

## LINFIELD COLLEGE

### HISTORY 490

**INSTRUCTOR:**

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Jack Boas  
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**REQUIRED TEXTS:** None

**PREREQUISITE:** HST 285 – Skills and Methods of the Historian

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** This course is a senior thesis, the last hurdle to be cleared before the undergraduate degree is conferred. With the sole requirement the writing of a 30-35 page senior thesis, the objectives are quite straightforward: the candidate must demonstrate an ability to do research, analyze, organize, and to compose. Originality, though, welcome, is not required. The principal objective, then, is the writing of a coherent, internally consistent, properly documented paper.

#### **INSTRUCTOR BIOGRAPHY**

Ph.D., University of California in Modern European History. Author of two award-winning books about the Second World War (*Boulevard des Misères: the Story of Transit Camp Westerbork* and *We Are Witnesses: Five Diaries of Teenagers Who Died in the Holocaust*), as well as numerous articles, book reviews, and occasional blogs. *Mr. Holocaust (I presume)* came out in April of 2005 in The Netherlands (not published in English). Instructor has taught at Linfield for the past 6 years.

#### **METHODS OF EVALUATION**

The student is responsible for writing a paper that conforms to the criteria outlined under Course Objectives. Throughout the term, the student will have ongoing communication with the senior thesis adviser, submitting materials as he or she progresses toward the ultimate goal.

#### **Grading Scale:**

|          |          |
|----------|----------|
| A 93-100 | C+77-79  |
| A- 90-92 | C 73-76  |
| B+87-89  | C- 70-72 |
| B 83-86  | D+67-69  |
| B- 80-82 | D 60-66  |

#### **COURSE POLICIES**

**Academic honesty:**

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Any student found to be engaging in either of these activities at any point in the course will receive a failing grade for the assignment and/or entire course and may be subject to further college sanctions.

### **Students with disabilities**

Students with documented disabilities who may need accommodations, who have emergency medical information the instructor should know of, or who need special arrangements in the event of evacuation, should make an appointment with the instructor as early as possible, no later than the first week of the term.

### **Flexibility Statement**

Assignment/exam calendars may change in response to institutional, weather and/or class circumstances. This is an organic document and may be revised as class dynamics dictate.

## **CLASS OUTLINE AND ASSIGNMENTS**

Note: in most instances, students will already have selected a topic at the time they took HST 285, the prerequisite.

WEEKS 1 and 2: By the end of the second week, students will be expected to have a topic in hand, along with a provisional, bibliography.

WEEK 4: By the end of week 4, they will have written the first page. First page has to include a description of the topic and a working thesis. The thesis may be subject to change, depending on the outcome of the research being conducted apace.

3. WEEK 6: Draft of first half of the paper due.
4. WEEK 8: Draft of two-thirds of paper due.
5. WEEK 10: Draft of entire paper due.
6. WEEKS 11-13: Editing, polishing.