

San José State University
Department of History
History 132, Section 3
Advanced Topics in World History:
The Second World War
Fall 2022

Instructor: Dr. Greg Tomlinson
Office Location: DMH 237B
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Office Hours: W 12– 1 PM, or by appointment (Zoom)
Class Days/Time: MW 9 AM - 10:15 AM
Location: DMH 167
Prerequisites: Upper division standing

Course Format:

In person lectures and discussions.

Technology Requirements

Students are required to have an electronic device (laptop, desktop, or tablet) for access to the class Canvas page for assignment prompts, paper submissions, and to obtain posted readings. SJSU has a free equipment loan program available for students.

Canvas and MYSJSU Messaging

This course meets in person. Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, and take-home exams can be found on the Canvas learning management system course website. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through Canvas to learn of any course updates.

Course Description

This course examines the causes, course, and effects of the Second World War through social, political, intellectual, economic, and military lenses.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

CLO 1: Explain the causes, course, and effects of the Second World War through a range of subfields including economic, social, and political history. Students will accomplish this goal through close readings and analysis of primary source selections, comprehension of lecture content, and by participating in guided class discussions. Two essays, two exams, and brief, weekly close reading related written responses make up the graded component of this class.

CLO 2: Understand the relationship between economic, social, political, and military strategy and the root causes of Axis aggression during the Second World War. Short response papers and essay-based exams will test student knowledge and understanding of these broad concepts.

CLO 3: Infer and evaluate the biases of various narratives related to Second World War history. Students will learn this via guided discussion supplemented by lecture content. Essay exams and written paper assignments will test students' ability to analyze bias, intent, and historical context for events, movements, and ideas in Second World War history.

CLO 4: View the Second World War holistically as a conflict driven by social, economic, political, military concerns stemming from anxieties about societal, national, racial, and military decline or collapse on the part of the Axis powers. Students will learn about the central place food, critical economic resources, and global strategic goals of the major combatant powers influence military campaigns, acts of mass violence, and population displacement, marginalization, or genocide. The Second World War is also presented as a major final event of the inexorable rise of globalism, the pivotal role of the United States as a global economic and political superpower, and the origins of the Cold War.

Required Texts/Readings

All books can be rented or purchased from the Spartan Bookstore in the Student Union Building or from online book retailers.

Adams, Michael C.C. *The Best War Ever: America and World War II*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University, 2015. ISBN: 978-1-4214-1667-0

Browning, Christopher. *Ordinary Men: Reserve Police Battalion 101 and the Final Solution in Poland*. New York: Harper Perennial, 2017. ISBN: 978-0-06-230302-8

Collingham, Lizzie. *The Taste of War: World War II and the Battle for Food*. New York: Penguin Books, 2011. ISBN: 978-0-14-312301-9

Ienaga, Saburo. *The Pacific War, 1931-1945*. New York: Pantheon Books, 1978. ISBN: 0-394-73496-3

Ledig, Gert. *The Stalin Front*. Trans. Michael Hofmann. New York: New York Review of Books, 2004. ISBN: 978-1-59017-164-6

All other readings will be posted to the class Canvas page.

Optional Text

Weinberg, Gerhard. *World War II: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014. ISBN: 978-0-19-968877-7

Course Requirements and Assignments

SJSU classes are designed such that to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found in University Policy S12-3 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf>.

NOTE that University policy F69-24 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F69-24.pdf> states that “Students should attend all meetings of their classes, not only because they are responsible for material discussed therein, but because active participation is frequently essential to insure maximum benefit for all members of the class. Attendance per se shall not be used as a criterion for grading.”

1.) Midterm Examination (25% of grade):

The midterm examination is an in-class test covering the **first half** of the course. You are required to respond to each short response prompt and essay question. **The midterm will take place on Monday, October 12th.**

2.) Final Examination (25% of grade):

The final examination is also an in-class test. It will cover the **second half** of the course. You are required to respond to each short response prompt and essay question. **The final will take place on Thursday, December 8th at 7:15 AM.**

3.) One Research Essay (10-15 pages) (25% of grade):

You will write an argument driven research paper on a Second World War topic of your choosing. This is a **10–15-page paper**. You must submit a paper abstract with a research question, a thesis, and a list of some of your primary and secondary sources. Other acceptable secondary source materials include course lecture content and *The Taste of Victory*, *The Best War Ever*, *The Pacific War*, and *Ordinary Men*. You must use Turabian citation style for the footnotes and bibliography. Edit your papers **carefully** for grammar, syntax, and spelling. Please contact me if you have any questions about this assignment. **The research paper is due on Wednesday, November 30th.**

4.) Weekly Reading Responses (25% of grade):

There are **10** reading responses based on the reading responses prompt due the morning of discussions. They are also a great place to begin thinking critically about the texts before you participate in class discussions and write your research paper.

Academic Dishonesty

Students who are suspected of cheating during an exam will be referred to the Student Conduct and Ethical Development office and depending on the severity of the conduct, will receive a zero on the assignment or a grade of F in the course. Grade Forgiveness does not apply to courses for which the original grade was the result of a finding of academic dishonesty.

Grading Policy

Grading will be A-F. Final course grades will be assigned based on the following scale; grades below 60% will be considered failing (“F”): A plus = 98 – 100% B plus = 88 – 89.9% C plus = 78 – 79.9% D plus = 68 – 69.9% A = 92 – 97.9% B = 82 – 87.9% C = 72 – 77.9% D = 62 – 67.9% A minus = 90 – 91.9% B minus = 80 – 81.9% C minus = 70 – 71.9% D minus = 60 – 61.9%

Note: In accordance with university policy, final grades will be posted no later than December 17, 2022.

University Policies

General Expectations, Rights and Responsibilities of the Student

As members of the academic community, students accept both the rights and responsibilities incumbent upon all members of the institution. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with SJSU’s policies and practices pertaining to the procedures to follow if questions or concerns about a class arises. See University Policy S90–5 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf>. More detailed information on a variety of related topics is available in the SJSU catalog, at <http://info.sjsu.edu/webdbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html>. In general, it is recommended that students begin by seeking clarification or discussing concerns with their instructor. If such conversation is not possible, or if it does not serve to address the issue, it is recommended that the student contact the Department Chair as a next step.

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester’s Catalog Policies section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the Academic Calendars webpage at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/. The Late Drop Policy is

available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes. Information about the latest changes and news is available at the Advising Hub at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

Academic Integrity

Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf> requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The Student Conduct and Ethical Development website is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 at http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Accessible Education Center (AEC) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec> to establish a record of their disability.

Accommodation to Students' Religious Holidays

San José State University shall provide accommodation on any graded class work or activities for students wishing to observe religious holidays when such observances require students to be absent from class. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor, in writing, about such holidays before the add deadline at the start of each semester. If such holidays occur before the add deadline, the student must notify the instructor, in writing, at least three days before the date that he/she will be absent. It is the responsibility of the instructor to make every reasonable effort to honor the student request without penalty, and of the student to make up the work missed. See University Policy S14-7 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf>.

Student Technology Resources

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center at <http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/> located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and in the Associated Students Lab on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library. A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include DV and HD digital camcorders; digital still cameras; video, slide and overhead projectors; DVD, CD, and audiotape players; sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

SJSU Peer Connections

Peer Connections, a campus-wide resource for mentoring and tutoring, strives to inspire students to develop their potential as independent learners while they learn to successfully navigate through their university experience. You are encouraged to take advantage of their services which include course-content based tutoring, enhanced study and time management skills, more effective critical thinking strategies, decision making and problem-solving abilities, and campus resource referrals. In addition to offering small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring for several undergraduate courses, consultation with mentors is available on a drop-in or by appointment basis. Workshops are offered on a wide variety of topics including preparing for the Writing Skills Test (WST), improving your learning and memory, alleviating procrastination, surviving your first semester at SJSU, and other related topics. A computer lab and study space are also available for student use in Room 600 of Student Services Center (SSC). Peer Connections is in three locations: SSC, Room 600 (10th Street Garage on the corner of 10th and San Fernando Street), at the 1st floor entrance of Clark Hall, and in the Living Learning Center (LLC) in Campus Village Housing Building B. Visit Peer Connections website at <http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu> for more information.

SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is in Clark Hall, Suite 126. All Writing Specialists have gone through a rigorous hiring process, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. In addition to one-on-one tutoring services, the Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or to refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the Writing Center website at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>. For additional resources and updated information, follow the Writing Center on Twitter and become a fan of the SJSU Writing Center on Facebook.

Contacting Professor Tomlinson

I will make announcements on Canvas and in class. Turn on your Canvas notifications to receive timely course updates. You can contact me via Canvas or by email. I request that you **post a profile photo on Canvas** - this helps me learn who you are as a person. I will also learn your name more quickly. I will respond to your Canvas message within 24 hours.

Office Hours

My office hours will be **12-1 PM in-person on Wednesdays in DMH 237B, or by appointment** using the same Zoom link. I strongly encourage you to attend office hours if you have any questions or concerns about any assignment or lecture.

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	MW 8/22- 8/24	The First World War and Its Discontents Readings: “Stab in the Back,” Sun Yat-Sen, “The Three Principles of the People,” “The Twenty-One Demands,” Mussolini “On Fascism,” Ienaga, <i>The Pacific War</i> Chs. 1-2
2	MW 8/29- 8/31	The Turbulent Twenties Readings: From Collingham, <i>Taste of Victory</i> pp. 1-17, Ienaga, Chs. 3-4, NSDAP, “The 25 Points,” excerpts from Joseph Roth, <i>What I Saw</i>
3	MW 9/5- 9/7	Insurgents against Globalism NO CLASS ON MONDAY: LABOR DAY Readings: “The Hossbach Memorandum,” “Read This and the War Will Be Won,” Collingham, pp. 18-64, Ienaga, Ch. 5.
4	MW 9/12- 9/14	Second World Wars Readings: Adolf Hitler, “The Prophecy” Speech, Collingham ch. 7, Ienaga, Ch. 6 Listen: Franklin Delano Roosevelt, “September 1939 Fireside Chat”
5	MW 9/19- 9/21	The Axis Triumphant Readings: Sonia Tomara, Battle of France Reports, Collingham ch. 8
6	MW 9/26- 9/28	Wars of Annihilation Readings: “The Barbarossa Decree,” “The Commissar Order,” “Way of the Subject,” Collingham chs. 9-10
7	MW 10/3- 10/5	December 1941, A Critical Month Readings: “The Hull Note,” Petr Kotelnikov, “Leningrad Diary,” Ienaga ch. 7, Collingham ch. 11

8	MW 10/10- 10/12	MONDAY: MIDTERM EXAMINATION, BRING AN UNMARKED BLUE BOOK WEDNESDAY: Paper Workshop
9	MW 10/17- 10/19	The Global War Readings: “The Atlantic Charter,” Eamon Valera, “On Irish Neutrality,” Mohandas Gandhi, “Speech to the All-India Conference, Ienaga, Chs. 8-9
10	MW 10/24- 10/26	War Hates, Mass Violence, and Genocide Readings: Christopher Browning, <i>Ordinary Men</i> , Lavrenty Beria, “NKVD Deportations,” Executive Order 9066 – Japanese-American Internment
11	MW 10/31- 11/2	Total War Reading: From Svetlana Alexievich, <i>The Unwomanly Face of War</i> , Collingham ch. 13, Ienaga ch. 10
12	MW 11/7- 11/9	The Arsenal of Democracy: The Social and Economic Dynamics of Global War Readings: Michael CC Adams, <i>The Best War Ever</i> ch. 3, Collingham chs. 14 and 17
13	MW 11/14- 11/16	The Axis Retreats, the United States Advances Readings: Gert Ledig, <i>The Stalin Front</i> , Adams, chs. 4-5
14	MW 11/21- 11/23	Winning the Peace: New International Agreements and Animosity 11/23: NO CLASS THANKSGIVING BREAK
15	MW 11/28- 11/30	“The Good War”: WWII and Memory Readings: Adams chs. 6-7, Collingham chs. 18-19, Ienaga, ch. 11 11/30: RESEARCH PAPER DUE
16	TR 12/8	COURSE FINAL EXAMINATION: THURSDAY 7:15-9:30 AM DMH 167 BRING AN UNMARKED BLUEBOOK