The course examines a fragment of what is an ever expanding corpus of films exploring the destruction of European Jewry, an event we now commonly refer to as the Shoah. Given the vastness of the filmic literature, the course limits itself to feature or fiction films and covers the period from the rise of European fascism through the Holocaust, the postwar period and the continuing profusion of films on this subject. The course is intended to:

1. use films to explore critical issues related to Hitler’s war against the Jews
2. familiarize students with the most important fictional films on the Holocaust
3. examine the ways in which films tell stories and the rhetorical devices they use to slant understanding, interpret and sometimes misinterpret events
4. consider what films reveal about the ever-changing memory culture of countries in which the Shoah took place or were affected by the migration of refugees
5. review and discuss appropriate critical readings of these films
6. consider the limits of representation and whether or not the Shoah can be intellectually, put to rest
7. familiarize students with some of the critical literature connected to the study of the Holocaust

Requirements:
Attendance and participation (10%). Absence of two classes without justification will result in a lower grade.
Weekly submission of one page write up of readings and films marked by asterisk (20%)
Selection and in class presentation of films (20%)
Two ten-page papers (25% each)
Topics for these should be discussed with me in advance. The essays do need to indicate that you have been reading the assigned critical literature and that you have made use of additional material available on line and in the library. There are compilations of film reviews by the New York Times and other publications known for serious film reviews and should be consulted. Reading what others have to say is an excellent way to gain insight into particular films. Remember to always cite your sources and unless paraphrasing to indicate direct quotes through the use of quotation marks.
Nota Bene:
Downloading papers produced on the web or submitting work done by others is a serious infraction of proper student conduct. Please read and be familiar with the University of Florida’s definition of, and policy, regarding plagiarism as described in the Code of Student Conduct. The first of many pages that outline students’ responsibilities and obligations can be found at the following UF website. Please read it carefully:
http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/students.html.
Intentional plagiarism of any source will result in a failing grade for the course. If you do not understand plagiarism or what constitutes it, please ask.

If you have a disability that requires special arrangements (e.g., note- and/or test-taking), please register with UF’s Office of Students with Disabilities and contact the instructor within the first two weeks of class. Every effort will be made to accommodate those with registered disabilities.

FILMS

Schlemiels as Heroes 01/05-12
*The Great Dictator (Avisar) (Doneson)  
*To Be Or Not To Be  
Me and the Colonel  
Life Is Beautiful

Martyrs: The Heroic Monumental 01/17-26
*Border Street (Haltof)  
*The Last Stop (Haltof)

Victims and Bystanders 01/31-02/09
*Shop on Main Street (Avisar)  
*Mr. Klein (Arendt, Origins)  
Pasazerka

Stained Memory 02/14-03/02
*The Nasty Girl (Sereny) (Arendt)  
Au revoir les enfants  
Lacombe, Lucien (Friedlander, Reflections of Nazism) (Arendt)  
The Last Metro  
The Garden of the Finzi-Continis (1970)  
Aftermath  
*The Murderers Among Us

SPRING BREAK 03/04-03/12

Complicity 03/14-23
*Seven Beauties (Levi) (Arendt, Origins)  
*Sophie’s Choice
Survivors: Ruined Memory 03/28-30
*The Pawnbroker (Langer, Leff)
The Juggler
Exodus
The Search

Survivors: Nihilism 04/04-06
*Enemies a Love Story (Lifton)
Ida
Gainsbourg: A Heroic Life
Sunshine

Passover 04/10-18

The Post Holocaust? 04/18
*Dr. Strangelove
The Producers (Friedlander, Memory, History)
Inglorious Basterds

READINGS:

-Pp48-55 (Lacombe, Lucien)
-pp126-134 (The Nasty Girl)
-pp148-150, pp230-233 (Schindler’s List)

Hannah Arendt, The Origins of Totalitarianism,
-pp419-437 (Mr. Klein)
-437-459 (Seven Beauties)

Ilan Avisar, Screening the Holocaust: Cinema’s Images of the Unimaginable.
-Pp134-148. (The Great Dictator)
-pp79-86 (Shop on Main Street)

Lawrence Baron, Projecting the Holocaust into the Present: The Changing focus of Contemporary Holocaust Cinema. Rowman & Littlefield,
-Pp84-88, (Europa, Europa)
-Pp225-230, (The Nasty Girl)


Judith Doneson, *The Holocaust in American Film*, pp15-56


Marek Haltof, *Polish Film and the Holocaust: Politics and Memory*. Pp 28-52 (*The Last Stage*)
Pp 53-73 (*Border Street*)


Gitta Sereny, *Into that Darkness*. Vintage, Pp221-228. (*The Nasty Girl*)