of the revolutionary revisionist powers against the old world order. The main attention will be focused on the six war years of 1939-45 in both the Asian and European theaters. Development of the military struggle itself will receive major emphasis, but the political, social and economic dimensions of the conflict will also be studied. The course concludes with a brief analysis of the postwar settlement, the problems resulting therefrom and the beginning of the Cold War.

Lectures:

There will be two lectures each week, averaging about 50 minutes each. A number of films will be shown and there will also be some time for questions and discussion during the lecture periods. Moreover, there will be at least one optional discussion period at a time or times to be announced.

Written Assignments and Exams:

There will be two 75-minute exams, each based on the material covered in the lectures and required readings. In addition, each student registered for three credits must prepare a brief research paper or essay on further reading or some special topic, the nature of which must be defined by individual consultation no later than February 17.

Three credit option: Those who register for three credits only will be required to take both the exams, attend all classes and do the required reading but will not be expected to write a research paper or essay.

Grading System:

The final grade will be weighted approximately as follows: Exams 38% each, paper 24%. (For three-credit students, exams about 50% each.)

Required Reading: (both paperbacks)

Reserve Reading List

Joachim Fest
K. D. Bracher
Dietrich Orlov
A. J. P. Taylor
Keith Eubank
B. H. Liddell Hart
Gordon Wright
John Lukacs
Anthony Cave Brown
William Stevenson
F. W. Deakin
Sir Ivor Kirkpatrick
D. Mack Smith
James Crowley
James W. Morley
Frank Dorn
Borg & Okamoto
Norman Rich
R. Wheatley
Alan Clark
Albert Seaton
Correlli Barnett
Gerald Reitlinger
Alan Milward
Herbert Feis
John L. Gaddis
Foster R. Dulles
Robert Paxton
Alexander Dallin
Jozo Tomasevich

Hitler
The German Dictatorship
History of the Nazi Party 2 vols.
Origins of the Second World War
Munich
History of the Second World War
The Ordeal of Total War
The Last European War
Bodyguard of Lies
A Man Called Intrepid
The Brutal Friendship
Mussolini
Mussolini's Roman Empire
Japan's Quest for Autonomy
Dilemmas of Growth in Prewar Japan
The Sino-Japanese War
Pearl Harbor as History
Hitler's War Aims 2 vols.
Operation Sea Lion
Barbarossa
The Russo-German War
The Desert Generals
The Final Solution
The German Economy at War
Churchill, Roosevelt, Stalin
United States and Origins of the Cold War
America's Rise to World Power
Vichy France
German Rule in Russia
The Chetniks