

HHI22

Spring 2013

Discussion Sheet #4

Monday, March 18

Creation/Mixing of Identities: World Migrations

Readings due: **Anthology:** Yeziarska

- 1) What problems did Yeziarska go through when she came to the United States as a child?
- 2) What kind of future did she want to create for herself? What problems did encounter?
- 3) What types of identities are created and destroyed through migration?

Wednesday, March 20

World War I

Readings due: **Text:** chap. 31, pp. 718-34.

- 1) What were the principal causes of World War I?
- 2) What made this war different?
- 3) What were its consequences?

Friday, March 22

End of World War I and the Bolshevik Revolution

Readings due: **Text:** chap. 31, pp. 734-45; **Anthology:** Lenin, "What is to be Done?"

- 1) How did World War I come to an end? Who were the winners and losers?
- 2) What were the overall consequences for Europeans after the war?

Lenin "What is to be Done?"

- 1) Who does Lenin believe is to make a Marxist revolution happen?
- 2) How does Lenin believe that a proletariat revolution has to occur?
- 3) What identities does this create and reject?

Monday, March 25

New Identities and Political Experiments I: Communism and the U.S.S.R.

Reading Due: **Anthology:** Lenin, "State and Revolution"

- 1) Does Lenin believe that democracy and capitalism are compatible?
- 2) How does Lenin justify the *dictatorship of the proletariat*?
- 3) How does Lenin define democracy?

Wednesday, March 27

Age of Uncertainty and Anxiety: Identities in Crisis

Readings Due: **Text:** chap. 32, pp. 747-62; **Anthology:** Freud.

- 1) By the start of the twentieth century, could someone still have a single identity? Why or why not?
- 2) What did it mean to live in an "Age of Uncertainty and Anxiety" in Europe after World War I?
- 3) What is psychoanalysis? How can it be used?
- 4) Why do human beings dream? What are dreams? Why does Freud consider them important?
- 5) Can dreams be interpreted collectively? Individually?

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Friday, March 29

New Identities and Political Experiments II: Fascism and Nazi Germany

Readings Due: **Sources II: Hitler**

- 1) What made fascism and the Nazis so attractive?
- 2) How did Hitler achieve power?

Hitler, *Mein Kampf*

- 1) How does Hitler consider racial interbreeding?
- 2) Who does Hitler consider to be the enemies of the Aryan master race?

Monday, April 1 Second Paper Due!!

Imperialism in Crisis: Road to World War II

Readings Due: **Text:** chap. 32, pp. 762-74, chap. 33, pp. 776-81, 786-89; **Sources II:**

Japanese Imperialism

- 1) What was the scope of the Japanese imperial designs in East Asia?
- 2) How did they justify their plan?
- 3) What did they want to adopt and what did they reject?

Wednesday, April 3

WWII: Holocaust and Memory

Readings Due: *Maus I-II*; **Anthology:** Borowski

Have the two volumes read and be prepared to speak about the principal characters and how events unfolded in the narrative. If you have not read the *Maus* from cover-to-cover, do not bother attending class.

Friday, April 5, Monday April 8

WWII: Holocaust and Memory

Readings Due: *Maus I-II* (If you have not read the *Maus* from cover-to-cover, do not bother attending class.)

- 1) Where and when did the events in *Maus I-II* take place?
- 2) What was the context of World War II (Vladek and Anja Spiegelman)? What was the context for New York (Art Spiegelman)?
- 3) Why does *Maus I-II* have the subtitle “A Survivor’s Tale?” What does it mean to be a “victim” and/or “survivor?”
- 4) On the basis of this work and the rest of what you have read, what does it mean to be a “perpetrator,” “collaborator,” “victim,” “survivor,” and “resistor?”
- 5) How did the Holocaust create and destroy identities?

Wednesday, April 10

Spring Conference: Immigration, Food, Identity

Friday, April 12

Joint Session One: Immigration, Food, Identity