

CAS IR 341/CAS HI 278

CENTRAL EUROPE

Spring 2015

EPC 205

Tuesday/Thursday, 12:30-2:00 p.m.

Igor Lukes

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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 European history cannot be properly understood if it is studied exclusively on the basis of events driven by the Big Powers.

Remembering, recording, and pondering history are some of the most characteristic aspects of the Central European intellectual environment. Ask 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.

Bismarck is said to have observed that whoever ruled Central Europe, commanded the European heartland, and that whoever commanded the heartland of Europe, ruled the world. The eventual emergence of new power centers in the United States and Asia has shown this claim to be 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.

IMPORTANT DATES

First lecture	20 January 2015
Last day to add the course	2 February 2015
Last day to drop the class without a "W"	24 February 2015

Film essay due	24 February 2015
Last day to drop the class with a "W"	3 March 2015
Midterm examination	19 March 2015
Last lecture	30 April 2015
Final examination	6 May 2015

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- a. Attendance (obligatory)
- b. Regular class participation and preparedness (20 percent)
- c. Midterm examination (30 percent)
- d. Final examination (40 percent)
- e. Film essay (10 percent)

The midterm and final are in-class, closed book examinations. The final will be focused on the second half of the course.

One of the course requirements is that you write an essay about the movie *The Charge of the Light Brigade*, dir. Tony Richardson, released in 1968. The essay must be exactly three pages long. There are no limitations or requirements regarding the style you choose: feel free to write a regular essay with an introduction, argument, and conclusion. Or be as creative as you can. The deadline for submitting the essay is 24 February 2015. Bring it with you to class.

The final grade in this course may not be an outcome of a mathematical computation ($20 + 30 + 40 + 10$) because I need space to reward extraordinary participation or penalize less than perfect attendance. Familiarity with assigned texts is essential.

Please note that the final examination has been scheduled by the Registrar of Boston University. I'm not able to change this arrangement for any reason.

OFFICE HOURS:

Every Tuesday and Thursday from 9:10 a.m. to 11:00 a.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 at a time that is convenient for both of us.

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
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CENTRAL EUROPE
Spring Semester 2015

Lecture 1, 20 Jan.	Introduction: Central Europe
Lecture 2, 22 Jan.	Broken Bohemia, Saved Vienna
Lecture 3, 27 Jan.	The Partitions of Poland
Lecture 4, 29 Jan.	The French Revolution, Napoleon, and Poland
Lecture 5, 3 Feb.	The Congress of Vienna: Europe Without Borders
Lecture 6, 5 Feb.	The Congress of Vienna and Its Achievements
Lecture 7, 10 Feb.	The Congress of Vienna: Napoleon the Bandit
Lecture 8, 12 Feb.	Diplomacy and Violence: 1848-1849
Lecture 9, 19 Feb.	The Crimean War & the Breakdown of the Concert
Lecture 10, 24 Feb.	The Decline of Austria and the <i>Ausgleich</i>
Lecture 11, 26 Feb.	The Franco-Prussian War and the Congress of Berlin
Lecture 12, 3 Mar.	The Bismarckian System of Alliances
Lecture 13, 5 Mar.	A Habsburg Catastrophe: The Death of Prince Rudolf
Lecture 14, 17 Mar.	Franz Ferdinand, Sofie Chotek, and World War I
Lecture 15, 19 Mar.	Midterm
Lecture 16, 24 Mar.	Central Europe Between Stalin and Hitler
Lecture 17, 26 Mar.	The Enigma Machine
Lecture 18, 31 Mar.	Central Europeans in World War II
Lecture 19, 2 Apr.	Central Europe under Occupation
Lecture 20, 7 Apr.	Katyn vs. Khatyn
Lecture 21, 9 Apr.	Teheran, the Warsaw Uprising, and Yalta
Lecture 22, 14 Apr.	Poland: The Inconvenient Ally
Lecture 23, 16 Apr.	Postwar Central Europe
Lecture 24, 21 Apr.	A Chronicle of Missed Opportunities
Lecture 25, 23 Apr.	U.S. Intelligence in Central Europe

Lecture 26, 28 Apr.

Western Retreat from Central Europe

Lecture 27, 30 Apr.

The Cold War

LECTURE TOPICS AND READING ASSIGNMENTS
CAS HI 278/CAS IR 341
Spring Semester 2015

- Lecture 1 **Introduction: Central Europe**
- Lecture 2 **Broken Bohemia, Saved Vienna**
Johnson, *Central Europe*, 87-102.
Wheatcroft, *The Enemy at the Gate*, 13-34, 177-187.
- Lecture 3 **The Partitions of Poland**
Johnson, *Central Europe*, 126-130.
Armour, *A History of Eastern Europe*, 60-75.
- Lecture 4 **The French Revolution, Napoleon, and Poland**
Soboul, *A Short History of the French Revolution*, 56-71, 126-133.
- Lecture 5 **The Congress of Vienna: Europe Without Borders**
King, *Vienna 1814*, 53-121.
- Lecture 6 **The Congress of Vienna and its Achievements**
King, *Vienna 1814*, 166-227
- Lecture 7 **The Congress of Vienna: Napoleon the Bandit**
King, *Vienna 1814*, 228-276.
- Lecture 8 **Diplomacy and Violence: 1848-1849**
Johnson, *Central Europe*, 149-160.
Palmer, *Twilight of the Habsburgs*, 28-63.
- Lecture 9 **The Crimean War & the Breakdown of the Concert**
Craig, *Europe*, 153-165.
Palmer, *Twilight of the Habsburgs*, 80-85.

Lecture 10

The Decline of Austria, Rise of Prussia, and the *Ausgleich*

Craig, *Europe*, 210-234.

Palmer, *Twilight of the Habsburgs*, 130-164.

- Lecture 11 **The Franco-Prussian War and the Congress of Berlin**
 Craig, *Europe*, 234-238, 248-256.
 Palmer, *Twilight of the Habsburgs*, 195-213.
- Lecture 12 **The Bismarckian System of Alliances**
 Craig, *Europe*, 256-261.
 Taylor, *The Struggle for Mastery in Europe*, 255-280.
- Lecture 13 **A Habsburg Catastrophe: The Death of Prince Rudolf**
 Palmer, *Twilight of the Habsburgs*, 214-227, 246-285.
- Lecture 14 **Franz Ferdinand, Sofie Chotek, and World War One**
 Palmer, *Twilight of the Habsburgs*, 286-324.
- Lecture 15 **Midterm Examination, 6 March 2014**
- Lecture 16 **Central Europe Between Stalin and Hitler**
 Olson and Cloud, *A Question of Honor*, 35-55.
 Kochanski, *The Eagle Unbowed*, 34-58.
- Lecture 17 **The Enigma Machine**
 Kozaczuk and Straszak, *Enigma*, 1-47.
- Lecture 18 **Central Europeans in World War Two**
 Olson and Cloud, *A Question of Honor*, 127-167.
 Kochanski, *The Eagle Unbowed*, 59-93.
- Lecture 19 **Central Europe Under Occupation**
 Olson and Cloud, *A Question of Honor*, 200-209.
 Kochanski, *The Eagle Unbowed*, 94-135.
- Lecture 20 **Katyn vs. Khatyn**
 Olson and Cloud, *A Question of Honor*, 254-272.

- Kochanski, *The Eagle Unbowed*, 130-133, 338-343, 579-584.
- Lecture 21 **Teheran, the Warsaw Uprising, and Yalta**
 Olson and Cloud, *A Question of Honor*, 291-99, 313-53, 365-71.
 Kochanski, *The Eagle Unbowed*, 349-357, 397-426, 501-512.
- Lecture 22 **Poland: The Inconvenient Ally**
 Olson and Cloud, *A Question of Honor*, 3-4.
 Kochanski, *The Eagle Unbowed*, 434-498, 562-563.
- Lecture 23 **Postwar Central Europe**
 Lukes, *On the Edge of the Cold War*, 32-66.
- Lecture 24 **A Chronicle of Missed Opportunities**
 Lukes, *On the Edge of the Cold War*, 67-111.
- Lecture 25 **U.S. Intelligence in Postwar Central Europe**
 Lukes, *On the Edge of the Cold War*, 142-182.
- Lecture 26 **Western Retreat From Central Europe**
 Lukes, *On the Edge of the Cold War*, 183-231.
- Lecture 27 **The Cold War**
 Lukes, *Rudolf Slansky: His Trial and Trials*.
 Lukes, "Changing Patterns of Power in Cold War Politics."