This course will examine the intellectual origins, theoretical characterizations and historical and political evolution of fascist political movements in Europe. The course is comparative in method and scope concentrating on the common characteristics of all fascist regimes and neo-fascist political movements. Historically, the course will focus on the paradigmatic cases of the interwar period—Mussolini’s Italy and Hitler’s Germany—and, especially, on the more unorthodox case of Francoist Spain, the only Fascist regime that survived WWII and the Cold War era. Finally, we will survey the emergence of right wing populist parties and movements in the USA and contemporary Europe seeking to identify how they resemble and differ from the interwar fascist cases.

The course is divided into three parts. Part I studies the philosophical roots of fascist ideologies in the European reactionary tradition while contextualizing its emergence as a political ideology, socio-political movement and regime type under the specific historical conditions existing in interwar Europe. Part II studies the most salient policies and historical evolution of the fascist political regimes that came into being during the XXth century in Italy, Germany and, Spain. In part III, we will reflect on the rebirth of the extreme right in USA and Europe, the continuing aesthetic attraction exerted by fascism in European politics and society and the lasting influence of fascism on certain democratic state policies such as interest representation (corporatism).

- Understanding of the philosophical roots of fascist ideology in European reactionary political philosophy.
- Learn about the specific historical circumstances under which Fascist regimes emerged in Europe during the interwar period.
- Study the most important, or paradigmatic, examples of historical fascism: Italy and Germany.
- Understand the historical and political evolution of the Franco regime and
Comparative Fascism: Italy, Germany, Spain

how it resembles and differs from the two interwar paradigmatic examples of Italy and Germany.

- Analyze contemporary neo-fascist movements in Europe and compare them to the paradigmatic interwar period examples.

Assessment will be based on the following components:

- **Analytical paper 1** 25%
  (Philosophical origins of fascism as an ideology)

- **Analytical paper 2** 25%
  (Compare single policy area of the 3 paradigmatic fascist regimes)

- **Analytical paper 3** 25%
  (Analysis of a contemporary neo-fascist party or movement)

- **Oral presentation** 15%
  (Defense of theses in papers 1, 2, 3)

- **Participation** 10%

**Statement on Provisions to students with disabilities**

Academic accommodations are available for students with documented disabilities. Please contact the Moses Center for Students with Disabilities at 212-998-4980 or see their website (http://www.nyu.edu/life/safety-health-andwellness/students-with-disabilities.html) for further information.

Students with disabilities who believe that they may need accommodations in a class are encouraged to contact the Moses Center for Students with Disabilities at (212) 998-4980 as soon as possible to better ensure that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion. For more information, see Study Away and Disability.
Every professor at NYU Madrid outlines the participation requirements governing her/his course. Class participation includes attendance and compliance with classroom etiquette (i.e. showing up on time, being attentive, no eating during class, no emailing during class, no cell phone use, and no disruptive behavior). A high score for class participation is awarded to those students who contribute to class discussion in a significant way.

PLEASE NOTE: If you are unable to attend class, you are required to email your professors directly. Academic work can only be made up if you have an official medical excuse (i.e. a doctor’s note).

All late work will be penalized with 2 points per delayed day of submission.

At NYU, a commitment to excellence, fairness, honesty, and respect within and outside the classroom is essential to maintaining the integrity of our community.

**Plagiarism Policy**

Plagiarism: presenting others’ work without adequate acknowledgement of its source, as though it were one’s own. Plagiarism is a form of fraud. We all stand on the shoulders of others, and we must give credit to the creators of the works that we incorporate into products that we call our own. Some examples of plagiarism:

- a sequence of words incorporated without quotation marks
- an unacknowledged passage paraphrased from another’s work
- the use of ideas, sound recordings, computer data or images created by others as though it were one’s own
- submitting evaluations of group members’ work for an assigned group project which misrepresented the work that was performed by another group member
- altering or forging academic documents, including but not limited to admissions materials, academic records, grade reports, add/drop forms, course registration forms, etc.
- using translation software.

For further information, students are encouraged to check www.nyu.edu/about/policies-guidelines-compliance/policies-and-guidelines/academic-integrity-for-students-at-nyu.html

Course reader available as pdf files in NYU classes


Comparative Fascism: Italy, Germany, Spain


D’Annunzio, Gabrielle; D’Ambris, Alceste. *The Charter of Carnaro or Fiume Constitution.* (Milano: Comite Nazionale di Azione Sindicale Dannunziana, 1920)


Franco, Francisco (Writer) & Saenz de Heredia, Jose Luis. *Raza.* (Spain: Cancilleria del Consejo de la Hispanidad, 1942).


Larssen, Steig; Hagtvet, Bernt; Myklebust, Jan. *Who were the Fascists? Social Roots of European Fascism.* (Oslo: Universitatsforlaget, 1980).


Comparative Fascism: Italy, Germany, Spain

Riefenstahl, Leni (Producer and Director). *The Triumph of the Will*. (Germany: Reichparteitag Film, 1935).


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**Session 1**

May 30

Introduction of students and professor. Syllabus review and course objectives.

**Session 2**

May 31

Part I: Intellectual history of Fascism

**European reactionary political philosophy**

Readings:


**Session 3**

June 1

**European reactionary political philosophy**

Readings:


Comparative Fascism: Italy, Germany, Spain

Session 4
June 2 (FRIDAY)
Field Trip to Palacio del Pardo Official Residence of Francisco Franco or Teatro Clara Eugenia (inspired by the Nazi architect Albert Speer).

TBA

Session 5
June 5
European reactionary political philosophy
Readings:


Session 6
June 6
Italian “elite” thinkers as theoretical precursors of proto-fascism
Readings:


Session 7
June 7
The ideological birth of proto-fascism and fascism in Italy
Readings:

D’Annunzio, Gabrielle ; D’Ambris, Alceste. The Charter of Carnaro or Fiume Constitution. (Milano : Comite Nazionale di Azione Sindicale Dannunziana, 1920


Session 8
June 8
The ideological birth of proto-fascism and fascism in Italy and Germany
Readings:


Full text in:
http://www.worldfuturefund.org/wffmaster/Reading/Germany/mussolini.htm
Comparative Fascism: Italy, Germany, Spain

Evola, Julius. On race.

Summary text in:


Hitler, Adolf. 1927 Party rally speech.

Full text in:

http://research.calvin.edu/german-propaganda-archive/rpt27c.htm

Session 9

June 12

Part II: Theoretical characterizations of fascism and the three paradigmatic cases (Italy, Germany and Spain)

Defining fascism theoretically: Social roots

Readings:


***Analytical paper 1 due***

Session 10

June 13

Defining fascism theoretically and empirically: Alternative political and social explanations

Readings:


Session 11

June 14

Defining fascism theoretically and empirically: Alternative political and social explanations

Readings:

Larssen, Steig; Hagtvet, Bernt; Myklebust, Jan. Who were the Fascists? Social
Comparative Fascism: Italy, Germany, Spain

*Roots of European Fascism.* (Oslo: Universitatsforlaget, 1980). pp. 752-783

**Session 12**

June 15

The historical experience of fascism: Italy

Readings:


**Session 13**

June 19

The historical experience of fascism: Italy

Readings:

Larssen, Steig; Hagtvet, Bernt; Myklebust, Jan. *Who were the Fascists? Social Roots of European Fascism.* (Oslo: Universitatsforlaget, 1980). pp. 312-350

**Session 14**

June 20

The historical experience of fascism: Germany

Discussion on German Fascism through film

Readings:

DVD scenes from: Riefenstahl, Leni (Producer and Director). *The Triumph of the Will.* (Germany: Reichparteitag Film, 1935).

Full movie in: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GHs2coAzLJ8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GHs2coAzLJ8)


Full movie in: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XtMocFKzwxY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XtMocFKzwxY)

**Session 15**

June 21

The historical experience of fascism: Germany

Readings:


Larssen, Steig; Hagtvet, Bernt; Myklebust, Jan. *Who were the Fascists? Social Roots of European Fascism.* (Oslo: Universitatsforlaget, 1980). pp. 258-312
The historical experience of fascism: Germany

Readings:


The historical experience of fascism: Spain

Readings:


The historical experience of fascism: Spain

Readings:

Lannon, Frances. The Spanish Civil War. (UK: Osprey, 2002). pp. 68-80; 84-93

The historical experience of fascism: Spain

Readings:

DVD scenes from: Franco, Francisco (Writer) & Saenz de Heredia, Jose Luis. Raza. (Spain: Cancilleria del Consejo de la Hispanidad, 1942).

***Analytical Paper 2 Due***

Part III: Right wing populism in the West

Contemporary right wing populisms: Intellectual roots

Comparative Fascism: Italy, Germany, Spain


Session 21
July 3

**Contemporary right wing populisms: Social and political roots**


Session 22
July 4

**Contemporary right wing populisms: Case studies and what have we learned about past and present?**


Best, I. “Should we even go there? Historians on comparing Fascism to Trumpism”. (The Guardian: December 1st, 2016).

Session 23
July 5

**ORAL PRESENTATIONS**

Session 24
July 6

**NO FINAL EXAM**

***Analytical Paper 3 due***

The class will include a required field trip visit to Palacio del Pardo.

Visit the Moncloa neighborhood, the Valle de los Caidos (and El Escorial) and the Teatro Clara Eugenia (http://www.orcam.org/fichasimple.cfm?id=597) inspired by Albert Speer.