Unit Description
This unit examines the Holocaust and its post-war memory through a geographical focus. Taking a number of spaces and places (forest, ghetto, cattle car, camp, attic, sea, river, road) associated with the implementation of, and evasion from, the ‘final solution of the Jewish question’ we will examine:

- The construction and or transformation of these places during the Holocaust
- Victims’ experiences of these landscapes
- The post-war history of these sites and especially their selective re-imagining as sites of memory

Thematically we will examine the concentration, deportation and mass killings of Jews as well as slave labour, death marches, hiding, resistance and rescue, native collaboration, the post-war displaced persons’ camps and contemporary memory of the Holocaust. Methodologically we will explore the intersections between history and geography, and the possibilities of examining landscape as a focus of analysis.

Contact Hours and Mode of Teaching:
10 x 2 hour interactive lectures

Methods of Assessment:
1 x 3,000-word essay, 1 x 2-hour exam

Essential Reading:
Tim Cole, Holocaust City (New York 2003) esp. ch. 1 & ch. 9
Dan Stone (ed.), Historiography of the Holocaust (Houndmills, 2004)
James Young, The Texture of Memory. Holocaust Memorials and Meaning (New Haven 2000)
Elie Wiesel, Night (London 2006)

Further Information
Date written: 11/03/09 Date revised: 16/3/09