

Wars and Postwars
Spring 2019: Master of Liberal Arts
HIST 412 640
Wednesday 5:30pm-8:30pm

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Office Hours: MW, 1-2 pm, W, 8-9 pm, and by appointment

Course Description:

This course focuses on the study and analysis of the political and social challenges posed in, and faced by, post-war societies in the modern period, 1860-2000. Casting a large net from the early nineteenth century to the twentieth century it looks at the process of rebuilding after wars, both international and civil wars. The course will be organized thematically – Conducting War; Reconstructions; Vengeance and Justice; Public Memory. Cases will include the American Civil War, the Spanish Civil War, WWII (Germany), and the Balkans War.

Teaching Method

The course follows the format of a weekly seminar.
Film screenings are optional

Evaluation Method

The class is designed as a discussion seminar. Attendance and substantive participation at all meetings are mandatory.

There will be several written assignments. First of these will be short review essay on the assigned texts. The second is a prospectus, with a bibliography, for a final paper. The third is the final paper.

Grade Distribution

Grades will be determined according to in-class participation and the three assignments.
Participation: 30%
Short Papers: 30%
Final Essay: 40%

SEMINAR SCHEDULE

WEEK 1
January 16

Introduction

PART ONE: U.S. CIVIL WAR & RECONSTRUCTION

WEEKS 2-5:

Occupation and Political Reconstruction
Reconstructing Lives
Vengeance and Justice
Memory and History

Film & Documentaries:

PART TWO: SPANISH CIVIL WAR

WEEKS 6-9:

War and its Parts
Franco's Revenge
Forgetting, Remembering and Accounting

Films & Documentaries

PART THREE: GERMANY- WWII AND BEYOND

WEEKS 10-12:

From Aggressor to Occupied and Divided
Reckoning with the Holocaust
Memories and Histories

Films & Documentaries

PART FOUR: BALKANS WAR

WEEK 13-15:

From One Nation to Several
Massacres
Remembering

Films and Documentaries