

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
Department of History

Semester II Year 1981-1982

<u>COURSE NO.</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
History 357	THE SECOND WORLD WAR	MR. FULKS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is a general course in the history of the Second World War, which will be studied in its global dimensions. Consonant with the conflict's magnitude and impact, its origins will be studied in some detail, beginning with the tenuous reconstruction of the old world order in the wake of World War I and the rise of the fascist and quasi-fascist regimes which challenged this order. The historical, economic, social, and ideological determinants of German and Japanese expansionism will be discussed and related to the outbreak of war in Europe and Asia. Although much attention will be focused on the evolution of Allied and Axis strategy and the development of the military struggle between 1939 and 1945, the war's all-encompassing nature necessitates that such topics as economic mobilization, propaganda, occupation policies, concentration camps, resistance movements, and the holocaust also be discussed. The course will conclude with an analysis of war-time diplomacy, the post-war settlement, and the onset of the cold war.

LECTURES

There will be two lectures each week. In addition, slides and films relating to the lecture topics will be shown. Time will also be allotted for discussions and other course-related activities.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS and EXAMINATIONS

There will be two 75-minute examinations, each of which will be based on the materials covered in the lectures, readings, slides, and films.

THREE-CREDIT OPTION: Those who register for three credits will be required to pass both exams, do the assigned readings, participate in class activities, and attend all classes.

FOUR-CREDIT OPTION: In addition to the above, each four credit registrant will be required to prepare two five-page book reviews, each of which

GRADING SYSTEM must center on one book selected in consultation with the instructor.

Three credits: 50% for each exam.

Four credits: 35% for each exam, 15% for each book review.

REQUIRED READINGS (All Paperbacks)

1. Peter Calvocoressi and Guy Wint. Total War (Penguin).
2. Norman Rich. Hitler's War Aims, Vol. I (Norton).
3. John Toland. The Rising Sun (Bantam).