

**Eastern Illinois University**  
**Course Proposal: University Senior Seminar**  
**EIU 4193G, The Holocaust**

**1. Catalog Description**

- a. EIU 4193G
- b. The Holocaust, Honors
- c. 4-0-4
- d. F, S
- e. The Holocaust
- f. An examination of the Holocaust from 1933-1945. This course will examine the many factors (including intellectual, political, legal, and economic changes) that resulted in the institutionalized destruction of European Jewry.
- g. History majors are excluded. Prerequisite: Admission to the University Honors Program.
- h. Writing-intensive

**2. Student learning objectives**

- a. In accordance with the goals of general education, students will
  1. Learn to read critically and analytically through a hands-on study of primary sources dealing with the Holocaust. Students will learn the skills necessary for evaluating primary sources (documents, letters, diaries, treatises, etc.). (critical thinking)
  2. Discuss and assess the content of primary sources in small group projects. (critical thinking)
  3. Write several document essays and a large research paper calling for extensive research and analysis of materials. (writing)
  4. Present the findings of their research to the class in oral reports. (speaking)
  5. Reflect on the issue of intolerance as expressed in the Holocaust. (citizenship)
- b. As they study the events surrounding the Holocaust, students will
  1. Become familiar with the political, social, cultural, and economic factors that allowed for the Holocaust.

**3. Course Outline**

This course will meet each week (for fifteen weeks) for 200 minutes total per week. Week twelve will be devoted to assessment, specifically TASKS test.

**Week 1**

A historical perspective of the roots of anti-Semitism.

**Week 2**

The origins of the Nazi movement.

Hitler's rise to power.

The debate over Hitler's role in the Final Solution.

**Week 3**

Setting the stage for annihilation

The economic boycotts

Nazified schooling  
 The Nuremberg Laws  
*Kristallnacht*.

#### Week 4

Perfecting the killing machine: Euthanasia, *Einsatzgruppen*, gas vans, and Zyclon B.

#### Week 5

Life in the concentration camps  
 The psychological toll of survival  
 Slave labor & big business

#### Week 6

Jewish Resistance  
 Cultural life in the ghettos  
 Ghetto uprisings  
 Jewish partisans.

#### Week 7

The Vatican and the Holocaust  
 German Catholics and the Holocaust  
 German Lutherans and the Holocaust  
 Dietrich Bonhoeffer and the assassination attempt on Hitler

#### Week 8

Popular German response to the Holocaust  
 The annihilation of Germany's Jews and the war effort

#### Week 9

Rescuers of the Jews  
 Le Chambon sur Lignon: one French village that saved 5000 Jews.

#### Week 10

Children of the Holocaust  
 Mengele's medical experiments on twins

#### Week 11

The American response to the Holocaust: the "abandonment of the Jews"?  
 The role of the American State Department and the immigration quota system  
 The role of American Jews

#### Week 12

Assessment Activities

#### Week 13

Holocaust deniers and America's college campuses  
 The question of freedom of speech and the right to deny

#### Weeks 14 & 15

Oral Reports

#### 4. Evaluation of student learning

- a. Achievement of student learning will be evaluated based on the following:

Primary source papers.....	10%
In-class participation.....	10%
Written exam.....	20%
Paper proposal and bibliography...	5%
Research paper.....	45%
Oral report.....	10%
Total.....	100%

- b. This course satisfies the criteria for a writing-intensive course through the document essays, written exam, and the research paper. The professor will work with the students while they identify, research, and write a paper on a topic of their choosing. A rough draft of the research paper will be evaluated and returned to each student.

#### 5. Rationale

- Senior Seminar
- Prerequisite: 75 hours completed and admission to the University Honors Program.
- This course does not duplicate any current offerings.
- This course will not be required in any majors or programs other than the general education senior seminar.

#### 6. Implementation

- Initial instructor: Joy Kammerling
- Textbooks:
  - Fogelman, *Conscience and Courage: Rescuers of Jews During the Holocaust* (1998)
  - Levin, *The Holocaust Years* (1996)
  - Lipstadt, *Denying the Holocaust* (1994)
  - Niewyk, *The Holocaust* (1997)
- No additional costs
- Spring 2001

#### 7. Community College Transfer

Not applicable

**8. Date Approved by College Curriculum Committee:** April 12, 2000

**9. Date Approved by Senior Seminar Advisory Committee:** April 20, 2000

**10. Date Approved by CAA:** October 19, 2000

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