

HTST333: Age of Totalitarianism

Summer 2018

Instructor Information

Instructor

Joseph Fonseca

Email

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Office Location & Hours

Room: SS617

Hours:

T/Th 12:00PM W 2:00PM

General Information

Course Room and Time:

ST130- Tuesday/Thursday 9:00-11:45AM

Course Description

This course aims to both analyze the theoretical debates that surround Totalitarianism and explore the historical realities of the varied dictatorial regimes of 20th century Europe and East Asia. Beginning with a foundational look at the growth of Totalitarian thought and practice in Europe, the course will transition to explore how these ideologies impacted growing nationalism and desire for change in China, Korea, and Japan. With each state we will explore how authority interacted with and impacted the daily lives of their citizens, how these states viewed their place in the world, and how they worked to achieve their goals. In addition to lectures and readings, students will experience the varied paths followed by these disparate regimes and the people who lived them through film, photography, art, and literature.

Course Objectives

1. To develop critical thinking and research skills through an exploration of the ongoing debates surrounding the theoretical foundations of totalitarianism, authoritarianism, fascism, and communism.
2. To develop an intimate understanding of how Totalitarian states took hold in Europe and East Asia, how they changed over time, and why some collapsed while others endure through the analysis of Primary and Secondary Sources
3. To explore how the lives of ordinary people, their cultures, ideologies, and values, were impacted by these regimes.
4. To identify and interpret multiple perspectives of historical events.

Course Materials

Required Texts (All other readings will be available through D2L or on our library website. Please refer to D2L for weekly readings.)

- Paxton, Robert. *The Anatomy of Fascism*. New York: Vintage Books, 2004.

Course Requirements

Assignment	Value	Due Date
Research Proposal	5%	July 19
Document Analysis	25%	July 26
Research Paper	35%	Aug 9
Group Discussion	5%	July 12, 19, 26, Aug 2, 9
Final Exam (Take Home)	30%	Aug 17 (Distributed Aug 14)

Course Schedule

Date	Topic	Discussions and Assignments
July 3	Introduction-What is Totalitarianism? -The Long 19 th Century in Europe	In-Class Practice Discussion
July 5	Italy and the Birth of Fascism	
July 10	Hitler and Nazi Germany	
July 12	European Totalitarianism beyond Hitler and Mussolini	Group Discussion # 1
July 17	From Lenin to Stalin: Communism and Totalitarianism in Soviet Russia	Research Topic Cleared
July 19	The Long 19 th Century in East Asia: A Different Perspective	Research Proposal Due; Group Discussion # 2
July 24	Asian Fascism and the Empire of Japan	
July 26	China's Failed Republic	Document Analysis Due; Group Discussion # 3
July 31	Communism in China: Early Ideology to the Formation of the PRC	
Aug 2	Nationalist China and Taiwanese Democratization	Group Discussion # 4
Aug 7	North Korea	
Aug 9	South Korea	Research Paper Due; Group Discussion # 5
Aug 14	Conclusion and Reflection	Take Home Final Exam Handed Out

Assignment Details

ALL ASSIGNMENTS ARE TO BE HANDED IN DIGITALLY THROUGH D2L BY THE SPECIFIED DUE DATE. LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE PENALIZED 1/3 GRADE PER DAY.

Research Proposal

Value: 5% of course grade

Due Date: July 19

This assignment is designed to help students come up with an appropriate topic and arguable thesis for their research paper. When you write a research paper for a university course, it is essential that your entire paper be written to defend an argument rather than merely report on the evidence you have uncovered or to piece together a narrative. The linchpin of your paper is the Thesis Statement: a clear and precise statement of your central argument.

For this assignment, students will turn in a Thesis Statement and a one paragraph explanation of your argument- why you chose it, what evidence you will consult, etc. You must also include a "working bibliography" of at least FIVE books (not including the course texts), or the equivalent in academic articles (about two articles is the equivalent of one book).

Topics can include any 20th century dictatorship or totalitarian regime. (1900-1991) The point of this course is to explore the global extent of totalitarianism (and to engage in debate about classification and nomenclature). Students must confirm topic choices with the instructor by Tuesday July 17th.

Document Analysis

Value: 25% of course grade

Due: July 26

Seven documents will be posted online (D2L) and you will choose ONE to analyze. The analysis should be ~1,000 words (about 4 double spaced pages).

A primary document is anything written/recorded/photographed/painted/etc. at the time of the event in question, or in the case of memoirs, by people present at the event although written after the fact. Newspaper articles, journal entries, letters, war diaries, memos, and after-action reports, for example, are all considered primary documents.

The objective of a document analysis is to identify, interpret, contextualize, and critique the content of a primary source. This is NOT a summary but an analytical review. When analyzing a document, you will be required to answer the following questions, utilizing other sources to contextualize your document when necessary:

1. What is the origin and context of the document?
2. What is the intended purpose of the document?
3. What are the limitations of the document as a historical source?

Research Paper

Value: 35%

Due Date: August 9

The research paper should be around 2,500 words (between 8-10 double-spaced pages) and be drawn from some or all the most important works relevant to the topic. Students must make use of a reasonable number of different sources- at least FIVE books, or the equivalent in academic articles (about two articles is the equivalent of one book). The course textbooks do NOT count towards this total. In most cases, you will be able to use primary sources, which are available in many forms in the university library and on the library website.

There will be in-class research and writing workshops spaced throughout the course.

Group Discussions

There will be five group work sessions throughout the semester. Students will form small groups (2-4) and answer questions directly related to the primary source documents assigned that week. Students will not know which documents will be discussed until the instructor hands out the question sheet. The instructor will move from group to group to provide guidance and to ensure that every member of the group is involved. At the end of the class, each group will hand in their answer sheet. The goal of these sessions is to incorporate an experiential learning component into the course and prepare students for the discussion format of upper-level seminars.

Final Exam

Value: 30%

Due Date: Aug 17 (distributed Aug 14)

This take-home final exam will require students to write a four-page response to a question related to the course lectures, readings, films, and group discussions. This exam should be double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font with one-inch margins. Include a thesis in your introduction and support that thesis with evidence from the course readings and lectures. All other sources of evidence will be disregarded. You MUST cite your sources.

Additional Information and Resources

Important Departmental, Faculty, and University Information

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

Department Twitter @ucalgaryhist

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students Centre (ASC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at Social Sciences 102, call 403-220-3580, or email artsads@ucalgary.ca. For detailed information on common academic concerns, you can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Arts Students Centre (ASC) in SS 102, call 403-220-3580, email artsads@ucalgary.ca, or visit <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/advising>.
- For registration issues, paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK (7625), visit the office in the MacKimmie Library Block (MLB) or their website at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/>.

Writing:

This course will include written assignments. Faculty policy directs that all written assignments (including, although to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented.

Writing Support:

Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services and other Student Success Centre Services, located on the 3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library (TFDL). Writing Support Services assist with a variety of assignments, from essays to lab reports. Students can book 30-minute one-on-one appointments online, sign up for 15-minute drop-in appointments, and register for a variety of writing workshops. For more information on this and other Student Success Centre services, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ssc.

Copyright:

The University of Calgary has opted out of the Access Copyright Interim Tariff proposed by the Copyright Board. This means that 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. What this simply means is that no copyrighted 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 that you will have to consult books on reserve at the library. For more information on the University of Calgary's copyright policy, see <http://library.ucalgary.ca/copyright>.

Red Box Policy:

Essays and other assignments may be handed in to the red box located outside of the History Department office (Social Sciences, Room 656). Please include the following information on your assignment: 1) **course name and number**, 2) **instructor**, 3) **your name** and 4) **your student number**. Assignments received after 4:00 p.m. will be date stamped with the date of the next business day. We do not time stamp any papers. Please do not bring your paper into the office to be stamped. The box is emptied promptly at 8:30 a.m. and at 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Departmental Grading System:

The following percentage-to-letter grade conversion scheme has been adopted for use in all Canadian Studies, History, and Latin American Studies courses.

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
90-100	A+	4.00	Outstanding
85-89	A	4.00	Excellent—superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
80-84	A-	3.70	

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
77-79	B+	3.30	
73-76	B	3.00	Good—clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
70-72	B-	2.70	
67-69	C+	2.30	
63-66	C	2.00	Satisfactory—basic understanding of the subject matter.
60-62	C-	1.70	Receipt of a grade point average of 1.70 may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation.
56-59	D+	1.30	Minimal pass—marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
50-55	D	1.00	
0-49	F	0	Fail—unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

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. As noted in *The History Student's Handbook* (http://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/history_students_handbook_2015.pdf), plagiarism may take several forms:

- Failure to cite sources properly may be considered plagiarism. This could include quotations, and wording used from another source but not acknowledged.
- Borrowed, purchased, and/or ghostwritten papers are considered plagiarism, as is 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 is also considered plagiarism, even when notes are used, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those works.
- The use of notes does not justify the sustained presentation of another author's language and ideas as one's own.

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 Arts' associate deans of students who will apply the penalties specified in the *University of Calgary Calendar*.

Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI):

At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses (www.ucalgary.ca/usri). Your responses make a difference. Please participate in USRI surveys.

Academic Accommodations (implemented July 1, 2015):

The student accommodation policy can be found at: ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

Campus Resources for Mental Health:

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the SU Wellness Centre (Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy website (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

Other Useful Information:

- Faculty of Arts Representatives: 403-220-6551, arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.
- Campus Security & Safewalk: 403-220-5333, <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>.
- Freedom of Information: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip/foip-hia>.
- Emergency Evacuation Assembly Points:
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>.
- Student Union Information: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>.
- Graduate Student Association: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/>.
- Student Ombudsman Office: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

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