Waffen SS

Syllabus

Course #25296

**Course Description:** The class examines the Waffen SS, the Third Reich's most fanatical fighting forces. What started as a simple bodyguard for party leaders developed into a separate fighting service. Examine this elite force, from their battlefield exploits to their perpetration of some of the most heinous war crimes in history. It will also expose the myths that the Waffen SS remained aloof from the crimes against humanity committed by other Nazi organizations.

**Course Objectives:**

* Discuss the Waffen SS role in the Final Solution.
* Review the development of the Waffen SS from Hitler's bodyguard.
* Appraise the Waffen SS in combat, their failures and successes.
* Examine the leaders of the Waffen SS and their role in the overall SS organization.

**Course Outline:**

Class 1-Origins and Organization.

Class 2-Involvement in the Holocaust, Pre-War development, early combat role and organization.

Class 3- Middle and Late war combat role and crimes during combat.

**Recommended Reading:**

* Felton, Mark (2014). *Guarding Hitler: The Secret World of the Führer*. Barnsley: Pen & Sword
* Fritz, Stephen (2011). *Ostkrieg: Hitler's War of Extermination in the East*. Lexington: The University Press of Kentucky.
* Höhne, Heinz (2001). *The Order of the Death's Head: The Story of Hitler's SS*. New York: Penguin**.**
* Reitlinger, Gerald (1989). *The SS: Alibi of a Nation, 1922–1945*. New York: Da Capo Press
* Weale, Adrian (2012). *Army of Evil: A History of the SS*. New York: Caliber Printing.



