

Course Syllabus



FIL3838: Holocaust Cinema; Section RVAA

Instructor Information Table

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION



- **Instructor:** Dr. Oren Stier
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- (<mailto:%20stiero@fiu.edu>)
- **Phone:** (305) 348-6729
- **Office Hours:** By appointment via Zoom
- **Website:** [Professor Website](http://religion.fiu.edu/faculty/full-time-faculty/oren-baruch-stier/)
(<http://religion.fiu.edu/faculty/full-time-faculty/oren-baruch-stier/>)

Course Time Zone | Eastern Standard Time (EST). Course due dates are according to this time zone.

General Information

Course Description and Purpose

Perhaps no historical event has been represented cinematically with more frequency and variety than the Holocaust. Film provides a particular window through which we may examine what we know and think about the Holocaust and how we have come to know and think those

things. By viewing and discussing films, we will analyze major trends and techniques in the representation of the Holocaust from the 1940s until the present, including documentaries and feature films, Hollywood-style and independent productions, from the United States, Israel, and Europe. In the course of these examinations we will have the opportunity to reflect on ethical and representational challenges and problems unique to this medium and its subject, such as the existence of Holocaust comedy, the “limits” on the representation of violence and atrocity, and religious and/or transcendent meaning.

Course Objectives

- Introduce Holocaust cinema to a non-specialist audience.
- Identify the major representational techniques and narrative components of Holocaust films.
- Develop critical thinking and written communication skills through course readings, discussion and essay reflections on selected films, and a final essay.

Learning Outcomes

- Students will recognize the major advantages and disadvantages of cinematic representation.
- Students will appraise ethical choices arising from filmmakers’ and characters’ actions.
- Students will categorize different cinematic genres and styles and compare films within those genres and styles.

Important Information

Policies

Before starting this course, please review the following pages:

- [Policies](#)
- [Netiquette](https://online.fiu.edu/html/canvas/policies/) [\(https://online.fiu.edu/html/canvas/policies/\)](https://online.fiu.edu/html/canvas/policies/)
- [Technical Requirements and Skills](#)
- [Accessibility and Accommodation](#)
- [Panthers Care & Counseling and Psychological Services \(CAPS\)](#)
- [Academic Misconduct Statement](#)

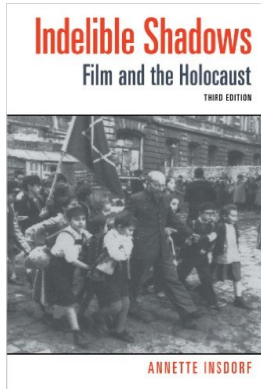
Course Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Textbook and Course Materials

Textbook Table

Indelible Shadows: Film and the Holocaust



Annette Insdorf

Cambridge University Press, 3rd Edition, 2002

ISBN-10: 0521016304

ISBN-13: 978-0521016308

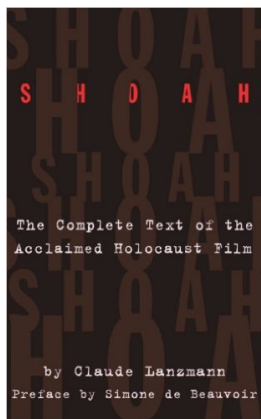
You may purchase your textbook online at the [FIU Bookstore](http://fiu.bnccollege.com/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/BNCBHomePage?storeId=21551&catalogId=10001)

(<http://fiu.bnccollege.com/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/BNCBHomePage?storeId=21551&catalogId=10001>).

This textbook is also available in a Kindle edition and as an [e-book](https://www-cambridge-org.ezproxy.fiu.edu/core/books/indelible-shadows/1AC7969A2A8B95868D938599363C37B6#)

(<https://www-cambridge-org.ezproxy.fiu.edu/core/books/indelible-shadows/1AC7969A2A8B95868D938599363C37B6#>) via the Green Library (must sign-in if accessing from off-campus).

Shoah: The Complete Text Of The Acclaimed Holocaust Film



Claude Lanzmann

Da Capo Press, 1st Edition, 1995

ISBN-10: 0306806657

ISBN-13: 978-0306806650

You may purchase your textbook online at the [FIU Bookstore](http://fiu.bnccollege.com/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/BNCBHomePage?storeId=21551&catalogId=10001)

(<http://fiu.bnccollege.com/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/BNCBHomePage?storeId=21551&catalogId=10001>).

Films utilized in this course

All films listed below are **required** viewing, except for two cases: in week **two**, you are only required to view **any 60 minutes** of the film Shoah, and in week **five**, you are required to choose **only one** of the two films assigned (either *Defiance* or *Inglourious Basterds*). All of the films are available for purchase in DVD format from Amazon and other outlets (ASINs are

included to aid in this), and all are currently available in streaming video format. Films that are available for free streaming are noted by venue; low-cost streaming options are also noted. Most of the films are available online via multiple platforms, including Hulu, Google Play, YouTube, Netflix, iTunes, and Amazon, in most cases for only a nominal rental charge; an Amazon Prime or Netflix trial or paid membership will allow you to watch several of those films for free. **Students are advised to immediately plan how they are going to access each required film so there is no delay in completing the assignments.**

- *Jud Süß [The Jew Süß]* (Germany, 1940; 98 mins.), **ASIN:** B0017ZGYR0: this title is no longer available in streaming format; stay tuned for further information (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZlvaBOxHDj0&bpctr=1462565903>)
- *A Film Unfinished* (Israel, 2010; 88 mins.), **ASIN:** B004EI2NWM: available via [FIU Libraries](#) (https://fod-infobase-com.ezproxy.fiu.edu/p_ViewVideo.aspx?xtid=86471)
- *Death Mills* (USA, 1945; 22 mins.), **ASIN:** B004EI2NWM (on disc with *A Film Unfinished*): available via [YouTube](#) (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zC8fcjLvid8&has_verified=1)
- *Nuit et Brouillard [Night and Fog]* (France, 1955; 32 mins), **ASIN:** B000093NQZ: available for rent or purchase on [iTunes](#) or [Amazon Prime](#) ([\\$2.99+](https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B002R2JK9G?tag=reelgood06-20))
- *Shoah* (France, 1985; 566 mins.), **ASIN:** B00BX49B6G: available via [YouTube](#) ([Part 1](#) (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_n7_gSUVcwc) & [Part 2](#) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fj2pj6Mt-OA>))
- *The Diary of Anne Frank* (US, 1959; 180 mins.); **ASIN:** B001XJBE1Q: available for rent or purchase via [Amazon Prime](#) (https://www.amazon.com/Diary-Anne-Frank-Millie-Perkins/dp/B00DX9M73S/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=diary+of+anne+frank+1959&qid=1588621109&s=instant-video&sr=1-1) or [YouTube](#) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=40PdTnyQsmw>) **\$3.99+**
- *Schindler's List* (USA, 1993; 196 mins) available for rent or purchase via [Amazon Prime](#) (https://www.amazon.com/Schindlers-List-Liam-Neeson/dp/B00BEN0V8S/ref=sr_1_1?crd=1V5NHPJWANFGZ&dchild=1&keywords=schindler%27s+list&qid=1588621405&s=instant-video&sprefix=schindler%27s+list%2Cinstant-video%2C313&sr=1-1), [iTunes](#), and others **\$3.99+**
- *La vita è bella [Life is Beautiful]* (Italy, 1997; 116 mins.), **ASIN:** B0033AI48Y: [YouTube](#) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q1qggoumYi0>), [Amazon Prime](#) (https://www.amazon.com/Beautiful-English-Subtitled-Roberto-Benigni/dp/B00B3EJ0OY/ref=sr_1_1?crd=35FAV2A03E36S&dchild=1&keywords=life+is+beautiful&qid=1588621689&s=instant-video&sprefix=life+is+%2Cinstant-video%2C181&sr=1-1) and others **\$3.99+**
- *The Grey Zone* (US, 2001; 108 mins.), **ASIN:** B000087EYX: available for streaming via

- Tubi** (https://tubitv.com/movies/469604/the_grey_zone) and IMDbTV or for rent via **Vudu** **\$3.99+**
- *Defiance* (US, 2008; 137 mins.), **ASIN:** B00AEFXRMO: available for streaming via **Netflix** (<https://www.netflix.com/watch/70101696>) or for rent via **YouTube** (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wl3tb8IDiHo>), **Amazon Prime** and others **\$2.99+**
 - *Inglourious Basterds* (US, 2009; 153 mins.), **ASIN:** B0054OGQS2: available for rent or purchase via **Netflix** (<https://www.netflix.com/watch/70108777?trackId=13752289&tctx=0%2C0%2C894b3c7fa746a2b584a278d2fe5ff802b0c387bd%3A0e458aeaa48bb8fd2b6ba482%2C%2C>) or for rent via **Amazon Prime** (https://www.amazon.com/Inglourious-Basterds-Brad-Pitt/dp/B002UEW31I/ref=sr_1_1?crid=LERK3PII2568&dchild=1&keywords=inglourious+basterds+2009&qid=1588623277&s=instant-video&sprefix=Inglourious-Basterds%2Cinstant-video%2C367&sr=1-1) or **Vudu** (<https://www.vudu.com/content/movies/details/Inglourious-Basterds/354188>), and others **\$3.99+**
 - *Poklosie [Aftermath]* (Poland, 2012; 107 mins.); **ASIN:** B00MI72SA8: available for rent or purchase via **Vudu** (<https://www.vudu.com/content/movies/details/content/575757>), **Amazon Prime** (https://www.amazon.com/Aftermath-English-Subtitled-Maciej-Stuhr/dp/B00O1SAX8G/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=aftermath+2012&qid=1588623433&s=instant-video&sr=1-1) and others **\$2.99+**
 - *Ida* (Poland, 2014; 80 mins.), **ASIN:** B00L0DKRCM: available via **FIU Libraries (Alexander Street streaming)** (https://video-alexanderstreet-com.ezproxy.fiu.edu/watch/ida?utm_source=aspresolver&utm_medium=MARC&utm_campaign=Video) or for rent via **Amazon Prime** (https://www.amazon.com/Ida-English-Subtitled-Agata-Trzebuchowska/dp/B00N1Q3S0E/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=ida&qid=1588623874&s=instant-video&sr=1-1) and others **\$1.99+**

Note:

- **If you decide to sign up for any free trials**, time them to coincide with the availability of the assignment to ensure you will have access to the film during the trial.
- **Amazon Prime Student** (https://www.amazon.com/amazonprime?_encoding=UTF8&%2AVersion%2A=1&%2Aentries%2A=0&planOptimizationId=WLPStudentMonthlyEligiblePlans&primeCampaignId=studentWlpPrimeRedir&ref_=st_wlp_pr_redir) offers a **6-Month free trial** using the link provided.

Expectations of this Course

This is an online course, which means most (if not all) of the course work will be conducted online. Expectations for performance in an online course are the same for a traditional course. In fact, online courses require a degree of self-motivation, self-discipline, and technology skills which can make these courses more demanding for some students.

Students are expected to:

- **Review the how to get started information** located in the course content
- **Introduce themselves to the class** during the first week by posting a self-introductory video to the "Introduce Yourself" assignment
- **Interact** online with instructor and peers
- **Review** and follow the course calendar
- Log in to the course **at least 3 times** per week
- Respond to **messages** within **2 days**
- Submit assignments by the required deadlines

The instructor will:

- Log in to the course **at least 3 times** per week
- Respond to **messages** within **2 days**
- Grade assignments within **7 days** of the assignment deadline (excluding Sabbaths and Jewish holidays)

Course Detail

Course Communication

Communication in this course will take place via the Canvas Inbox. Check out the [Canvas Conversations Tutorial \(https://vimeo.com/canvaslms/212en\)](https://vimeo.com/canvaslms/212en) or [Canvas Guide \(https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10574-4212710325\)](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10574-4212710325) to learn how to communicate with your instructor and peers using Announcements, Discussions, and the Inbox.

Assignments

Course Discussions

There are a total of **five** required Discussion posts totaling 40% of the course grade: the first is a **video post** in which students will introduce themselves to the other course participants (see the [assignment](#) itself for more details); the remaining four are **written responses** to

assignment prompts that will be graded according to a rubric. Keep in mind that your discussion postings will likely be seen by other members of the course. Care should be taken when determining what to post.

For the written Discussion assignments, students must write thoughtful and well-reasoned posts of at least 350 words each, responding to the assignment prompts and supported with well-chosen and relevant embedded images and other materials. Each post will require reflection on and analysis of the films covered in each weekly unit. Be specific and engaging! Click [here](#) for a more detailed guide to the written Discussion posts with tips for success.

Shoah Essay

This assignment, due at the end of week 2, will involve following detailed instructions, leading to a written reflection on a *portion* of the 9 ½ hour film and the published text of the film. Details are provided in the [assignment submission page](#).

Analytical Essay

Each student in the course will select one of the six themes of the course as noted in the course calendar and will then choose one film reflecting that theme **not already included** in the course syllabus; following **instructor approval**, each student will write a 1000 word essay on that film due in week 5 of the course. See the [assignment submission pages](#) for more details.

Reflective Essay

For week 6, the final week of the course, each student will submit a reflective essay, responding to the final two films, both from Poland and paired under the theme of “coming to terms with the past,” using the films as springboards to discuss the contemporary relevance of the Holocaust and the particular contributions the issues raised by these two films make to that issue of relevance. Detailed instructions will be provided in the assignment submission page.

Please note that the following information applies to this course as it requires the use of Turnitin to submit your essay assignments.

- Review the [How to submit a Turnitin Assignment](#) page on how to submit your assignments and how to review the [Paper Feedback](https://help.turnitin.com/feedback-studio/canvas/lti/student/student-category.htm#Paperfeedback) (<https://help.turnitin.com/feedback-studio/canvas/lti/student/student-category.htm#Paperfeedback>) comments from your professor.

All essay assignments will be graded based on the [Essay Rubric](http://cpbucket.fiu.edu/1165-fil3838vaa1165-56600%2Ffil3838_stier_essay-rubric.pdf) (http://cpbucket.fiu.edu/1165-fil3838vaa1165-56600%2Ffil3838_stier_essay-rubric.pdf).

Late Policy

As this is a compressed time summer course, it is imperative that students submit assignments on time. As a courtesy to potential late registrants, the Week 1 assignments will remain open until **Tuesday, May 19**, just after the add/drop deadline.

All remaining assignments, *with the exception* of the Film Selection for the Analytical Essay (which is due on *Tuesday, May 26*), are due by **11:59pm on Friday nights**. However, as a courtesy, these remaining assignments will stay open for 24 hours, one day past the due date, until Saturday nights, for late submissions with no late penalty. *This grace period will not be extended.*

Students who are unable to submit assignments by the conclusion of the grace period, for any reason, must contact the instructor *prior to the deadline*; late assignments will be accepted on a case-by-case basis, with a penalty, at the discretion of the instructor.

Grading

Course Grades Distribution Table

Course Requirements	Number of Items	Weight
"Introduce Yourself" Discussion	1	5%
"Nazi Propaganda" Discussion	1	5%
"And the Winner Is..." Discussion	1	10%
"The Limits of Representation" Discussion	1	10%
"The Turn Towards Revenge" Discussion	1	10%
Shoah Essay	1	15%
Film Selection for Analytical Essay	1	5%
Analytical Essay	1	20%
Reflective Essay	1	20%
Total	9	100%

Letter Grade Distribution Table





Letter	Range (%)	Letter	Range (%)	Letter	Range (%)
A	93 and above	B	83 - 87	C	70 - 76
A-	90 - 92	B-	80 - 82	D	60 - 69
B+	88 - 89	C+	77 - 79	F	Below 60






Course Calendar



Access your [Course Calendar](#) for course topics and assignments.

Course Summary:

Date	Details
Fri May 15, 2020	 Introduce Yourself (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/69173/assignments/786814) due by 11:59pm
	 FIL3838 Discussion Posts: Guidelines and Tips for Success to do: 11:59pm
Tue May 19, 2020	 "Nazi Propaganda" Discussion (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/69173/assignments/786813) due by 11:59pm
Fri May 22, 2020	 Shoah Essay (https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/69173/assignments/786820) due by 11:59pm

Date	Details	due by 11:59pm
Tue May 26, 2020	 Film Selection for Analytical Essay https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/69173/assignments/786817	due by 11:59pm
Fri May 29, 2020	 "And the Winner Is..." Discussion https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/69173/assignments/786810	due by 11:59pm
Tue Jun 2, 2020	 REVISED Film Selection for Analytical Essay (if required by instructor) https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/69173/assignments/786819	due by 11:59pm
Fri Jun 5, 2020	 "The Limits of Representation" Discussion https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/69173/assignments/786811	due by 11:59pm
Fri Jun 12, 2020	 "The Turn Towards Revenge" Discussion https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/69173/assignments/786812	due by 11:59pm
	 Analytical Essay https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/69173/assignments/786816	due by 11:59pm
Fri Jun 19, 2020	 Extra Credit Discussion https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/69173/assignments/786809	due by 11:59pm
	 Reflective Essay https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/69173/assignments/786818	due by 11:59pm