This course the flight of writers, artists, and intellectuals from Europe to the United States in the wake of Adolph Hitler’s rise to power. Through an exploration of accounts offered by the exiles and the works they produced, we will seek both to understand the experiences of this group of individuals and assess the influence of this event on American culture.

After an initial examination of how individuals made the decision to go into exile and the various routes that they took, we will look more closely at the group of exiles living in Los Angeles — including the novelist Thomas Mann, the philosopher Theodor Adorno, the composers Erich Wolfgang Korngold, Arnold Schoenberg and Hans Eisler, the poet Bertolt Brecht, and the directors William Dieterle and Fritz Lang — and the works they produced. We will close with an examination of the factors that drove some of them back to Europe.

This is a research colloquium and it emphasizes participation and collaborative research. In addition to the individual projects that students will execute, we will be working collectively on creating a website presenting the episode we have been exploring to a broader public. The goal of the colloquium will be both to acquaint ourselves with one particular historical event and to think, more broadly, about how we might go about making our work available to a broader public.

**Course Requirements:**

Regular attendance at — and active participation in — class meetings is expected of all members of the colloquium. Beyond this basic requirement, students will: 1) post regularly to the course’s WordPress site 2) carry out bi-weekly assignments related to a public site on MediaKron (an online database/mapping platform), and 3) complete a final project, which will be circulated by noon on Monday, April 27 and discussed at the final meeting on April 30. In computing the final grade for the course, posts to the WordPress site will count for 30%, work on the MediaKron project will count for 30%, and the final project will count for 40%. Further information about these requirements will be available on the WordPress site.

**Academic Conduct, Incompletes, and Policy on Digital Devices**

For the policy regarding plagiarism and other academic conduct matters, please review the University Academic Conduct Code, which is available at: [http://www.bu.edu/academics/resources/academic-conduct-code/](http://www.bu.edu/academics/resources/academic-conduct-code/). Please note that these rule apply to all work (including contributions to the discussion forum) done in this course.

Incompletes will be given only in cases of serious illness, family emergencies, and other matters of sufficient gravity to render you incapable of finishing the course. CAS rules require that I make arrangements with you for the completion of coursework prior to the issuing of an Incomplete.

Students are welcome to use computers or portable digital devices for note-taking, but please mute any alarms or notification sounds and refrain from using these devices for tasks other than those connected with the course. Mobile phones should, of course, be silenced.

**Course Materials:**

You should acquire the following books:

- Theodor Adorno, *Minima Moralia* (Verso)
- Thomas Mann, *Doctor Faustus*, translated by John E. Woods (Vintage Press)

The other readings for the course either online via Mugar (and can be accessed through the hyperlinks in this document) or for download from the Google Drive folder that I have set up for this course. Please check to make sure that you are able to access this material at least one week prior to the scheduled meeting and notify immediately if you are having any difficulties.
Background information about the readings and links to them will be available on the Discussion Forum during the week before each meeting.

Readings are subject to change as the semester progresses. The weekly post on the discussion forum will provide the most accurate list of readings.

Schedule of Meetings and Weekly Readings

The most difficult readings in the course are Adorno’s Minima Moralia and Mann’s Doctor Faustus. We will hold class discussions of the former on April 2 and the latter on April 9 and 16. Given the complexity of the two books and the amount of other work that you will be doing — both for this and for other classes — in April, I will setup a schedule on the WordPress site for a “slow reading” and online discussion of these two books that will lay the groundwork for our April sessions.

Items marked with an asterisk are available in the course Google Drive folder. Items with active hyperlinks can be accessed via Mugar Library.

1/29  The Decision to Leave

Ehrhard Bahr, Weimar on the Pacific 301-308
Salka Viertel, The Kindness of Strangers 121-138.*
Alfred Döblin, “The Reichstag is Burning,” in Mark Anderson, ed. Hitler’s Exiles 23-7*
Erika and Klaus Mann, Escape to Life 15-57*
Alma Mahler-Werfel, And the Bridge is Love 214-9, 227-40.*
Ludwig Marcuse, “Resisting America,” Mark Anderson, ed. Hitler’s Exiles 173-176*
Thomas Mann, Diaries 1918-1939 127-8, 135-7, 152-3, 170-1, 294*
Thomas Mann, Letter to Eduard Korrodi of February 3, 1936, in The Letters of Thomas Mann 205-210.*
Max Horkheimer, Letter to the Prussian Minister for Science, Art, and People’s Education in Berlin, April 21, 1933, in Horkheimer, A Life in Letters, pp. 24-27.*

2/5  Exit Routes

Max Horkheimer, Letter to Friedrich Pollock, May 27,1934, in Horkheimer, A Life in Letters 29-32*
Max Horkheimer, letter to Theodor Adorno, October 25, 1934 in Horkheimer, A Life in Letters 52-53.*
Theodor Adorno, letter to his parents, May 12, 1939, in Adorno, *Letters to his Parents* 1-4.*
Thomas Mann, *Diaries 1918-1939* 337-45.*
Thomas Mann, “Speech to the Emergency Rescue Committee”*
Alma Mahler-Werfel, *And the Bridge is Love* 241-69.*
Lisa Fittko, *Escape Through the Pyrenees* (selection)*
Walter Benjamin, letters to Theodor Adorno (August 8, 1940) and to Henny Gurland (September 25, 1940) in Theodor Adorno and Walter Benjamin, *The Complete Correspondence 1928-1940* 339-342.*

2/12 Exile Life (Part I)

Erika and Klaus Mann, *Escape to Life* 282-307*
Ernst Bloch, “Disrupted Language, Disrupted Culture,” *Direction*, December 1939*
Salka Viertel, *The Kindness of Strangers* 138-147 248 (“After the fall of Paris…”-251).*
Gottfried Bermann-Fischer and Thomas Mann, “The ‘Enemy Alien’ Question” and “Telegram to President Roosevelt”, in Mark Anderson, ed. *Hitler’s Exiles* 249-252.*
European Film Fund Documents*

2/19 Exile Life (Part II)

Erhard Bahr, *Weimar on the Pacific* 79-104
Theodor Adorno, *Letters to his Parents* 68-74, 78-80, 82-88, 94-96, 156-158*
Poems 367, 380-1, 382.*

2/26 Exile Cinema I: William Dieterle

Films: The Life of Emile Zola (1937)
Blockade (1938)

Gerd Gemünden, German Exile Cinema 1933-1951 1-16, 48-73

3/5 Exile Composers: Korngold, Schoenberg, and Eisler

Compositions:

Korngold, Concerto for Violin in D Major (25 minutes)
Schoenberg, A Survivor from Warsaw (7 minutes)
Eisler, Hollywood Songbook (TBA)

Erhard Bahr, Weimar on the Pacific 265-288
Dorothy Lamb Crawford, A Windfall of Musicians, 162-197
Schoenberg on America,” in Walter Frisch, ed. Schoenberg and his World 288-309.*
Salka Viertel, The Kindness of Strangers, 206 (“Thalberg did not like …)-209.*
3/19 Émigré Cinema II: Fritz Lang

Films: *Hangmen Also Die*, *Ministry of Fear*

Gerd Gemünden, *German Exile Cinema* 102-125
Erhard Bahr, *Weimar on the Pacific* 129-147
Bertolt Brecht, *Journals* 250-263, 274-275*

3/26 Horkheimer, Adorno, and the “Culture Industry”

Max Horkheimer and Theodor Adorno, *Dialectic of Enlightenment* 120-167*
Erhard Bahr, *Weimar on the Pacific*, 30-78

4/2 Theodor Adorno, *Minima Moralia*

Theodor Adorno, *Minima Moralia*

4/9 Thomas Mann, *Doctor Faustus*

Thomas Mann, *Doctor Faustus*
Thomas Mann, Letter to Theodor Adorno, December 1945, in *The Letters of Thomas Mann* 361-2*
Erhard Bahr, *Weimar on the Pacific* 242-264

4/16 The “ Schoenberg-Mann Controversy”

Arnold Schoenberg, “A Text from the Third Millennium”*
Alma Mahler, *And the Bridge is Love* 300-301.*
Salka Viertel, *The Kindness of Strangers*304.*
4/23  Surveillance and Interrogation

Bertolt Brecht, Testimony before the House Un-American Activities Committee [mp3 audio file].*
Bertolt Brecht, *Journals* 372.*
Thomas Mann, Letter to Theodor Adorno, in *The Letters of Thomas Mann* 423-4.*
Salka Viertel, *The Kindness of Strangers* 300-4.*

4/30  Presentation and Discussion of Final Projects