

University of Florida
Department of History

Imperial Germany

EUH 3931 / EUS 3930, Monday/Wednesday/Friday 11.45 – 12.35
Keene-Flint 105

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Office hours: Tuesday 2-4 pm, Friday 3-4.30 pm

Imperial Germany has never really enjoyed a good reputation among historians for a number of reasons. A latecomer on the European stage of major powers, it was considered a destabilizing force, stumbling into a World War under the leadership of a neurotic Emperor, overly ambitious, authoritarian, and breaking under the conditions of rapid modernization. But is this all we need to know? Regarding major achievements in the sciences, humanities, and the arts, with significant improvements in medicine and social policies, accompanied by rigorous public debates, students will be encouraged to look at a more nuanced picture of Germany between 1871 and 1918. As every modern nation, it was capable of creating by itself and within itself the conditions of its own downfall. Yet, while the seeds of destruction were certainly there, we should consider the possibility of alternative paths in the nation's history before the outbreak of the First World War.

Students will be introduced to the method of critical source analysis. They are required to write a final research paper (10 pages, double spaced), due on November 27, 9pm. This final paper should be outlined in a short abstract (1 page), containing a bibliography (10 titles or more) due on October 27, 9pm.

The paper should be a critical reflection on a topic we discussed in class, drawing on our readings and additional materials. I would like to see every student at least once during my office hours (or by appointment) to discuss the paper topic.

There will be a two-page source analysis assignment as a home written "Test"-paper with a "test"-grade due on September 18, 9pm.

This book used in the class will have to be purchased:
Sven Oliver Müller and Cornelius Torp. *Imperial Germany Revisited. Continuing Debates and New Perspectives* (New York/Oxford: Berghahn Books, 2013), ISBN: 9780857459008
When ordering the book, please check the ISBN Number or you might end up with a different edition.

Course Policies

Grading:

Final Exam: 30%

Four weeks before the final exam the instructor will hand out a study guide with a number of exam questions and tasks out of which one third will be chosen for the exam.

Final Paper: 30%

Participation: 40%

Participation requires regular reading responses via email consisting of at least two questions (which the instructor will specify in class) concerning the respective text assigned. The response should be e-mailed at 6pm the day before class.

Students who miss class more than three times unexcused will fail.

During class, phones, computers, and tablets have to be switched off and stored in bags/briefcases.

Plagiarism is not tolerated. Students who plagiarize in any of the writing assignments will fail the class. The instructor will inform the university about such behavior. The principles of academic honesty will be explained in class. Consult the university policies on rules of conduct here:

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

Course Schedule

Monday, August 21: Introduction

Wednesday, August 23: *The German Lands before 1815*, material provided by instructor

Friday, August 25: *Germany 1815 – 1848*, material provided by instructor

Monday, August 28: *Economic, Demographic and Social Changes*, material provided by instructor

Wednesday, August 30: *Cultural and Intellectual Trends*, material provided by instructor

Friday, September 1: how to deal with sources, lecture, no readings

Monday, September 4: Labor Day, no class

Wednesday, September 6: *The Revolutions of 1848-49*, material provided by instructor

Friday, September 8: source analysis practice, material provided by instructor

Monday, September 11: *Revolution to Unification*, material provided by instructor

Wednesday, September 13: *Bismarckian Germany*, material provided by instructor

Friday, September 15: source analysis practice, material provided by instructor

Monday, September 18: *Imperial Germany Revisited [...]*, chapter 1, pp. 21- 36; **source analysis due**

Wednesday, September 20: *Imperial Germany Revisited [...]*, chapter 2, pp. 38 - 50

Friday, September 22: source analysis practice, material provided by instructor

Monday, September 25: *Imperial Germany Revisited [...]*, chapter 3, 55- 65

Wednesday, September 27: *Imperial Germany Revisited [...]*, chapter

Friday, September 29: On Nationalism, lecture, no readings

Monday, October 2: *Imperial Germany Revisited [...]*, chapter 4, pp. 67-79

Wednesday, October 4: *Imperial Germany Revisited [...]*, chapter 5, pp. 83-96

Friday, October 6: Homecoming, no class

Monday, October 9: *Imperial Germany Revisited [...]*, chapter 6, pp. 97-106

Wednesday, October 11: *Imperial Germany Revisited [...]*, chapter 7, pp. 107-123

Friday, October 13: source analysis practice, material provided by instructor

Monday, October 16: *Imperial Germany Revisited [...]*, chapter 8, pp. 125-140

Wednesday, October 18: *Imperial Germany Revisited [...]*, chapter 9, pp. 141-155

Friday, October 20: source analysis practice, material provided by instructor

Monday, October 23: how to write a paper, lecture, no readings

Wednesday, October 25: *Imperial Germany Revisited [...]*, chapter 10, pp. 157- 171

Friday, October 27: source analysis practice, material provided by instructor;

paper abstract due

Monday, October 30: *Imperial Germany Revisited [...]*, chapter 11, pp. 173-185

Wednesday, November 1: *Imperial Germany Revisited [...]*, chapter 12, pp. 189-200

Friday, November 3: source analysis practice, material provided by instructor

Monday, November 6: *Imperial Germany Revisited [...]*, chapter 13, pp. 201 - 212

Wednesday, November 8: *Imperial Germany Revisited [...]*, chapter 14, pp. 213- 225

Friday, November 10: Veteran's Day, no class

Monday, November 13: *Imperial Germany Revisited [...]*, chapter 15, pp. 227-237

Wednesday, November 15: *Imperial Germany Revisited [...]*, chapter 16, pp. 239-250

Friday, November 17: source analysis practice, material provided by instructor

Monday, November 20: *Imperial Germany Revisited* [...], chapter 17, pp. 253-265

Wednesday, November 22: Thanksgiving break, no class

Friday, November 24: Thanksgiving break, no class

Monday, November 27: *Imperial Germany Revisited* [...], chapter 18, pp.267-280; **paper due**

Wednesday, November 29: *Imperial Germany Revisited* [...], chapter 19, pp. 281-296

Friday, December 1: source analysis practice, material provided by instructor

Monday, December 4: *Imperial Germany Revisited* [...], chapter 20, pp. 297-312

Wednesday, December 6: Conclusion