

“This collection of valuable studies shows how the German universities welcomed the onset of the Nazi dictatorship and pursued a course of ‘self-coordination’ in purging Jews and political opponents. In the post-war period a few of the most egregious academic Nazis served as useful scapegoats, but the vast majority of faculty viewed themselves as the double victims of Hitler’s dictatorship and war on the one hand and the Allies’ unfair denazification on the other.”

FRANK PORTER GRAHAM Frank Porter Graham Professor of History Emeritus,
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

“This is a sobering study of how quickly and completely German universities and the humanities were corrupted by Nazi ideology and policies during the National Socialist era. Thoughtful and profound, the essays in this volume explore this history as a warning for our own times.”

DAVID G. REYNOLDS Director (retired), Programs on Ethics, Religion,
and the Holocaust, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

“These are serious, well-researched, and well-written studies; their authors draw upon both primary sources (not infrequently unpublished archival items) and secondary sources in the original languages to construct their arguments. Taken together, this is a compelling collection of essays from which readers, whether specialists or non-specialists, will learn much.”

SAMUEL UNGERLEIDER JR. Professor of Judaic Studies and
Professor of Religious Studies, Brown University

How did the academy react to the rise, dominance, and ultimate fall of Germany’s Third Reich? Did German professors of the humanities have to tell themselves lies about their regime’s activities or its victims to sleep at night? Did they endorse the regime? Or did they look the other way, whether out of deliberate denial or out of fear for their own personal safety? *The Betrayal of the Humanities* not only details how individual scholars, particular departments, and even entire universities collaborated with the Nazi regime but also examines the legacy of this era on higher education in Germany.

Bernard M. Levinson serves as Professor of Classical and Near Eastern Studies and of Law at the University of Minnesota, where he holds the Berman Family Chair in Jewish Studies and Hebrew Bible. He is the author of four books, including *Deuteronomy and the Hermeneutics of Legal Innovation* and *Legal Revision and Religious Renewal in Ancient Israel*, and six edited volumes.

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