Trials of the Holocaust Course: Syllabus
University of Wisconsin Law School
Professor Frank Tuerkheimer

Week One
History of anti-Semitism
World War II: background and summary

Week Two
Nuremberg trials -- background, summary of process

Week Three
Hermann Goering: the evidence (includes Bergen Belsen film)

Week Four
Hans Frank: the evidence
Julius Streicher: the evidence

Week Five
The Einsatzgruppen trial

Weeks Six through Eight
The Eichmann trial

Weeks Nine and Ten
The Frankfurt Auschwitz trial

Week Eleven
Either the US Military Dachau trial or the Fedorenko denaturalization trial

Week Twelve
Decency and courage: National level, individual level*

Week Thirteen
Restitution and reparations

Week Fourteen
International Criminal Law, Genocide and Crimes Against Humanity, today

*This is not an uplifting course. While not logically necessary, at least some time spent on acts of decency and courage in the face of the overwhelming power of evil is almost compelled emotionally. This week focuses on three countries, Denmark, Italy and Bulgaria and their collective efforts to save Jews. That they are a predominantly Protestant country, a predominantly Roman Catholic country and a predominantly Eastern Orthodox country with a sizable Muslim minority creates a sobering and thought-provoking symmetry. This week also contains narratives of individual acts of extraordinary decency and courage.
Readings:


Transcripts relating to the Goering, Frank, and Streicher cases

Musmanno, *Slaughterhouse on Wheels*

Testimony of Einsatzgruppen survivor (I read the transcript in the class -- I'm the prosecutor and a student is the witness. After she finishes her story, a long, long moment of silence is needed before resuming. It's the only transcript actually read out loud in class.)

http://www.Eichmannprosecutorinterview.org

Selections on the Frankfurt Auschwitz trial

Transcripts from either Dachau trials or Fedorenko trial

Selected readings on Denmark, Italy, and Bulgaria

Selected readings on Restitution

Selected videos