

University of West Georgia – Department of History

HIST 4285: France and the Nazis

I. Instructor Information:

Professor: Dr. Charles Lipp
Class Time: MW 9:30-10:45, Nursing 110
Office: TLC 3217
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Office Phone: 678-839-6039
Office Hours: MW 3:30-5, Tu 10-12, 2-5, or
by appointment

II. Course Description:

This class explores the French experience during World War II, in particular, what the French call the “Dark Years,” 1940-1944. During these years, France suffered a massive and surprising military defeat to Nazi Germany and consequent occupation. In this situation, some chose to collaborate with the Germans, even going so far as to participate in the murder of Europe’s Jews. Others chose to resist. In all cases, French people had to try to survive at a time of war and deprivation, a time of moral choice, and a time when the ultimate outcome looked unclear.

III. Course Learning Objectives:

Students who complete successfully all course assignments will demonstrate the following:

- A deeper understanding of central aspects of the French experience during WW2.
- An understanding of how multi-variable process have functioned in the past.
- Increased skills at reading critically and analyzing primary sources.
- Increased abilities at crafting arguments, in both written and oral form.

These outcomes help reinforce the following History Department Program Learning Outcomes:

- Demonstrate content knowledge of history.
- Analyze primary and secondary sources for their historical content and interpretations.
- Demonstrate writing skills that reflect persuasive historical arguments based on evidence and proper citation.

The History Department believes that these learning outcomes will contribute to a student’s ability to think historically, which includes:

- Understanding the people of the past.
- Understanding the perspective of historical actors and to view those historical actors from a critical, scholarly perspective.
- Recognizing that people, events, ideas, and cultures have influenced later people, events, ideas, and cultures.
- Recognizing that history involves both change and continuity over time; and,
- Explaining connections between particular people, events, ideas, or texts and their historical contexts.

IV. Required Books:

1. Marc Bloch, *Strange Defeat: A Statement of Evidence Written in 1940* (W.W. Norton, 1999); ISBN 978-0393319118.
2. Julian Jackson, *The Fall of France: The Nazi Invasion of 1940* (Oxford University Press, 2004); ISBN 978-0192805508.

3. Léon Werth, *Deposition 1940-1944: A Secret Diary of Life in Vichy France* (Oxford University Press, 2018); ISBN 978-0190499549.
4. Hélène Berr, *The Journal of Hélène Berr* (Weinstein Books, 2009); ISBN 978-1602860940.
5. Lucie Aubrac, *Outwitting the Gestapo* (University of Nebraska Press, 1994); ISBN 978-0803259232.

V. Course Grading Information and Class Policies:

A. University Policies:

Information regarding university-wide policies can be found [here](#).

B. Grade Breakdown:

Your semester grade will be factored as follows:

- 35% = Primary Source Research Paper Project (more info provided separately – in brief: a 7 to 9 full page paper completed in 4 stages over the semester)
- 15% = Analytical Breakdowns (8 in total; just about 2% each)
- 30% = Examinations (2 in total, or 15% each)
- 20% = Participation

*** Note on Factoring Grades:**

- I will not factor your grade until the end of term when all assignments are completed. If you are interested in your current standing in the class, please keep assignments and use the percentages above.

C. General Points Regarding Assignments:

- Detailed information regarding assignments will be provided separately, both in a specific assignment description document posted on Course Den and in class.
- All written assignments are on the date indicated in the Course Outline below. Only a serious and unavoidable cause, such as a documented medical condition or family emergency, will be accepted as an excuse for failing to submitting an assignment on time. Official documentation must be provided for all causes.
- Written assignments must be submitted electronically, via the Course Den Dropbox (aka Assignment Submissions Folders) before 12pm on the days marked in Course Den and on the Course Outline below.
- All written assignments must be typed, double-spaced, in 12-pt Times New Roman font, with regular margins (1.25 left and right, 1.0 top and bottom). You must write the full page-length of the assignment—that means, any space devoted to your name, the date, the class, etc. at the top of the first page does not count towards fulfilling the page length.

- As for readings, all assigned works must be read before in-class discussions, as marked on the Course Outline below.

D. Basic Grading Criteria:

- Assignment and final grades reflect your mastery of assigned materials, particularly lectures and readings.
- In general, “A” grades reflect totally excellent work—work that is well written, well organized, and well argued; work that avoids summarizing and instead integrates lecture and reading material into a deep analysis. “A” work contains no factual errors, excellent writing with no mistakes in spelling, grammar, or organization, and displays complete mastery of the main issues of our class.
- “B” grades indicate good work—work that mixes analysis with summary. “B” work contains few factual errors, good writing with few mistakes in spelling, grammar, or organization, and displays a good command of the main issues of our class.
- “C” grades indicate average work that offers only summary and lacks analysis and organization. “C” work contains some factual errors, average writing with some mistakes in spelling, grammar, or organization, and displays an average command of the main issues of our class.
- Something to think about: a “C” reflects summarizing of the material (the questions of who, what, and when)—“B” and “A” indicate you have gone beyond mere summary to address the crucial questions of why and how.
- “D” grades reflect poor work that fails to demonstrate a mastery of assigned material. “D” work contains many factual errors, poor writing with many mistakes in spelling, grammar, or organization, and displays a less-than-average mastery of the main issues of our class.
- “F” grades reflect work that fails to achieve any of the above criteria and display no mastery of assigned materials whatsoever.

E. Numerical Equivalents of Letter Grades

A = 95	B+= 88	C+ = 78	D+ = 68
A- = 92	B = 85	C = 75	D = 65
A-/B+ = 90	B- = 82	C- = 72	D- = 62
	B-/C+ = 80	C-/D+ = 70	F = 50

* Note:

- Failure to complete or turn in an assignment will result in a grade of zero, not F.

F. Plagiarism

- All assignments in this course are designed to test your ability to use and analyze class materials, including readings and lectures. Outside materials, including the internet, are not necessary to answer any of the assigned questions. To be more precise, only your

discussion of required class material will count towards your grade—information from outside WILL NOT BE FACTORED IN YOUR GRADE.

- However, ANY ACT of plagiarism (the use of someone else’s words or ideas without citation) from ANY SOURCE (class materials and/or outside, including from the internet) will be dealt with severely, so remember to always cite all words and ideas that are not your own. Please recall that when you entered UWG, you consented to uphold our Honor Code, in which all students “pledge to refrain from engaging in acts that do not maintain academic and personal integrity. These include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, fabrications, aid of academic dishonesty, lying, bribery or threats, and stealing.” Moreover, you agreed to the following: “[a]s a West Georgia student, I will represent myself truthfully and complete all academic assignments honestly. I understand that if I violate this code, I will accept the penalties imposed, should I be found guilty of violations through processes due me as a university community member.” You can review the Honor Code [here](#).
- For any instance of plagiarism discovered, I will report the incident to relevant university authorities and impose the same penalty: an absolute 0 points for the assignment. An absolute zero for the assignment will have an adverse impact on the final grade; at the worst, it may result in failure for the course. Based on the severity of the incident, additional measures may be taken. Plagiarism is simple to avoid: if in doubt, cite! If you have any questions regarding plagiarism and the policies stated above, please come see me.

G. Participation and the Course Attendance/Participation Policy

- Your active participation is absolutely critical for the success of our class. Discussions are an important component of this course and I expect you to be ready to ask and answer questions.
- Just showing up for class and saying nothing is not enough—that will earn a C-level grade.
- Beyond speaking during discussions, participation means being actively engaged in the process of learning at all times. This includes being alert and taking notes during lectures and taking advantage of office hours.
- I expect you to be respectful of yourself, your colleagues, and me at all times. Failure to conduct yourself professionally (as in not paying attention during discussions, leaving, coming late, texting, and the like) will have a negative impact on your participation grade.
- Twenty percent of your final grade rests on your participation—that is the difference between a 95 and a 75.

H. Etiquette and Obligations

- As mentioned above, inside the classroom, I expect you to behave with civility and courtesy towards your colleagues and towards me. By choosing to enter UWG, you have decided to engage in a professional endeavor, and must comport yourself accordingly. Not only does this mean always being respectful of your colleagues even when you

disagree with their viewpoints, but also means continually contributing to a productive learning environment for all.

- These contributions include making sure your cell phone and other electronic devices are turned off and not used or consulted during class. This ban includes laptops. Recording of lectures is similarly not permitted. If you have a medical reason to use either a laptop or recorder, please come see during the first week of class with official paperwork from UWG.
- It should go without saying that when you come to class, you are to remain awake, alert, and mentally engaged for the entire class – that is 75 full minutes. If you chose to come to class, you must stay awake and remain. Do not sleep or leave early. As part of my job, I must inform relevant university authorities anyone who displays such behaviors and has difficulty remaining engaged in the learning process.
- Unprofessional behavior and any disruption of the learning environment cannot and will not be tolerated. Continual behavioral issues constitute grounds for being dropped from the course.
- Enrolling in this course means that you and I have a contractual obligation to one another: I am obligated to teach to the best of my ability; you are obligated to know the material provided in lectures, to complete the readings and writing assignments in a timely manner, and to participate actively in the process of learning.

I. Communications

- All electronic communication must use your UWG e-mail account (G-Mail), not your Course Den e-mail. Please keep in mind that I will check my e-mail only during normal business hours Monday through Friday. In other words, do not expect instantaneous responses. In addition, in order to respect your privacy, I will not discuss grades over e-mail.

J. Accessibility Services

- One of the most important resources across the entire university is the [Office of Accessibility Services](#), which works to help ensure equal opportunities for all students. For those who have need of the Office's services, please make sure your information packet is e-mailed to me from your official university address during the first week of the semester.

K. Final Note

- I reserve the right to modify this syllabus during the semester if circumstances warrant. You will be informed at all times of any changes. If changes are substantial, I will issue a revised syllabus.

VI. Course Outline

Week One:

Monday, January 07, 2019:

- Class Introduction

Wednesday, January 09, 2019:

- Lecture: France in the Early 20th Century

Week Two:

Monday, January 14, 2019:

- Lecture: World War One and Its Impact

Wednesday, January 16, 2019:

- Lecture: The Aftermath of World War One

Week Three:

Monday, January 21, 2019:

- NO CLASS – MLK, Jr. Day

Wednesday, January 23, 2019:

- Lecture: The 1930s – Moving Towards War
- **Assignment Due (on Course Den by 12pm)**: Project: Draft Historical Topic and List of Potential Sources

Week Four:

Monday, January 28, 2019:

- Lecture: The Phony War (1939-1940)

Wednesday, January 30, 2019:

- Lecture: The Debacle (May-June, 1940)

Week Five:

Monday, February 04, 2019:

- Lecture: The Exodus (May-June, 1940)

Wednesday, February 06, 2019:

- Lecture: The Armistice (June-July, 1940)

Week Six:

Monday, February 11, 2019:

- Lecture: De Gaulle's Appeal (June-July, 1940)
- **Assignment Due (on Course Den by 12pm)**: Project: Revised Historical Question and Annotated Bibliography of Sources

Wednesday, February 13, 2019:

- **In Class Discussion**: Bloch, *Strange Defeat*
- **Assignment Due (on Course Den by 12pm)**: Analytical Breakdown 1 (Bloch)

Week Seven:

Monday, February 18, 2019:

- **In Class Discussion:** Jackson, *The Fall of France*
- **Assignment Due (on Course Den by 12pm):** Analytical Breakdown 2 (Jackson)

Wednesday, February 20, 2019:

- Lecture: Vichy France during the Second Half of 1940

Week Eight:

Monday, February 25, 2019:

- Lecture: The Early Resistance

Wednesday, February 27, 2019:

- **In Class Discussion:** Werth, *Deposition*, section 1 (pages 1-61; July-December, 1940).
- **Assignment Due (on Course Den by 12pm):** Analytical Breakdown 3 (Werth, 1)

Week Nine:

Monday, March 04, 2019:

- Lecture: Vichy France, 1941-1942, Part 1

Wednesday, March 06, 2019:

- Lecture: Vichy France, 1941-1942, Part 2
- **Assignment Due (on Course Den by 12pm):** Examination 1 (covers through 02/27)

Week Ten:

Monday, March 11, 2019:

- **In Class Discussion:** Werth, *Deposition*, section 2 (pages 62-171; January 1941-November 5, 1942)
- **Assignment Due (on Course Den by 12pm):** Analytical Breakdown 4 (Werth, 2)

Wednesday, March 13, 2019:

- Lecture: Complete Occupation, 1943-1944, Part 1
- **Assignment Due (on Course Den by 12pm):** Project: First Draft of 1st 3 pages (introduction section and beginning of body)

Week Eleven:

Monday, March 18, 2019:

- NO CLASS – Spring Break

Wednesday, March 20, 2019:

- NO CLASS – Spring Break

Week Twelve:

Monday, March 25, 2019:

Lecture: Complete Occupation, 1943-1944, Part 2

Wednesday, March 27, 2019:

- **In Class Discussion:** Werth, *Deposition*, section 3 (pages 171-278; November 8, 1942-June 5, 1944)
- **Assignment Due** (on Course Den by 12pm): Analytical Breakdown 5 (Werth, 3)

Week Thirteen:

Monday, April 01, 2019:

- Lecture: Vichy, the Jews, and the Germans

Wednesday, April 03, 2019:

- **In Class Discussion:** Berr, *Journal*
- **Written Assignment Due (on Course Den by 12pm):** Analytical Breakdown 6 (Berr)

Week Fourteen:

Monday, April 08, 2019:

- Lecture: Resistance

Wednesday, April 10, 2019:

- **In Class Discussion:** Aubrac, *Outwitting the Gestapo*
- **Written Assignment Due** (on Course Den by 12pm): Analytical Breakdown 7 (Aubrac)

Week Fifteen:

Monday, April 15, 2019:

- Lecture: Liberation, 1944-1945, Part 1

Wednesday, April 17, 2019:

- Lecture: Liberation, 1944-1945, Part 2

Week Sixteen:

Monday, April 22, 2019:

- **In Class Discussion:** Werth, *Deposition*, section 4 (pages 279-307; June 6, 1944-August 26, 1944)
- **Written Assignment Due (on Course Den by 12pm):** Analytical Breakdown 8 (Werth, 4)

Wednesday, April 24, 2019:

- Lecture: After Vichy

Week Seventeen:

Monday, April 29, 2019:

- Lecture: Legacies of the Dark Years
- **Written Assignment Due (on Course Den by 12pm):** Project: Final Draft of Paper

Exam Week:

Monday, May 06, 2019:

- **Written Assignment Due (on Course Den by 11:59pm):** Second Examination

VII. Full URLs for Hyperlinks Above:

UWG Common Language for Course Syllabi:

<https://www.westga.edu/administration/vpaa/common-language-course-syllabi.php>

UWG Undergraduate Honor Code:

<http://www.westga.edu/undergrad/1762.htm>

UWG Accessibility Services

<https://www.westga.edu/student-services/counseling/accessibility-services.php>