The courses that I have taken for the HGS minor have challenged me to critically examine the assumptions that precipitated the most despicable atrocities of the twentieth century; to explore genocide in the context of the broader human rights tradition; and to understand the legacy of human rights abuses and their implications for future generations. They have motivated me to become a more active citizen of the global community – to understand the lessons of the past in order to create a more peaceful and just future.

- Corey Dwyer
Senior Political Science Major & Holocaust and Genocide Studies Minor
The minor in Holocaust and Genocide Studies provides a broad interdisciplinary education on the Holocaust and other genocides of the 20th and 21st centuries. This curriculum helps students develop a grasp of the history of the Holocaust, as well as its precipitating factors and legacy. In addition, students will gain an understanding of other genocides and be able to compare them. Students will be challenged to think critically and to examine the assumptions concerning issues of the Holocaust, genocide and peace. They will learn how extreme prejudice leads to state killing policies and how such ideas become “naturalized” and rationalized in social programs. They will also have the opportunity to explore ways to resolve conflict peacefully and study ethical decision making.

With a deeper understanding of prejudice, discrimination, racism, and anti-Semitism, students should be able to better analyze contemporary local, national, and global political situations and movements and to think critically about ethical responsibility.

I would highly recommend this minor for its strong interdisciplinary approach. The internship I was able to arrange with the help of my professors, during which I assisted with state-wide educational programs on the Holocaust and Genocide, brought me into contact with numerous scholars in the field who share my passion for human rights.

-Jamie Farber
Senior Special Education & History Double Major, Holocaust & Genocide Studies Minor

Ellen Friedman, Coordinator of Holocaust and Genocide Minor: friedman@tcnj.edu, Bliss 234

FACULTY

Matthew Bender History
Jo Carney English
Lois Fichner-Rathus Art History
Ellen Friedman English
Janet Gray Women’s and Gender Studies
Blythe Hinitz Elementary & Early Childhood Education
Mary Lynn Hopp Women’s and Gender Studies
Richard Kamber Philosophy, Religion, & Classical Studies
John Landreau Women’s and Gender Studies
Cynthia Paces History
David Alan Rech Philosophy, Religion, & Classical Studies
Jess Row English
Jon Stauff History & Center for Global Engagement
David Stillman World Languages
Morton Winston Philosophy, Religion, & Classical Studies

REQUIREMENTS

FIVE COURSES:
Two from REQUIRED and three from OPTIONS

REQUIRED:
The required courses will introduce students to Holocaust and Comparative Genocide Studies
HGS 200 Genocide and Human Rights

Choose one from list below:
HIS 325 Modern Germany
HON 344 Art and Literature of the Holocaust
LIT 380 Representations of the Holocaust
REL 320 Holocaust: Historical and Religious Perspectives

OPTIONS:
HGS 210/WGS 222 Nonviolence and Peace Studies
HIS 252 Colonial and Modern Africa
HIS 325 Modern Germany *
HIS 456 Conflict and Reconciliation in African History
HON 344 Art and Literature of the Holocaust *
LIT 380 Representations of the Holocaust *
REL 320 Holocaust: Historical and Religious Perspectives *
WGS 235 Gender and Violence
HGS 370 Special Topics
HGS 391 Independent Study
HGS 399 Internship

The fifth course may also be earned by internship or an independent study, approved by the Holocaust and Genocide Studies coordinator and a faculty sponsor. Relevant courses in the student’s major may be counted for the fifth course, with approval of the Holocaust and Genocide Studies coordinator.

* This course may not be taken as an Option if already taken as a Requirement