The second MIDTERM EXAM is Wednesday, April the first
• it is worth at least 20% of your grade
• if you do better on this exam than on the first midterm,
  then this one will be worth 25% and the first one, 15%

Exam Format
• Powerpoint presentation for “New Imperialism” lecture (25%)*
• five (out of ten) terms to identify (3% each)
• three (out of eight) passages to comment upon (20% each)

*If for any reason you do not have a Powerpoint presentation (print out) prepared to submit with your exam, an essay question will make up the remaining 25% of your exam grade.

Exam Review
TODAY, 30 March, 5:30-7 in Swain East 105
Europe from Napoleon to the PRESENT

30 March 2009

The Holocaust

Hall of Names, Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial, Israel
The Holocaust

Background
1930s Europe shaped by memory of Great War and reality of Depression
re-armament drives German economic recovery
British and French leaders do all they can to maintain peace

World War Two
Hitler’s Empire
war against civilians (compare “stab in the back” legend)

The Holocaust
long-term contexts
• “the Jewish question” and
  European nationalism
• anti-semitism
• Nazi racial science

immediate contexts
• war for Lebensraum
• breakdown of state structures

Memorial at Dachau (concentration camp, near Munich, Germany)
### Numbers of People Killed:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>in attacks on World Trade Center</td>
<td>2,998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>official US death toll in Iraq War</td>
<td>4,260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US military deaths in Vietnam War</td>
<td>58,203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US military deaths in WWII</td>
<td>418,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European military deaths, WWII</td>
<td>18,563,000*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* 5.5 million German
* 10.7 million Soviet

World War Two: Death and Destruction
Hitler’s Empire, 1942

“Today Germany is ours, tomorrow the whole world.”
Hitler Youth anthem

June 1940                    Fall of France
July 1940-May 1941  Battle of Britain
June 1941  Eastern Front war begins
Dec. 7, 1941                  Pearl Harbor
Dec. 11, 1941 Germany declares war on United States
Civilian Deaths in World War Two

Nazi mass murder of civilians
5.7 million Jewish people killed (nearly 80% of Jewish people living in German-occupied Europe)

220,000-500,000 Romani (gypsy) people killed (some estimates suggest a million or more)

100,000-400,000 mentally-ill or physically-handicapped people killed

15,000 homosexual men killed; many others castrated

Russian POWs 2,600,000
China 16,000,000
Indonesia 4,000,000
French Indochina 1,000,000

Nagasaki after the atomic bomb (August 1945)
Strategic “Area Bombing” and Total War

“The final decision in future wars may be brought about by blows to the morale of the civilian population. That is what the last war proved and it will be verified in the future with even more evidence. …. The air arm makes it possible to reach the civilian population behind the line of battle and thus to attack their moral resistance directly.”


Pablo Picasso, *Guernica* (1937)
The “Jewish Question” and the “Final Solution”

First they came for the Communists, but I was not a Communist so I did not speak out. Then they came for the Socialists and the Trade Unionists, but I was neither, so I did not speak out. Then they came for the Jews, but I was not a Jew so I did not speak out. And when they came for me, there was no one left to speak out for me.

Martin Niemoeller

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Prisoners</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1939</td>
<td>21,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1944</td>
<td>700,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Jan. 1933 Hitler and Nazis take power in Germany
Mar. 1933 Enabling Act, cabinet governs without Reichstag
Apr. 1933 all Jewish Germans dismissed from civil service
June 1933 prison camp opened at Dachau, outside Munich; “undesirables” to be “concentrated” there
Sept. 1935 Nuremberg Laws strip Jews of citizenship rights
July 1941 mass killings by the German Order Police
Nov. 1941 Chelmno, first of the death camps;
Jan. 1942 Wannsee Conference coordinates “Final Solution”

Auschwitz-Birkenau Extermination Camp (Oświęcim, Poland)

photo taken in May-June 1944 by German SS officer, showing Jewish Hungarians being “sorted” off the train at Auschwitz (photo from Yad Vashem)
Who knew about the Holocaust?

corpses are used for making fats and their bones are being ground for fertilizer. Corpses are being exhumed for these purposes… Mass executions take place… in specially prepared camps… Jews deported from Germany, Belgium, Holland, France, and Slovakia are sent to be butchered, while Aryans are genuinely used for work…

memo from President Roosevelt’s representative to the Vatican, quoting Geneva Office of Jewish Agency for Palestine
September 26, 1942

The Holocaust: How could it happen?
Forms of anti-semitism

Religious

Economic

Racial

“The Eternal Jew” (1937)

The Holocaust: long-term contexts
The Sonderweg (other path) in German history

In 1848, German history reached a turning point—and failed to turn.

Frankfort Parliament, 1848-1849

The Holocaust: How did it happen? (Germany as an exception)
The Authoritarian Personality

“The typically authoritarian German family, particularly in the countryside and the small towns, bred Fascist mentality by the million. This family created in the children a structure of compulsive duty, renunciation, and absolute obedience to authority. Hitler knew how to exploit this perfectly.”


“Young people serve the Leader. All ten-year olds should be in Hitler Youth.”

“The Leader is always right”  
(Nazi poster, Feb. 1941)
Willing Executioners?

Germans were fundamentally anti-semitic. [Anti-semitism] was the poisonous core of German culture. …conclusions drawn about the overall character [of Holocaust perpetrators] can, indeed must, be generalized to the German people in general. What these ordinary Germans did also could have been expected of other ordinary Germans.

The Holocaust as a response to the Russian Revolution?

“Isn’t it possible that the Nazis, that Hitler, carried out this deed of ‘Asiatic’ barbarism because they saw themselves as potential victims of a similar act? Wasn’t ‘class murder’ by the Bolsheviks logically and actually prior to ‘race murder’ by the Nazis?”


Nazi poster for an anti-Bolshevik rally

“Who would trade places with the Soviets?” Nazi girls’ magazine, 1938

The Holocaust: How did it happen? (Germany as part of broader pattern)
“Two new devices for political organization and rule over foreign peoples were discovered during the first decades of imperialism. One was race as a principle of the body politic, and the other was bureaucracy as a principle of foreign domination. …

The strong emphasis of totalitarian propaganda on the "scientific" nature of its assertions can be compared to certain advertising techniques which also address themselves to the masses. It is true that the advertising columns of every newspaper show this "scientificality," by which a manufacturer proves with facts and figures and the help of a "research" department that his is the "best soap in the world."

…there is a certain element of violence in the imaginative exaggerations of publicity men… behind the assertion that girls who do not use this particular brand of soap may go through life with pimples and without a husband, lies the wild dream of monopoly, the dream that one day the manufacturer of the ‘only soap that prevents pimples’ may have the power to deprive of husbands all girls who don't use his soap.”

Hannah Arendt, *Origins of Totalitarianism* (1951)