Holocaust Literature

ENGL 126, FORL 126, HUM 126, JWSS 126

This course examines the Jewish literary response to slavery, genocide, and attempted annihilation of world Jewry before, during, and after the Shoah of World War II, with an emphasis on antisemitism as a clear and present danger to democracies everywhere.

This course satisfies GE Area V and has an on-campus Community Service Learning component: students will design slide presentations on the Holocaust and antisemitism for use in San Jose schools and tech companies.

Questions we'll explore:

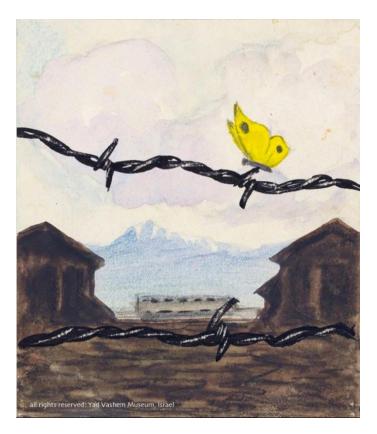
How do imagination and memory assign meaning to the Nazi assault on humanity?

How are ancient prejudices and silence complicit in the barbarism enacted throughout Europe?

What is the Jewish civilization that the Nazis and others tried to destroy?

Are forgiveness and repair possible?

What has been the literary, ethical, and cultural impact of the Holocaust on modern Jewry and American society?



Spring 2024 Mon. and Wed. 1:30 - 2:45 PM Linda Landau, PhD

SJSU

College of Humanities & the Arts

Texts include:

Night by Elie Wiesel

Maus by Art Spiegelman

Survival in Auschwitz by Primo Levi

The Sunflower by Simon Wiesenthal

The Oppermanns by Lion Feuchtwanger

Man's Search for Meaning by Viktor Frankel

Violins of Hope, restoration project and opera

Short stories by Etgar Keret and Aharon Appelfeld