

Dr. Alberto Giordano

Date of Presentation:
Thursday, March 23, 2010

The Geography of the Holocaust



Abstract: The Holocaust was a profoundly geographical event that caused mass displacement and migration, destroyed or fundamentally changed thousands of communities, and created hundreds of new places for the concentration of population, the exploitation of labor, and the mass murder of millions of people. In this presentation I will focus on the Holocaust in Italy and on the Budapest Ghetto to show how a geographical approach can help shed new light on one of the most tragic events in history. The work I will discuss is part of a research project that involves the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) and a team of researchers from the United States and from abroad.

Biography: Dr. Alberto Giordano was born in Italy. He graduated with a BA from the University of Padua and holds a Master's degree from the University of California Santa Barbara and a PhD from Syracuse University. All of his degrees are in Geography, a field he decided to work in when he was 7. At the time, he thought being a geographer meant exploring unknown, mysterious, and exotic lands. The Missionary and Explorer, Dr. David Livingstone was one of his childhood heroes. Dr. Giordano joined the faculty at Texas State in 2003. His expertise is in geographic information science and cartography. In the past few years his research interests have concentrated on Holocaust and Genocide Studies. At Texas State, he teaches courses in Geographic Information Systems, cartography, and GPS.