

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School/Department:	Social Sciences and Humanities
Programme:	International History Political Science International Relations
FHEQ Level:	5
Course Title:	The Rise of the Right: A History of Fascisms
Course Code:	HST 5105
Total Hours:	120
Timetabled Hours:	45
Guided Learning Hours:	0
Independent Learning Hours:	75
Credits:	12 UK CATS credits 6 ECTS credits 3 US credits

Course Description:

This course is intended to be a comparative study of various forms of fascisms from the end of the nineteenth century through to the modern period. It explores the fundamental interpretative questions concerning the nature of fascism, namely: whether there is such a thing as 'generic' fascism; the characteristics of fascist regimes; and how useful the term fascism is for historical analysis. This is followed by a study of the historical origins of fascism as well as an examination of late nineteenth/early twentieth century proto-fascist movements. The focus then moves to the individual fascist movements themselves, including Italy (where the fascist prototype evolved), Germany (where it was taken to its extreme), and Spain (where a variant persisted until 1975). Where appropriate other fascist movements and regimes will also be discussed, both western and non-western. The course concludes with a discussion about the 'return' of fascism, examining Neo-Nazi violence, immigration, 'ethnic cleansing' and the return of fascism under 'other names'. The course is intended to be interactive with guest speakers, class visits, films, and regular seminar sessions.

Prerequisites:

GEP 4180 Research and Writing 2

Aims and Objectives:

- To familiarize students with debates and problems in international history concerning the development of Fascism
- To examine the international impact of the far right on politics, economics, society and culture over the course of the last two centuries.
- To provide a background for eventual careers in fields which require articulate, clear-thinking individuals with a grasp of international history
- To foster the acquisition, development, and consolidation of a variety of historical and transferable skills through the study of particular themes in international history
- To promote critical engagement with a wide range of primary and secondary historical sources, and the development of both a succinct writing style and the ability to present complex arguments orally

Programme Outcomes:

International History: A5(i); A5(ii); B5(i); B5(iii); C5(i); C5(ii); C5(iii); D5(ii); D5(iii)

Political Science: A5i, B5i, C5i, C5ii, C5iii, D5ii, D5iii

International Relations: A5i, B5i, C5i, C5ii, C5iii, D5ii, D5iii

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is found in the Programme Specification. This is maintained by Registry and located at: <https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/>

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this course, the students will have achieved the following learning outcomes.

- Demonstrates a detailed understanding of historical processes as they pertain to the rise of fascism and various forms of fascist movements and regimes, and how these are constructed in international history.
- Demonstrates the accumulation of a detailed body of comparative historical knowledge regarding fascist movements and regimes and the processes underpinning their rise and fall.
- Demonstrates a historiographical engagement with the concept of fascism and the history of fascism, and a detailed understanding of problems in constructing a history of fascism, along with a critical understanding of various relevant documents (primary and secondary) and other media
- Demonstrates a detailed historical understanding of how current political and cultural practices ('ethnic cleansing', immigration debates, genocide, and Neo- Nazi violence) can be related to the history of fascism, enhancing awareness of continuity and change in historical processes
- Present research orally in a convincing and accessible manner.
- Completes assigned work with a degree of clarity, technical competence and critical thinking, and a degree of independence and capacity for self-evaluation, appropriate for a 5000-level course

Indicative Content:

- The significance of the extreme right
- Defining fascism(s)
- The origins of fascism
- Italy, Germany & Spain
- Non-European variants
- The return of the right

Assessment:

This course conforms to the University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board and located at: <https://www.richmond.ac.uk/university-policies/>

Teaching Methodology:

The course will be taught through a combination of lectures and seminar classes. Lectures are primarily designed to give an overview of the issues and problems on a particular topic, and thereby provide guidance for seminar discussion. Seminars will be used for debates and group/sub-group discussion and are intended to provide an interactive and participatory learning environment. Students are expected to do the set readings for each week, and to be prepared to contribute to class discussion and discussion sub-groups. The general approach to classes is informal, and discussion is viewed as an essential part of learning. Where possible the course will make use of guest lectures and class visits. Students are expected to use the class visits as an opportunity to apply concepts and ideas developed in lectures, as well as to collect further information and impressions to provide a basis for subsequent class discussion.

Indicative Texts:

Griffin, Roger, *Fascism. An Introduction to Comparative Fascist Studies*. Cambridge. 2018.
Kallis, Aristole, (ed.), *The Fascism Reader*, London, 2003.
Passmore, K, *Fascism: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford, 2002

Please Note: The core and the reference texts will be reviewed at the time of designing the semester syllabus

Change Log for this CSD:

Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or LTPC)	Change Actioned by Academic Registry
Various updates as part of the UG programme review	AB Jan 2022	
Revision – annual update	May 2023	
Total Hours Updated	April 2024	