Summer Session I: Ger 112: Women in National Socialism

Even though Nazi ideology relegated women to the home, some women gained great influence and power during the Third Reich: Leni Riefenstahl, “Hitler’s filmmaker,” Magda Goebbels, wife of the Minister of Propaganda and the unofficial “First Lady,” and Ilse Koch, the “Bitch of Buchenwald.” This course investigates the motivations of these women (why did they join the Nazis?) and the contradictions between Nazi ideology and lived reality. We will also take a look at women in the resistance movement, including Marlene Dietrich, who joined the American Forces, and young Sophie Scholl, who was executed at age 22 for distributing anti-Nazi flyers. Material to be discussed in class includes excerpts from autobiographies, Nazi propaganda, and film. Course counts toward the general education requirement, major and minor in German, and/or Film Studies.

Summer Session I: MWF 12.10- 1.50; 217 Olson

CRN: 53212

Instructor: Verena Hutter