

GET 4931/5934
HUM 4890/6588

Screening the Holocaust

Spring 2019

Time: TR 2-3:15

Location: CPR 254

Instructor: Prof. Stephan K. Schindler (skschindler@usf.edu)



This course will survey ways in which the history and story of the Holocaust is conveyed through film. Since the broadcasting of the NBC series "Holocaust" in 1978, feature films have replaced documentaries and historiographies in educating the public about the traumas of the unprecedented genocide. In this course we will analyze the properties of cinematic language, reconstruct the socio-historical and psychological formation of memory and imagination, and question our own reception of films. We will examine aesthetic and philosophical controversies surrounding these representations as well as analyze the narrative and editing strategies filmmakers use to relate collective history and individual trauma. Special attention will be given to the complex cinematographic perspectives on human agency in a world of bureaucratically administered killing. The films we screen and discuss include, among others, *Schindler's List*, *Jacob the Liar*, *Night and Fog*, *Angry Harvest*, *The Grey Zone*, *The Pianist*, *A Film Unfinished*, *The Counterfeiters*, *Europa Europa*, *The Reader*. All readings and discussions are in English and all foreign films will be shown with subtitles. For more information contact Dr. Schindler at skschindler@usf.edu.