



STUDY PROGRAMME

European Interdisciplinary Studies, Natolin campus (Advanced Academic Master)

YEAR

2021-2022

COURSE TITLE

History of Central and Eastern Europe

ACADEMIC ASSISTANT

DOMINICI Béranger

COURSE PROFESSOR(S)

PUDŁOCKI Tomasz

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

COURSE TYPE

Compulsory Core Course

MAJOR(S)

Not applicable

ECTS CREDITS

4

SEMESTER

1

TEACHING HOURS

20

INDIVIDUAL & GROUP STUDY TIME

80

TUTORIAL(S)

COEFFICIENT

2

LANGUAGE(S)

EN

COURSE OBJECTIVE

The course is addressed to those who are interested in understanding modern foundations of the East-Central European mentalities and political practices in longer perspective. The course will concentrate on processes, changes and continuities, especially in politics and culture to better understand the phenomena and uniqueness of the region. The reasons of these phenomena will be discussed both from the geopolitical and the local perspective.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students acquire a sound understanding of the history of the European construction within the longer context of the history of European Civilization, including Central and Eastern Europe, and its wider neighborhood and global contexts.

Students are able critically to analyze and evaluate the changing idea of Europe, the changing aims of the European construction and changing social, political and economic realities in Europe and in the world.

Students master a significant body of historical literature on broad topics in European and global history, including Central and Eastern European History.

RECOMMENDED PREPARATION

None

TEACHING METHOD(S)

Lecture, assigned texts and viewed movies, discussion.

ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA

Written, open-book exam (2 hours) that accounts for 100% of the mark. Students will have to answer two essay questions from a choice of four. Each answer should not exceed three pages (1050 words).

Retake examinations, i.e., exams passed in the second examination session, will have the same format as those taken during the first exam session. When a student takes an examination during the second session, the final mark for the course is based solely on the result of the retake examination. No other element of evaluation which would have been taken into consideration in the calculation of the final mark during the first examination session will be considered in the second session. (art. 28 of the Specific Provisions).

The College of Europe reserves the right to change the delivery and assessment of the course in case of circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the College (force majeure). Any communication from the campus administration in this regard takes precedence over the information provided in this ECTS card.

COURSE CONTENTS

The course provides a broad-brush outline of the history of the region (from 10th c. until 1939/1941) and is particularly aimed at those students who have not previously studied the 'History of Europe' in depth or systematically. The course will concentrate on processes, changes and continuities, especially in politics and culture, and will keep names and dates to the necessary minimum. Among the key themes will be: Common Central Europe (myths and symbols connected with the region), the "birth of the region" (the beginnings of the medieval Bohemia, Hungary, Poland and Kyivan Rus"), the time of decentralization and the rise of the region in 14th c., cultural importance of the region in 16th c., common experience of the threat from the Ottoman Empire (15-17th c.), the Fall of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth and the rise of new powers in 18th c., Central Europe under Habsburgs around 1800, Emergence new nations, Artist as a new national hero in 19th c., outcome of the Fall of German, Russian and Austro-Hungarian Empires for the region. Finally, the course probes the social, economic and cultural impact of the trauma of World War I and the consequences of the creating the national states like Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and the Baltic States as Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, economic and political struggles in the region with special focus on the nationalization of the public discourses in chosen countries as well as the crisis of democracy.

COURSE MATERIALS (readings and other learning resources/tools)

- Interwar East Central Europe, 1918-1941: The Failure of Democracy-building, the Fate of Minorities, ed. by Sabrina P. Ramet, London-New York: Routledge 2020.
- Kenneth Janda, World War I Treaties: Joys and Tears, Kosmas, 2019, pp. 4-18.
- Lonnie R. Johnson, Central Europe. Enemies, Neighbors, Friends, New York-Oxford: Oxford University Press 1996.
- Laszlo Kontler, A History of Hungary, Antlatisz Publishing House, Budapest 2016.
- Margaret MacMillian, Paris 1919. Six Months that Changed the World, New York: Random House Trade Paperbacks 2002, pp. 109–272.
- Piotr S. Wandycz, The Price of Freedom: A History of East Central Europe from the Middle Ages to the present, 2nd edition, London-New York: Routledge 2001.