

## Gender Studies 382

MWF 10-10:50 AM

This course will introduce literature and film that represent responses to the experiences of men and women who were victims, survivors, perpetrators, and bystanders of the Holocaust.

Readings, films, and discussion will be historically contextualized to chart the Holocaust as it originated in racial and gender theories that underwrote the mythic construction of a master race, prescriptions for realizing its ideals of womanhood and manhood, and the destruction of those deemed subhuman.

Discussion and written responses will explore the complications of Nazi scientific racism, its cult and crisis of masculinity, and paradoxical idealization of women and misogyny. We will also study how literature and films depict these complications in the policies and practices of Nazi Germany's Third Reich and in the suffering and mass murder of Jews, Gypsies, homosexuals, and others. Finally, we will examine the policies and practices of Nazism as challenges to all other categories and theories of race and gender even today.

# Gender, Race, and the Holocaust

Phyllis Lassner

Course requirements include short reflective papers, a take-home midterm essay exam, and a 7-8 page final paper project with contextual research.

