

## **FRESHMAN SEMINAR: EXILE AND RESISTANCE - THEN AND NOW, Fall 2019**

Course no.: FSEM100  
Section no: 34617R  
Units: 2  
Wednesdays, 2-3:50PM  
Room: VKC257

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Office: DML230  
Office Hours: By appointment.

### **Course Description:**

USC Libraries is home to world-renowned archives of German-speaking exiles who fled Hitler and the Nazis. Many of these courageous women and men eventually found refuge in Los Angeles. This course will explore the ways in which these artists and intellectuals fought against National Socialism through their writing, music, and other forms of expression. We will follow their paths into exile, learn about the challenges they faced, sacrifices they made to defeat Nazism, and how they escaped from Europe. Their legacy remains strong with a lasting impact on Los Angeles.

Throughout the course we will also discuss contemporary systems of oppression, censorship, racism, anti-Semitism, and persecution. We will examine how intellectuals, artists, and the general public today are creating ways of resistance through their work, art, or actions in response to these challenging times. At the core of this course will be student investigation of primary sources and historical materials in USC's Special Collections. Other activities will include guest lectures, documentaries, and field trips.

This is a ten-week course.

### **Course Requirements/Class Format:**

This course will allow us to work very collaboratively in a welcoming atmosphere. Much of the course consists of lectures, discussions and hands-on activities in the archives. Although most of our work will be completed during class time, some short readings and some light homework for the final project is required.

For the final project, students will select one topic from the class, for example a particular exile, or a broader topic that falls into the context of "exile" or "resistance". Students can then choose to create a short multimedia exhibit or display of archival materials as a final project. During our last meeting on October 30, we will present and discuss the final projects.

### **Grades and Expectations:**

This is a credit/no-credit course. Students who fulfill the assignments and participate in class discussions will receive credit.

**Week 1****August 28***German-speaking Exiles in LA*

Introductions &amp; syllabus discussion

Lecture: Lion Feuchtwanger

**Week 2****September 4***German-speaking Exiles in LA**Meet in classroom and walk to Special Collections together*

Visit to the Feuchtwanger Memorial Library &amp; Special Collections.

Lecture &amp; activity: Introduction to Special Collections

**Week 3****September 11***German-speaking Exiles in LA*Movie: *Shadows in Paradise* (by Peter Rosen), 60 min.

Lecture: European Film Fund

**Week 4****September 18***German-speaking Exiles in LA**Meet in classroom and walk to Special Collections together*

Lecture: Bertolt Brecht and Salka Viertel

Activity: Felix Guggenheim &amp; Irmgard Lenel Papers

**Week 5****September 25***Journalism & activism in Egypt*

Guest lecture: Hadeer El Mahdawy (Egyptian journalist &amp; Human Rights activist, Feuchtwanger Fellow 2019)

Activity: Create Research accounts &amp; request materials from Special Collections

Project discussion for October 16

**Week 6****October 2***Women's Suffrage & Women's Marches**Meet in classroom and walk to Special Collections together*Film: *One Woman, One Vote* (106 min)

Activity: Explore &amp; investigate Women's March Collection &amp; Amy C. Ransome collection on Women's Suffrage

**Week 7****October 9***Resistance to the Holocaust and other Genocides*

Guest lecture: Crispin Brooks (Curator of the Shoah Visual History Archive)

Introduction to USC Shoah Foundation's Shoah Visual History Archive - Resistance testimonies

**Week 8****October 16**

Independent Research in Special Collections

**Week 9****October 23***Youth and student protest and activism*

Lecture: Protest &amp; resistance today: Greta Thunberg &amp; Fridays for Future

**Week 10****October 30**

Conclusion

Discussion of projects

**Equity and Diversity:**

Discrimination, sexual assault, and harassment are not tolerated by the university. You are encouraged to report any incidents to the *Office of Equity and Diversity* (<https://equity.usc.edu/who-we-are/>). This is important for the safety of the whole USC community. Another member of the university community—such as a friend, classmate, advisor, or faculty member—can help initiate the report, or can initiate the report on behalf of another person. The USC Title X Office (<https://sarc.usc.edu/>) describes reporting options and other resources.

**The Office of Disability Services and Programs:**

<https://dsp.usc.edu/> provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange the relevant accommodations. Please be sure that the certification is delivered to me as early in the semester as possible. DSP is located in STU 301 and is open 8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The phone number for DSP is (213) 740-0776.

**Emergency Information:**

If an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible, *USC Emergency Information* (<http://emergency.usc.edu/>) will provide safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued by means of Blackboard, teleconferencing, and other technology.

**Academic Conduct:**

Plagiarism – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in SCampus in Part B, Section 11, “Behavior Violating University Standards”<https://policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b/>. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in SCampus and university policies on scientific misconduct, <http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct>.

**Cell Phone and Computer Use During Class:**

The use of cell phones during class is **strictly prohibited**. When class begins your cell phone should be stored away unless you are invited to use it for taking photos or finding information on the internet by the instructor. Repeat violators of this rule will be asked to leave class for the duration of the session during which they are in violation of this rule. As for computer usage, of course you may use yours to take notes during class or to search for information when you are asked to do so by the instructor. But the use of computers to send or receive personal messages or to surf the Internet for non-class related content is forbidden.