



Course Title: History of World War II, HISU 337 (3 credits)

Catalog Course Description:

This course presents a comprehensive analysis of the great mid-twentieth century catastrophe which consumed the world and forever altered history. The course examines the social, political, economic and military events before, during and immediately following the war. A key element of the topic is that contemporary history is influenced by past events. Therefore, history is a network of cause and effect relationships. An understanding of the past is crucial to navigating the present and anticipating the future. World War II remains a key watershed event in the history of the world.

Prerequisites: None

Restrictions: None

Essential Equipment and Facilities

Students must have the ability to access both the Brandman website and the Blackboard portal to their class site. During the first class meeting, each student must demonstrate an ability to log on and access these and other key locations indicated by the professor. For those students accessing the web from home, it is recommended that either Windows Explorer or Mozilla Fire Fox be used as their internet browser. Both are available as free downloads. The University is now using Microsoft Office version 2007 on all its computers, and if students are using an earlier version of MS Office, they may need the free conversion software available at: <http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?familyid=941b3470-3ae9-4aee-8f43-c6bb74cd1466&displaylang=en> JavaScript is also required for courses, and students should ensure JavaScript is enabled in their browser.

Required Texts:

Mc Manus, John C. *The Deadly Brotherhood*. Novato, CA: Presidio Press, 1998.

Stokesbury, James L. *A Short History of World War II*. New York, Harper, 1980 reprinted 2001. ISBN# 0-688-08587-3 pbk.

Texts are available at the: Brandman/Chapman On-Line Bookstore:

<http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/brandman.htm>

On-line Brandman library resources: <http://www1.chapman.edu/library/centers/index.html>

Course Learning Objectives:

By the conclusion of the course, students will be able to demonstrate their understanding of the following:

- Explain the underlying and immediate causes of World War II
- Analyze the main elements of totalitarianism
- Describe the rise of Nazism and Fascism to power
- Explain the role of Hitler and his ideology in bringing about WWII and the Holocaust
- Discuss the rise of Japanese militarism and its contribution to WWII.
- Examine military strategies, tactics and major campaigns and battles leading to the Allied victory.
- Detail the life of the combat soldier during WW II.
- Analyze the causes and effects of the Holocaust
- Evaluate the defeat of fascism and the results of WW II
- Explain the immediate and long term effects of World War II

Major Study Units:

Weekly studies and course outline:

Note: This may change as the course unfolds. Be sure to refer to Blackboard, Bb weekly for updates. Contact me with any questions or clarifications you may need.

Week 1

- Introduction to Course Requirements and Expectations.
- Review Assignments and Timelines
- Create Topical, Seminar Groups
- Trace Timeline of Major World War II Events
- Review Effects of World War I
- Analyze The Legacy of the Treaty Of Versailles
- Trace the Rise of the Totalitarian Giants
- Japanese Militarism

Week 2

- The Causes of World War II
- Steps And Events Leading to World War II
- Opening Moves: The Main Players
- 1941: Two Giants Enter the War
- Theaters, Battles, Major Leaders
- Axis High Water Mark

Week 3

- Analysis of World War II Military Technology
- Case Studies of Battles
- Eye Witness Accounts
- Island War in the Pacific

Week 4

- The Home Front
- Women in World War II
- Minorities and The War
- Review for Mid Term
- Nazism and the Final Solution: The Holocaust

Week 5

- Allies Make a Comeback
- Decisive Battles and Leaders
- Campaigns and Fronts: Europe and Pacific
- D-Day
- Mid Term Exam

Week 6

- Island Hopping in the Pacific
- Air War Over Germany and Japan
- Liberation in the Pacific and European Theaters
- Battle of the Bulge: Last Chance for Hitler

Week 7-Class presentations

- Political Issues of Post War Peace
- Weapons of Mass Destruction
- War Comes to an End: VE, VJ Days
- Genocide and War Crimes

Week 8

- Effects of World War II
- Reflections on World War II: Comments and Conclusions
- Post War World
- Brief last minute review for Final Exam
- All Papers, Assignments Due
- Final Exam

Blended Instructional Strategies:**Student Performance Requirements**

By the end of the term, the student must have successfully completed all of the following assignments and requirements:

Maintain a notebook/journal of all notes, handouts, reflections and other class materials from the course.

- Maintain a log of the websites you studied for this course.
- Submit one or two critical analysis book reports. Directions will be given in class.
- Participate and complete the study guides for the seminar groups applying course materials.
- Complete a class presentation on the topic selected for this purpose Week 7.
- Participate actively in class discussions/Bb Discussions, class work, notes and research.
- Refer to Bb at least twice a week for current materials, assignments and course content.
- Submit 3 Reflection Essays. Directions provided in class.

Blended Student Performance Requirements:

The course consists of two main elements. The first and foremost is the in class, face-to-face direct instruction element. This remains the core of our course and is a required element of successful completion of HISU 337.

The second element is the Bb portion of the course. It is also required of the student to participate in the Bb features of the course as enumerated and described on Blackboard. Note the *topic* refers to the week's lesson on BB and in class. *Responsibility* means what the student completes applying Bb to the lesson. Use your notebook/journal and/or the Discussion feature to critique the websites visited in the course of the class. Class credit is given for sharing the information in class and in writing your Reflection Essay requirements. **Note: Items may change as class unfolds. Always check with the instructor.**

Blended Course Student Performance Requirements:

These are the same as for the overall course requirements. You must complete all coursework according to the timelines and directions given for each assignment. You are required to participate in the Discussion Board questions/inquiries for each week including the last Week 8 prompt. These are of course, specific to Blackboard.

Blended Class Policies:

Attendance:

Class participation is required. Emergency reasons for absence must be approved by the instructor. In the event of an emergency absence, make up work must be arranged with the instructor. Non-emergency absences will result in a final grade drop of one letter grade per absence after the second absence. Part of satisfactory attendance is promptness to class and remaining the entire class meeting time. Arriving late and/or leaving before dismissal will result in a five point loss, half of a letter grade, off the final grade for each occurrence not previously approved or cleared with the instructor.

Classroom Courtesy

No phones, beepers or other electronic communication devices are permitted for use during instructional time under any circumstances. Please be sure these items are turned off and put away during instructional class time.

Class participation is expected. However, no side conversations or other distractions are allowed at any time.

Methods of Evaluation for Determining Grades:

Grading system as percent of final grade:

Class participation in discussion and activities	40%	5pts per week for a total of 40 points
Weekly reflection papers and journal	30%	10 pts each for a total of 30 points
Class presentations and/or group projects	30%	Week 7; up to 3 pres. Possible 30 points
Critical book review and/or short paper	10%	10 points
Mid Term and final exams	20%	20 points each for a total of 40 points

Attendance (see above)

Other instructor approved extra credit projects

Grading procedures follow the generally accepted standards

A=95, B=85, C=75, D=65, F= 59/lower

Pluses and minuses are given as per Chapman University System/Brandman University policy. Every assignment completed at a high quality level may earn an "A." **A missing assignment is averaged in as an "F."** This would represent a substantial loss of credit and should be avoided. Below standard, missing work and/or not keeping Brandman attendance policies contribute to the loss of "A." It is expected that everyone will do his/her very best work on time.

Responsibility: As a learning community of scholars, Brandman University emphasizes the ethical responsibility of all its members to seek knowledge honestly and in good faith.

Academic integrity, compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Harassment are three areas that warrant special attention and should be understood and complied with by everyone in the University whether student or employee. These policies are clearly stated in the General Information section of the *Brandman University Catalog* available at: <http://www.brandman.edu/catalog/current/>