

CAS IR 341/CAS HI 278
HISTORY OF CENTRAL EUROPE
Spring 2017
Monday/Wednesday, 10:10 a.m.-11:25 a.m.
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SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES

This course examines the history and culture of Central Europe, primarily in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. We will analyze the rich, multidimensional texture of life in the space between Germany and Russia, and show that history cannot be properly understood if it is studied exclusively on the basis of events driven by the Big Powers.

Central Europeans debate the past with much passion and considerable knowledge. Ask almost anyone in Prague about 1620 and you will get a lecture on the Battle of the White Mountain and its consequences; ask a Pole about 1795 and you will learn about the partitions of Poland; if you ask a Hungarian about 1526 you will be treated to a colorful description of the Battle of Mohács; an inquiry about the relevance of 1683 in the history of Vienna will result in an analysis of the many conflicts between the Habsburg and the Ottoman empires—all the way to the present crisis involving migrants from the Middle East.

Sir Halford Mackinder observed that whoever commanded the European heartland, ruled the world. The emergence of new power centers, e.g., the United States and Asia, has shown this claim to be falsely Eurocentric. Nevertheless, in the 20th century alone, Central Europe gave the world not only several important cultural and intellectual stimuli, but also two world wars. Therefore the history of Germany, Austria, Poland, the Czech lands, Slovakia, and Hungary must not be ignored by anyone who wishes to possess an accurate and nuanced understanding of the world around us.

IMPORTANT DATES

First lecture	23 January 2017
In-class examination I	21 February 2017
In-class examination II	22 March 2017
Last lecture	3 May 2017
In-class examination III	TBD May 2017

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- a. Attendance (obligatory)
- b. Class participation and preparedness (10 percent)
- c. In-class examination I (30 percent)
- d. In-class examination II (30 percent)
- e. In-class examination III (30 percent).

All the examinations take place in the classroom with books and notes closed. Note that the third and final examination is scheduled by the Registrar, not by me, and I am unable to change the schedule for any reason.

Each examination will have two parts:

PART ONE (30 percent)

There will be a short analytical essay on one out of three topics. The essay topics will hold students accountable for the material covered in lectures and in readings during the first, second, and third segments of this course.

You will receive all essay topics in class a week before each exam. Therefore, a student who attends lectures, keeps up with the readings, and thinks about the topic in advance should be able to compose a successful essay in this course.

PART TWO (70 percent)

Identifications (IDs) are meant to be clear summaries of important individuals and events we have covered in this course. They should contain the following information:

1. *Who or what is the subject of the ID?* This needs to be correct. If, for example, you confuse Metternich with Castlereagh, you will not get any credit. You also need to ensure that your ID contains all that is central. Providing information about Talleyrand's private life but not his achievements in Vienna misses the point.
2. *When did the ID take place?* This does not always have to be a specific day, such as the exact day of the Battle of the White Mountain. It can be a year, in this case 1620. In other cases, e.g., the Stalin-Hitler Pact, it is the month and the year that are relevant—August 1939 in this case. On rare occasions the date needs to be complete. For instance, World War II broke out on 1 September 1939. It is helpful to indicate when the ID took place by stating what events paved the way for it. For example, an ID on the Congress of Vienna must note that it took place after the defeat of Napoleon and his exile to Elba.
3. *What is the historical significance of the ID?* Make sure you have time to state the significance of the personality or event in question. For example, writing about the revolutions of 1848 it is important to observe that they tested the stability of the political structure imposed on Europe by the Congress of Vienna.

Assuming perfect attendance, the final grade in this course is based on a simple calculation: 30 + 30 + 30 + 10.

OFFICE HOURS:

Every Monday and Wednesday from 12:45 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. I am always happy to speak with you before and after each lecture. If you are unable to see me during my office hours, I will make a prompt arrangement to meet with you as soon as possible on a different day. I am available on most Wednesdays and Fridays.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

David King, *Vienna 1814: How the Conquerors of Napoleon Made Love, War, and Peace at the Congress of Vienna* (New York: Three Rivers Press, 2008).

Igor Lukes, *On the Edge of the Cold War: American Diplomats and Spies in Postwar Prague* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2012).

Lynne Olson and Stanley Cloud, *A Question of Honor* (New York: Alfred Knopf, 2003).

Alan Palmer, *Twilight of the Habsburgs: The Life and Times of Emperor Francis Joseph* (New York: Grove Press, 1994).

CODE OF CONDUCT

No eating or drinking in the classroom. If you wear a baseball hat, take it off for the duration of the class. Please turn off your cell phones.

All students are expected to maintain high standards of academic honesty and integrity. Please provide citations for all quotations, paraphrases, and ideas taken from any source other than your own. Boston University has very strict standards for intellectual integrity, and punishment for plagiarism may be severe, and can include permanent expulsion from the university. For more on the definition of plagiarism and the standards to which you will be held, see the CAS Academic Conduct Code. It is available at www.bu.edu/academics/resources/academic-conduct-code/

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION

Boston University provides reasonable accommodation to eligible individuals with disabilities in conformance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Requests for disability accommodations must be made to Disability Services, 19 Deerfield Street, Boston, MA 02215; 617-353-3658 (Voice/TTY). Students seeking accommodations should submit appropriate medical documentation and comply with the policies and procedures of Disability Services.

COURSE OUTLINE
CAS HI 278/CAS IR 341
CENTRAL EUROPE
Spring Semester 2017

Lecture 1, 23 Jan.	Introduction: Central Europe
Lecture 2, 25 Jan.	Broken Bohemia, Saved Vienna
Lecture 3, 30 Jan.	The Partitions of Poland
Lecture 4, 1 Feb.	The French Revolution, Napoleon, and Poland
Lecture 5, 6 Feb.	The Congress of Vienna: Europe Without Borders
Lecture 6, 8 Feb.	The Congress of Vienna: Napoleon the Bandit
Lecture 7, 13 Feb.	The Concert Survives: the Revolutions of 1848
Lecture 8, 15 Feb.	The Concert Breaks Down: the Crimean War
21 February 2017	Examination I
Lecture 10, 22 Feb.	The Decline of Austria and the <i>Ausgleich</i>
Lecture 11, 27 Feb.	The Rise of Prussia and the Congress of Berlin
Lecture 12, 1 Mar.	The Bismarckian System of Alliances
Lecture 13, 13 Mar.	Habsburg Catastrophes & the Death of Prince Rudolf
Lecture 14, 15 Mar.	Franz Ferdinand, Sofie Chotek, General Potiorek
Lecture 15, 20 Mar.	World War I
22 March 2017	Examination II
Lecture 17, 27 Mar.	Genoa, Rapallo, Locarno, and Hitler
Lecture 18, 29 Mar.	Lord Halifax and the Road to Munich
Lecture 19, 3 Apr.	The Stalin-Hitler Pact and the Outbreak of the War
Lecture 20, 5 Apr.	Central Europeans in World War II
Lecture 21, 10 Apr.	The Enigma Machine, Operation Anthropoid
Lecture 22, 12 Apr.	Katyn vs. Khatyn
Lecture 23, 19 Apr.	Warsaw 1944: Between the Nazis and the Red Army
Lecture 24, 24 Apr.	Postwar Central Europe: Missed Opportunities
Lecture 25, 26 Apr.	U.S. Intelligence in Postwar Central Europe
Lecture 26, 1 May.	The Cold War
Lecture 27, 3 May.	Review
TBD by BU	Examination III

LECTURE TOPICS AND READING ASSIGNMENTS
CAS HI 278/CAS IR 341
Spring Semester 2017

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| Lecture 1
23 January | Introduction: Central Europe |
| Lecture 2
25 January | Broken Bohemia, Saved Vienna
Johnson, <i>Central Europe</i> , 87-102.
Wheatcroft, <i>The Enemy at the Gate</i> , 13-34, 177-187. |
| Lecture 3
30 January | The Partitions of Poland
Johnson, <i>Central Europe</i> , 126-130.
Armour, <i>A History of Eastern Europe</i> , 60-75. |
| Lecture 4
1 February | The French Revolution, Napoleon, and Poland
Soboul, <i>A Short History of the French Revolution</i> , 56-71, 126-133. |
| Lecture 5
6 February | The Congress of Vienna: Europe Without Borders
King, <i>Vienna 1814</i> , 53-121. |
| Lecture 6
8 February | The Congress of Vienna: Napoleon the Bandit
King, <i>Vienna 1814</i> , 211-244, 252-276 |
| Lecture 7
13 February | The Concert Survives: the Revolutions of 1848
Johnson, <i>Central Europe</i> , 149-160.
Palmer, <i>Twilight of the Habsburgs</i> , 28-63. |
| Lecture 8
15 February | The Concert Breaks Down: the Crimean War
Craig, <i>Europe</i> , 153-165.
Palmer, <i>Twilight of the Habsburgs</i> , 73-4, 80-85. |
| Lecture 9
21 February | EXAMINATION I |
| Lecture 10
22 February | The Decline of Austria and the <i>Ausgleich</i>
Craig, <i>Europe</i> , 210-234.
Palmer, <i>Twilight of the Habsburgs</i> , 130-164. |

- Lecture 11**
27 February
The Rise of Prussia and the Congress of Berlin
Craig, *Europe*, 234-238, 248-256.
Taylor, *The Struggle for Mastery in Europe*, 228-254.
- Lecture 12**
1 March
The Bismarckian System of Alliances
Taylor, *The Struggle for Mastery in Europe*, 255-280.
Craig, *Europe*, 256-261.
- Lecture 13**
13 March
Habsburg Catastrophes & The Death of Prince Rudolf
Palmer, *Twilight of the Habsburgs*, 214-227, 246-285.
- Lecture 14**
15 March
Franz Ferdinand, Sofie Chotek, and General Potiorek
Palmer, *Twilight of the Habsburgs*, 286-324.
- Lecture 15**
20 March
World War I
Palmer and Colton, *A History of the World*, 665-677.
Stead, *Conversations with Mr. Bloch*, x-xli.
- Lecture 16**
22 March
EXAMINATION II
- Lecture 17**
27 March
Genoa, Rapallo, Locarno, and Hitler
Palmer and Colton, *A History of the World*, 741-746.
Holborn, *History of Modern Germany*, 604-606, 624-626.
Rothschild, *East Central Europe*, 54-55.
- Lecture 18**
29 March
Lord Halifax and the Road to Munich
Lukes, *Czechoslovakia Between Stalin and Hitler*, 79-85.
Lukes, "Stalin and Benes," 28-48.
- Lecture 19**
3 April
The Stalin-Hitler Pact and the Outbreak of World War II
Tucker, *Stalin in Power*, 592-607.
Ulam, *Expansion and Coexistence*, 273-279
- Lecture 20**
5 April
Central Europeans in World War II
Olson and Cloud, *A Question of Honor*, 127-167.
Kochanski, *The Eagle Unbowed*, 59-93.

- Lecture 21**
10 April
The Enigma Machine, Operation Anthropoid
Kozaczuk and Straszak, *Enigma*, 1-47.
Operation Anthropoid: Assassination of Heydrich
- Lecture 22**
12 April
Katyn vs. Khatyn
Olson and Cloud, *A Question of Honor*, 254-272.
Kochanski, *The Eagle Unbowed*, 338-343.
- Lecture 23**
19 April
Warsaw 1944: Between the Nazis and the Red Army
Snyder, *Bloodlands*, 298-312.
Olson and Cloud, *A Question of Honor*, 321-353, 365-71.
- Lecture 24**
24 April
Postwar Central Europe: Missed Opportunities
Lukes, *On the Edge of the Cold War*, 32-94.
- Lecture 25**
26 April
U.S. Intelligence in Postwar Central Europe
Lukes, *On the Edge of the Cold War*, 142-182.
- Lecture 26**
1 May
The Cold War
Lukes, *Rudolf Slansky: His Trial and Trials*.
Lukes, "KAMEN: A Cold War Dangle Operation."
- Lecture 27**
3 May
Review
- TBD by BU** **EXAMINATION III**