

Hannah Arendt: Literature, Philosophy, Politics

GRMN 612-401, COML612, ENGL612, JWST612, PHIL581

Weissberg

Fall 2024

Tuesdays, 1:45-3:45pm

Kislak Center, Van Pelt Library 627

The seminar will focus on Arendt's major work, *The Origins of Totalitarianism* (and its three parts, Anti-Semitism, Imperialism, Totalitarianism).

- August 27** Arendt, "The Jew as Pariah: The Hidden Tradition"
(essay placed on canvas)
- September 3** Arendt, "Jewish Politics," "The Crisis of Zionism,"
"Zionism Reconsidered"
(essays placed on canvas)
- September 10** Arendt, *The Origins of Totalitarianism*
Book One: Antisemitism
Chapter One: Antisemitism as an Outrage to Common Sense
- September 17** Arendt, *The Origins of Totalitarianism*
Book One: Antisemitism
Chapter Two: The Jews, the Nation-State, and the Birth of
Antisemitism
- September 24** Arendt, *The Origins of Totalitarianism*
Book One: Antisemitism
Chapter Three: The Jews and Society
- October 1** Arendt, *The Origins of Totalitarianism*
Book One: Antisemitism
Chapter Four: The Dreyfus Affair
- October 8** Arendt, *The Origins of Totalitarianism*
Book Two: Imperialism
Chapter Five: The Political Emancipation of the Bourgeoisie
- October 15** Arendt, *The Origins of Totalitarianism* (**session on zoom**)
Book Two: Imperialism
Chapter Six: Race-Thinking Before Racism
- October 22** **no class**

- October 29** Arendt, *The Origins of Totalitarianism*
Book Two: Imperialism
Chapter Seven: Race and Bureaucracy
- November 5** Arendt, *The Origins of Totalitarianism*
Book Two: Imperialism
Chapter Nine: The Decline of the Nation-State and the End of the Rights of Men
- November 12** Arendt, *The Origins of Totalitarianism*
Book Three: Totalitarianism
Chapter Ten: A Classless Society
- November 19** Arendt, *The Origins of Totalitarianism*
Book Three: Totalitarianism
Chapter Eleven: The Totalitarian Movement
- November 26** **No class:** Th F classes moved to T and W.
- December 3** Arendt, *The Origins of Totalitarianism*
Book Three: Totalitarianism
Chapter Twelve: Totalitarianism in Power
Chapter Thirteen: Ideology and Terror
Final Discussion

Reading material: Hannah Arendt, *The Origins of Totalitarianism*. Additional material for individual sessions will be placed on canvas.

Course requirement: one research paper (ca. 20 pages), due May 1.

Office Hours: W, 3:30-4:30 pm, Williams Hall 747 and by appt. (lweissbe@sas.upenn.edu)