Contents

List of maps vi
Preface vii
Abbreviations xi
Glossary xiii

1 Wilhelmine Germany, 1900–1914 1
Rapid industrialisation and its impact on society 1
Stratification and social mobility 10
The Prusso-German political system and its political culture 18
Weltpolitik and the spectre of encirclement 29

2 War and civil war, 1914–1923 38
The political and military situation at the beginning of the war 38
The strains of total war 44
Reaction, reform and revolutionary ferment 51
The Revolutions of 1918–19 57
Economic dislocation and counter-revolution, 1919–1923 67

3 The Weimar Republic between stabilisation and collapse, 1924–1933 82
Intellectual and cultural activity 82
Party politics and the problem of parliamentary government 87
Weimar foreign policy 95
Economic tensions and the rise of the Nazis 102
From Brüning to Hitler 115

4 The Third Reich, 1933–1945 129
The face of the Nazi dictatorship 129
Economic conditions and mobilisation for war 138
Nazi foreign policy and war aims 149
Occupation, exploitation and extermination 161
Resistance and collaboration during the final years 171
Contents

5 Occupation and division, 1945–1960 177
   Economic and political life in the Western Zones of Occupation 177
   The Russian Zone of Occupation, 1945–1949 192
   The shaping of the Federal Republic of Germany, 1949–1960 197
   Western integration and the problem of reunification 207
   Soviet Western policy and the consolidation of East Germany 216

6 The two Germanies since the 1960s 226
   The development of the East German economy, 1960–1985 226
   Society and politics in contemporary East Germany 232
   West German capitalism and the international economy 239
   Problems of political stability 246
   Culture and society in West Germany 258

Statistical tables 269
Chronological table 313
Select bibliography 318
Index 335

Maps

1 Germany in 1914: political and economic 2
2 Maximum extent of the German State in (a) 1914–18 and (b) 1937–45 40
3 The two Germanies 178