

GERMANY AND EAST CENTRAL EUROPE (1871 – 2000)
SYLLABUS – SPRING 2010

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Course description

This course will focus on the history of the culturally rich region of “Mitteleuropa” through analysis of the parallel evolution of Germany and the Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia and Hungary. Mitteleuropa as a region produced such important figures as Franz Kafka, Gustav Mahler, Sigmund Freud, Theodor Herzl and Milan Kundera; historical personalities whose influence internationally is indisputable. We’ll delve into the history of the region and on the central role played by German politics and culture from the end of the 19th century, through the turbulent 20th century to the present day.

Emphasis will be on the evolution of the concept of nationalism as well as on Germany’s foreign policy in the “concert of nations”, especially towards its Eastern neighbors. The aim is to achieve an understanding of the complex evolution of national entities and their interaction between the birth of the modern German state and the integration of the Visegrád countries in NATO and the European Union.

Grading policy

Presentation on Central European History	25%
Book review	25%
Mid-term exam	25%
Final exam	25%

Participation and pop quizzes (2 or 3 during the semester) will be taken into account in the final grade only if they reflect positively on the grade.

Attendance policy

Students may miss two sessions of 90 minutes each without excuse. After that, any absence needs to be justified with a doctor’s note. Additional work (in the form of a short paper) can make up for further absences. 3 and more absences without make-up work will lower the final grade automatically (A to A- in case of one absence, A to B+ in case of 2 absences etc.).

Schedules of classes

Week 1: Introduction

24 January: Overview of course

26 January: What is *Mitteleuropa*? Germany, Austria-Hungary and Central Europe

Assigned reading

Milan Kundera: “The Tragedy of Central Europe”. In: *New York Review of Books*, 26 April 1984, pp. 33 – 38.

Miroslav Novák: “Historical Foundations and Developments in German Relations with the Countries of Eastern and Central Europe”, in: V. Handl, J. Hon, O. Pick: *Germany and the East Central Europe since 1990*. Prague, Institute of International Relations, 1999, pp. 33 – 49.*

Peter Pulzer: “The citizen and the state in modern Germany”, in: E. Kolinsky (ed.): *Modern German Culture*. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 1998, pp. 20 – 43.*

Week 2: Nationalism and national identity

31 February: Definition(s) of nationalism

Assigned reading

Benedict Anderson: *Imagined Communities. Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*. London, Verso, 1991.

Ernest Gellner: *Nations and nationalism*. Oxford : Basil Blackwell, 1983.

Further reading

Eric J. Hobsbawm: *Nations and nationalism since 1780: Programme, Myth, Reality*. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 1999.

2 February: Nationalism and statehood in Germany and Central Europe: an overview

Assigned reading

John Breuilly: “German National Identity”, in: E. Kolinsky (ed.): *Modern German Culture*. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 1998, pp. 44 – 66.*

Piotr Wandycz: *The Price of Freedom. A History of East Central Europe from the Middle Ages to the Present*. London, Routledge, 2001. (Chapters 6 – 8)*

Week 3: From Germany’s unification to the beginning of the First World War

7 February: Germany from the unification to the beginning of the First World War: an overview

Further reading

Gordon A. Craig: *Germany 1866 – 1945*. Oxford : Oxford University Press, 1981. (Chapters 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8).

9 February: *Mitteleuropa* after Germany’s unification

Assigned reading

Piotr Wandycz: *The Price of Freedom. A History of East Central Europe from the Middle Ages to the Present*. London, Routledge, 2001. (Chapter 6)*

Week 4: Germany’s Foreign Policy and the First World War

14 February: Germany’s foreign policy: from the balance of powers to Weltpolitik

Assigned reading

Jörg Brechtefeld: *Mitteleuropa and German Politics: 1848 to the Present*. London, Palgrave, 1996. (Chapter 3)*

Further reading

Gordon A. Craig: *Germany 1866 – 1945*. Oxford, Oxford University Press, 1981. (Chapters 4, 7, 9).

16 February: The First World War and the end of old Central Europe

Assigned Reading

Jörg Brechtefeld: *Mitteleuropa and German Politics: 1848 to the Present*. London, Palgrave, 1996. (Chapter 4)*

Piotr Wandycz: *The Price of Freedom. A History of East Central Europe from the Middle Ages to the Present*. London, Routledge, 2001. (Chapter 6)*

Further reading

Gordon A. Craig: *Germany 1866 – 1945*. Oxford, Oxford University Press, 1981. (Chapter 10).

Week 5: The new European Order

21 February: The Treaties of Versailles, Saint-Germain and Trianon and the national reconstruction of Europe's centre

Assigned reading

Respective sections in: J.A.S. Grenville, Bernard Wasserstein (eds.), *The Major International Treaties of the Twentieth Century: A History and Guide with Texts*. New York, Routledge, 2001. Vol. 1.

Piotr Wandycz: *The Price of Freedom. A History of East Central Europe from the Middle Ages to the Present*. London, Routledge, 2001. (Chapter 7)*

23 February: The questions of minorities in Central Europe

Assigned reading

Andrei S. Markovits, Beith Simone Noveck and Carolyn Höfig: "Jews in German society" in: E. Kolinsky (ed.): *Modern German Culture*. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 1998, pp. 86 – 109.*

Respective sections in Piotr Wandycz: *The Price of Freedom. A History of East Central Europe from the Middle Ages to the Present*. London, Routledge, 2001. (Chapter 6 - 8)*

Week 6: The Weimar Republic and its neighbors

28 February: The Weimar Republic: history and constitutional problems

Further reading

Gordon A. Craig: *Germany 1866 – 1945*. Oxford, Oxford University Press, 1981. (Chapters 11 – 15).

2 March: The Foreign Policy of the Weimar Republic

Assigned reading

Jörg Brechtefeld: *Mitteleuropa and German Politics: 1848 to the Present*. London, Palgrave, 1996. (Chapter 4)*

Further Reading

Gordon A. Craig: *Germany 1866 – 1945*. Oxford, Oxford University Press, 1981. (Chapter 14).

Week 7: Hitler and his plans for Germany and Central Europe

7 March: The Nazi-Regime in Germany, its structure and ideology

Further reading

Gordon A. Craig: *Germany 1866 – 1945*. Oxford, Oxford University Press, 1981. (Chapters 16 – 18).

9 March: Hitler's Foreign Policy: The *Anschluß*, the Munich Agreement and the beginning of World War II

Assigned reading

Piotr Wandycz: *The Price of Freedom. A History of East Central Europe from the Middle Ages to the Present*. London, Routledge, 2001. (Chapter 7)*

Jörg Brechtefeld: *Mitteleuropa and German Politics: 1848 to the Present*. London, Palgrave, 1996. (Chapter 4)*

Respective sections in: J.A.S. Grenville, Bernard Wasserstein (eds.), *The Major International Treaties of the Twentieth Century: A History and Guide with Texts*. New York, Routledge, 2001. Vol. 1.

Further reading

Gordon A. Craig: *Germany 1866 – 1945*. Oxford, Oxford University Press, 1981. (Chapter 19).

Book reviews are due

Week 8: Central Europe between the two World Wars: the rise of authoritarian regimes

14 March: Presentations on Poland, Czechoslovakia and Hungary

16 March: Mid-term exam

Week 9: Fall Break – no classes

Week 10: World War II and post-War German foreign policy

28 March: Teheran, Yalta and Potsdam: redefinition of Central Europe

Assigned reading

Piotr Wandycz: *The Price of Freedom. A History of East Central Europe from the Middle Ages to the Present*. London, Routledge, 2001. (Chapter 7)*

Respective sections in: J.A.S. Grenville, Bernard Wasserstein (eds.), *The Major International Treaties of the Twentieth Century: A History and Guide with Texts*. New York, Routledge, 2001. Vol. 1.

Further reading

Gordon A. Craig: *Germany 1866 – 1945*. Oxford, Oxford University Press, 1981. (Chapter 20).

Timothy Garton Ash: *In Europe's Name. Germany and the Divided Continent*. London, Jonathan Cape, 1993. (Prologue)

30 March: The Adenauer Era: the end of the German *Sonderweg* and the Hallstein Doctrine

Assigned reading

Jörg Brechtefeld: *Mitteleuropa and German Politics: 1848 to the Present*. London, Palgrave, 1996. (Chapter 5)*

Piotr Wandycz: *The Price of Freedom. A History of East Central Europe from the Middle Ages to the Present*. London, Routledge, 2001. (Chapter 8)*

Timothy Garton Ash: *In Europe's Name. Germany and the Divided Continent*. London, Jonathan Cape, 1993. (Chapter 3, pp. 48 - 67)*

Further reading

Timothy Garton Ash: *In Europe's Name. Germany and the Divided Continent*. London, Jonathan Cape, 1993. (Chapter 5)*

Week 11: From the new Ostpolitik to German Unity

4 April: Brandt's *Ostpolitik* and the normalization of the relations between Germany and the Eastern Block.

Assigned reading

Contributions of G. Niedhardt and E. Bahr: Proceedings of the conference "American détente and German Ostpolitik", Washington, December 2003

(http://www.ghi-dc.org/publications/ghipubs/bu_supp/supp001/supp01.html)

Piotr Wandycz: *The Price of Freedom. A History of East Central Europe from the Middle Ages to the Present*. London, Routledge, 2001. (Chapter 8)*

Timothy Garton Ash: *In Europe's Name. Germany and the Divided Continent*. London, Jonathan Cape, 1993. (Chapter 3, pp. 67 – 98)

Further reading

Timothy Garton Ash: *In Europe's Name. Germany and the Divided Continent*. London, Jonathan Cape, 1993. (Chapter 5)*

6 April: Mikhail Gorbachev, Helmut Kohl: perestroika and the road to German unity

Assigned reading

Timothy Garton Ash: *In Europe's Name. Germany and the Divided Continent*. London, Jonathan Cape, 1993. (Chapter 3, pp. 98 – 125)*

Piotr Wandycz: *The Price of Freedom. A History of East Central Europe from the Middle Ages to the Present*. London, Routledge, 2001. (Chapter 8)*

Further reading

Timothy Garton Ash: *In Europe's Name. Germany and the Divided Continent*. London, Jonathan Cape, 1993. (Chapters 5 – 6)*

Konrad H. Jarausch: *The rush to German Unity*. New York, Oxford University Press, 1994.

Week 12: The end of the Cold War

11 April: The international dimension of German unity

Assigned reading

Timothy Garton Ash: *In Europe's Name. Germany and the Divided Continent*. London, Jonathan Cape, 1993. (Chapter 7)*

Kai-Olaf Lang: "Germany and Poland", in: V. Handl, J. Hon, O. Pick: *Germany and the East Central Europe since 1990*. Prague, Institute of International Relations, 1999, pp. 179 - 200.*

László j. Kiss: "Germany and Hungary" in: V. Handl, J. Hon, O. Pick: *Germany and the East Central Europe since 1990*. Prague, Institute of International Relations, 1999, pp. 201 - 213.*

Pavol Lukáč: "Germany and Slovakia" in: V. Handl, J. Hon, O. Pick: *Germany and the East Central Europe since 1990*. Prague, Institute of International Relations, 1999, pp. 215 - 232.*

Miroslav Kunštát: "Germany and the Czech Republic" in: V. Handl, J. Hon, O. Pick: *Germany and the East Central Europe since 1990*. Prague, Institute of International Relations, 1999, pp. 233 - 252.*

Further reading

Timothy Garton Ash: *In Europe's Name. Germany and the Divided Continent*. London, Jonathan Cape, 1993. (Chapter 8)*

13 April: Rebuilding a nation: internal aspects of German unity

Further reading

Konrad H. Jarausch: *The rush to German Unity*. New York, Oxford University Press, 1994.

Week 13: Central Europe between World War II and the fall of the Wall. Revolt and reform

18 April: Presentations on Hungary and Poland

20 April: Presentation on Czechoslovakia

Week 14: Germany's relations with the East Central European countries (1990 – 2004)

25 April: National holiday – No classes

27 April: Germany's new relations with the East Central European countries, the NATO and EU Enlargement

Assigned reading

Kai-Olaf Lang: "Germany and Poland", in: V. Handl, J. Hon, O. Pick: *Germany and the East Central Europe since 1990*. Prague, Institute of International Relations, 1999, pp. 179 - 200.*

László j. Kiss: "Germany and Hungary" in: V. Handl, J. Hon, O. Pick: *Germany and the East Central Europe since 1990*. Prague, Institute of International Relations, 1999, pp. 201 - 213.*

Pavol Lukáč: "Germany and Slovakia" in: V. Handl, J. Hon, O. Pick: *Germany and the East Central Europe since 1990*. Prague, Institute of International Relations, 1999, pp. 215 - 232.*

Miroslav Kunštát: "Germany and the Czech Republic" in: V. Handl, J. Hon, O. Pick: *Germany and the East Central Europe since 1990*. Prague, Institute of International Relations, 1999, pp. 233 - 252.*

Simon Bulmer, Charlie Jeffery and William E. Paterson: *Germany's European diplomacy. Shaping the regional milieu*. Manchester, Manchester University Press, 2000. (pp. 1 – 21; 104 – 135)*

Henning Tewes: "How Civilian? How much Power? Germany and the Eastern Enlargement of NATO", in: Sebastian Harnisch and Hanns W. Maull (eds): *Germany as a Civilian Power? The Foreign Policy of the Berlin Republic*. Manchester, Manchester University Press, 2000 (pp. 10 – 25)*

James Sperling: "Neither Hegemony nor Dominance: Reconsidering German Power in Post Cold-War Europe", in: *British Journal of Political Science* 31/2001 (pp. 389 – 391; 408 – 424)*

Further reading

Philip D. Zelikow, Condoleezza Rice: *Germany Unified and Europe Transformed. A Study in Statecraft*. Cambridge, Harvard University Press, 1995.

Ann L. Phillips: *Power and Influence after the Cold War. Germany in East-Central Europe*. Lanham, Rowman & Littlefield, 2000.

Adrian Hyde-Price: *The International Politics of East Central Europe*. Manchester, Manchester University Press, 1996

Adrian Hyde-Price: *Germany and European order. Enlarging NATO and the EU*. Manchester, Manchester University Press, 2000.

Week 15: Book reviews

2 May: Presentation of book reviews (1)

4 May: Presentation of book reviews (2)

Week 16: Exam week

9 May: Final exam

11 May: Assessment and summary of course, return of exams

Books for the book review

Ernest Gellner: *Nations and nationalism*. Oxford, Basil Blackwell, 1983.

Eric J. Hobsbawm: *Nations and nationalism since 1780: Programme, Myth, Reality*. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 1999.

George (György) Konrád: *Antipolitics*. New York, Owl Book, 1987.

Adam Michnik: *Letters from Prison and Other Essays*. Berkeley, University of California Press, 1987.

Václav Havel, John Keane: *The Power of the Powerless. Citizens against the state in central-eastern Europe*. Armonk, M.E. Sharpe, 1985.

Václav Havel: *Disturbing the Peace. A Conversation With Karel Hvížďala*. London, Faber and Faber, 1990.

Gordon A. Craig: *Germany 1866 – 1945*. Oxford, Oxford University Press, 1981 (1866-1918 or 1919-1933 or 1933-1945).

Lonnie Johnson: *Central Europe. Enemies, neighbors, friends*. New York, Oxford University Press, 1996.

Konrad H. Jarausch: *The rush to German Unity*. New York, Oxford University Press, 1994.

Philip D. Zelikow, Condoleezza Rice: *Germany Unified and Europe Transformed. A Study in Statecraft*. Cambridge, Harvard University Press, 1995.

Ann L. Phillips: *Power and Influence after the Cold War. Germany in East-Central Europe*. Lanham, Rowman & Littlefield, 2000.

Adrian Hyde-Price: *The International Politics of East Central Europe*. Manchester, Manchester University Press, 1996

Adrian Hyde-Price: *Germany and European order. Enlarging NATO and the EU*. Manchester, Manchester University Press, 2000.

NB: Documents marked with * are to be found in the reader.