History 572  Life and Death in the Ghettos: The End of Polish Jewry  Prof. Browning

Books:

Celia Heller, *On the Edge of Destruction*.  
Emmanuel Ringelblum, *Notes from the Warsaw Ghetto*.  
Yehuda Bauer and Nathan Rotenstreich, ed., *The Holocaust as Historical Experience*.  
Yisrael Gutman and Shmuel Krakowski, *Unequal Victims: Poles and Jews during World War II*.  

Reserve reading:

Isaiah Trunk, *Judenrat*.  
Raul Hilberg, *The Warsaw Diary of Adam Czerniakow*.  
Philip Friedman, *Roads to Extinction*.  
Chimen Abramsky, Maciej Jachimczyk and Antony Polonsky, ed., *The Jews of Poland*.  
Christopher Browning and Israel Gutman, "The Reports of an 'Informer' in the Warsaw Ghetto--Selected Documents," *Yad Vashem Studies*, 17 (1986), 247-93.  

Journals of particular relevance:

*Yad Vashem Studies*  
*Simon Wiesenthal Center Annual*  
*Holocaust and Genocide Studies*  
*Polin: A Journal of Polish and Jewish Studies*
Schedule:

Sept. 6  Organizational meeting

Sept. 13  Background

Sept. 20  The interwar years  
   Heller, entire book
   Gutman and Krakowski, Chap. 1
   E. Mendelsohn, "Interwar Poland: Good for Jews or Bad for Jews?" The Jews of Poland

Sept. 27  The Warsaw Ghetto
   Gutman, Introduction and Chap. 1-6
   Friedman, Chap. 3

Oct. 4   The Warsaw Ghetto
   E. Ringelblum, entire book
   Friedman, Chap. 6

Oct. 11  The Lodz Ghetto
   Dobroszycki, Introduction and Part I
   Friedman, Chap. 12

Oct. 18  The Lodz Ghetto
   Dobroszycki, Part II
   Bloom, "Dictator of the Lodz Ghetto"
   Huppert, "King of the Ghetto"

Oct. 25  The Lodz Ghetto
   Dobroszycki, Parts III and IV

Nov. 1   The Jewish Councils
   Bauer and Rotenstreich, pp. 155-192
   Trunk, Judenrat, Introduction and Chap. 11, 16, 21
   (Chap. 2, 12, 17, 18 also highly recommended)

Nov. 8   The Warsaw Ghetto Uprising
   Gutman, Chap. 7, 9-15
   Bauer and Rotenstreich, 193-221
   Trunk, "Note: Why Was There No Armed Resistance Against the Nazis in the Lodz Ghetto"

Nov. 15  Poles and Jews
   Gutman and Krakowski, Chap. 2-10
   Lukas, Chap. 5 and 6
   Gutman, Chap. 8
   Engel, Chap. 5 and Conclusion (recommended)

Nov. 22  Reports
Nov. 29  Reports

Dec. 6  Reports

Dec. 13  Reports.  SEMINAR PAPER DUE (no extensions, so don't ask!)

Assignments and Evaluation:

Each seminar participant will be evaluated on four criteria: 1) Leadership of two discussions; 2) General participation in discussions; 3) One 15-20 page research paper, due on Dec. 13; and 4) One 20-minute oral report to the seminar based on the paper.

Discussion:

A seminar is not a lecture course. Its success above all depends upon the preparation and participation of its members. Thus between September 20 and November 15 the seminar will be divided into two groups during the first hour of each meeting. Each group will have a discussion leader responsible for stimulating and directing the discussion; all students, however, are responsible for being prepared to discuss the readings assigned for that week. All students are expected to participate! Discussion leadership and participation of each member of the seminar will be evaluated and graded by the other members of the seminar at the end of the course and will constitute an important factor in determining each participant's grade.

Possible research paper topics:

1. Individual ghetto leaders (Rumkowski, Czerniakow, Gens, Barash, Merin)
2. Ghetto economy
3. Social and medical aspects of ghetto life
4. Cultural aspects of ghetto life
5. Jewish-Polish relations
6. Rescue and hiding
7. Other ghettos (Vilna, Minsk, Bialystok, etc.)
8. Resistance in the ghettos
9. German policies, administrators, etc.
10. Polish Jewry and the outside world
11. The death camps
12. Uprisings in the death camps (Treblinka, Sobibor)
13. Jewish ghetto police, informers, etc.