



Department of History

HTST 333
The Age of Totalitarianism
Fall, 2020

Instructor: Dr. Keith Hann

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Office: Zoom-based

Office Hours: MWF 10:50-11:50 (Keith) (or appointment), plus an additional hour with Jessica (TBA)

Class Time: Streaming synchronous/live via Zoom, MWF 10:00-10:50

Teaching Assistant: Jessica Tannenbaum

Teaching Assistant email: jessica.tannenbaum@ucalgary.ca

Description

This course will offer a broad overview of 20th-century European totalitarian regimes, with a focus on Italian Fascism, Germany Nazism, and Soviet Communism. However, other states will be considered in lighter detail, such as Spain, Cambodia, China, and various regimes in Eastern Europe. The course will primarily focus on historical analysis, but there will be elements of political theory and analysis as well, as we consider the doctrinal frameworks of these parties and regimes.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the class a student should be able to: differentiate between communism, socialism, conservatism, liberalism, and fascism; understand how these terms have been manipulated to demonize opponents and confuse political issues historically; understand the difference between totalitarianism and more typical authoritarianism; and to understand the historical background leading to the rise and fall of both fascism and communism as major political ideologies.

Required Texts for Purchase

Robert O. Paxton. *The Anatomy of Fascism*. Vintage, 2005.

Chapters 1-6 and chapter 8 should be read for our class on 26 October. The final exam will draw heavily on this material.

The U of C bookstore is not available for in-person visits until "late September". However, they will ship to you (<https://www.calgarybookstore.ca>) once the book arrives in stock, and are also offering an on-campus pickup location. The book is also available on Amazon.ca and other online retailers in both physical and electronic versions, but check how long it will take to ship before you order a hardcopy.

Assessment

15%	Document Analysis 1:	Due October 9
35%	Take-home Midterm Exam:	Distributed October 16, due October 18
15%	Document Analysis 2:	Due November 23
35%	Take-home Final Exam:	Distributed December 14, due December 16

Assignments and Exams

All of the following must be completed to pass the course. We will discuss these further in class.

Completed assignments are to be submitted electronically, on the course's D2L DropBox. Only .rtf, .doc, .docx, or .pdf formats will be accepted. Corrupt or otherwise inaccessible file attachments will **not** be accepted as a reason for late work: if I cannot open the file, your work will be treated as if it has not yet been handed in.

As library access is presumed to be unavailable, no research beyond the materials you will be provided (lecture material, text book, documents I upload) will be required for any assignment.

All assignments and exams are non-collaborative. You must complete all work on your own.

Document Analysis—October 9 (#1) and November 23 (#2)

15% of course grade each

For each analysis, read the provided documents and write a collected analysis of their specific content, while also tying it into the material covered in the class on the broader topic the documents reference (e.g. "totalitarianism", "communism", "fascism" etc). The precise approach you take is up to you, but your essay must **analyze** the contents, not just sum up or otherwise repeat it. Your analysis should be roughly five double-space pages in length.

Take-home Midterm Exam—Distributed October 16 (noon), due October 18 (noon)

35% of course grade

You will be given three essay topics, spanning the major themes of the course material to date. You will have to write on only one of these topics. Your essay should be roughly five double-space pages in length.

Take-home Final Exam—Distributed December 14 (noon), due December 16 (noon)

35% of course grade – Non-cumulative – Uses textbook material

You will be given three essay topics, spanning the major themes of the post-midterm course material. You will have to write on only one of these topics. Your essay should be roughly five double-space pages in length.

Late Submissions Policy

I am willing to work around scheduling conflicts and unexpected events and am usually open to modest extensions on assignments. However, **adequate** advanced notice (i.e. not the day before) is **mandatory**. Late work will be penalized a straight 10% per day (e.g., 80% to 70%); these penalties will be strictly enforced to ensure fair treatment for all students.

Schedule

Dates	Lecture Topic
Sept 9-11	Introduction & historical background
Sept 14-18	Marx, socialism, and communism; the Russian Revolution
Sept 21-25	Versailles, the Great Depression, and the rise of fascism
Sept 28-Oct 2	The totalitarian consolidation of power
Oct 5-9	Life in the Soviet Union
Oct 12	Thanksgiving, no class
Oct 14-16	Portugal, Spain, and the Spanish Civil War
Oct 16/18	MIDTERM EXAM (take-home)
Oct 21-23	Other European regimes
Oct 26-30	Life in Fascist Italy
Nov 2-6	Life in the Third Reich
Nov 9-13	TERM BREAK, no classes
Nov 16-20	Enemies of the state: police, persecutions, pogroms, and purges
Nov 23-27	The Second World War
Nov 30-Dec 4	Postwar Soviet Union and the Eastern Bloc
Dec 7-9	China and Cambodia
Dec 14/16	FINAL EXAM (take-home)

Online Teaching

Classes will be delivered remotely. I will be lecturing live over Zoom, a video conferencing program (<https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/zoom>), during the scheduled class times: the meeting link will be provided. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course: do not share the Zoom link or password with others. Materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed, or published without the instructor's permission.

After class I will be available for an hour to answer questions. I will also make a discussion forum available on the course's D2L webpage so that you can talk amongst yourselves, and upload the PowerPoint slides for each class to D2L.

These are chaotic times, and everything from technology to policy to infrastructure to teaching methods are in flux. There will be a natural amount of confusion and adaptation as both you and I adapt to this new teaching world. As such, I ask that you be patient with me as we figure out things, sometimes on the fly.

In return, I know that some of you may face difficulties due to all this. If you have a problem, or the technology and approach to the base class format is not working for you in some fashion, please don't hesitate to email me or speak to me after class: it's absolutely not a bother. I'll do my best to ensure that you're not left behind, within the limits of technology, university policy, and the needs of the class as a whole.

Tech Requirements: Students in this course will need reliable access to the following: a current web browser; a microphone and speaker; the ability to open Microsoft PowerPoint and PDF files; and a broadband internet connection.

Class Policies

Class attendance and participation is not mandatory, but is heavily encouraged. As the vast majority of the exam material will only be covered in class, attendance is in your own best interests. Lectures will not be recorded.

I encourage student questions. If you have a question about any point in a lecture or reading, please do not hesitate to ask during class and don't worry about interrupting.

I will respond to all email within 24 hours, excepting weekends.

Students will be muted by default during class, but can speak when needed. Try to keep distracting audio off in the background for when you want to speak.

Departmental Grading System

The following percentage-to-letter grade conversion scheme is used in all Canadian Studies, History, and Latin American Studies courses, except for HTST 200.

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
90-100	A+	4.00	Outstanding performance
85-89	A	4.00	Excellent performance
80-84	A-	3.70	Approaching excellent performance
77-79	B+	3.30	Exceeding good performance
73-76	B	3.00	Good performance
70-72	B-	2.70	Approaching good performance
67-69	C+	2.30	Exceeding satisfactory performance
63-66	C	2.00	Satisfactory performance
60-62	C-	1.70	Approaching satisfactory performance.
56-59	D+	1.30	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
50-55	D	1.00	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
0-49	F	0	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

- For program advising in the Faculty of Arts, contact the Arts Students Centre (ASC). For information on how to reach the ASC team please see <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/current-students/undergraduate/academic-advising>
- For Enrolment Services advising (such as admissions, student awards, course registration support, financial aid and student fees) or registration issues, contact the Office of the Registrar. For information on how to reach their team please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/contact-us/enrolment-services-advising>

- For information on Registration Changes and Exemption Requests please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/appeals>

Attention history majors: *History 300 is a required course for all history majors. You should normally take it in your second year.*

Writing:

All written assignments and written exam responses are assessed partly on writing skills. Writing skills include surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) and general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented according to the format described in the History Student's Handbook.

D2L: Throughout the course, important material such as lecture outlines and study guides will be regularly posted on D2L. Students are advised to check this regularly.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism occurs when one submits or presents one's work in a course, or ideas and/or passages in a written piece of work, as if it were one's own work done expressly for that particular course, when, in fact, it is not. Please see [The History Student's Handbook](#).

Plagiarism may take several forms:

- Failing to cite sources properly
- Submitting borrowed, purchased, and/or ghostwritten papers
- Submitting one's own work for more than one course without the permission of the instructor(s) involved
- Extensive paraphrasing of one or a few sources, even when referenced properly, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those works

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence, and written work that appears to contain plagiarized passages will not be graded. All such work will be reported to the Faculty of Art's associate deans of students who will apply the penalties specified in the *University of Calgary Calendar, Section K: Integrity and Conduct*, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Academic Accommodations:

Students needing an accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should contact Student Accessibility Services (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/access/>) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities [ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy](https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy).

Students needing an accommodation based on a protected ground other than disability should contact, preferably in writing, the course instructor.

Copyright:

The University of Calgary has opted out of the Access Copyright Interim Tariff proposed by the Copyright Board. Therefore, instructors in all University of Calgary courses will strictly adhere to Copyright Act regulations and the educational exceptions permitted by the Act for both print and

digital course material. No copyrighted reading material may be placed on course D2L or web sites without the prior permission of the copyright holders. In some cases, this may mean that instructors will require you to purchase a print course pack from the University of Calgary bookstore or consult books on reserve at the library. For more information on the University of Calgary's copyright policy, see <http://library.ucalgary.ca/copyright>.

Sexual Violence Policy

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's sexual violence policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the policy available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/sexual-violence-policy.pdf>

Other Useful Information:

Please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for information on:

- Wellness and Mental Health
- Student Success
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Campus Security and Safewalk (220-5333)

Department Twitter @ucalgaryhist

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