

Central and Eastern Europe in the Twentieth Century

EUH 3564.

27173 AF21

Period 5

MWF

Online (100%)

MWF 11:45 a.m.-12:35 p.m.

Office hours: MW: 11:30-11:45: 2:50-4:15
and by appointment

To set up a zoom meeting outside of normal office
hours (10 a.m.-10 p.m. M-F):

contact me by email freifeld@ufl.edu

or text 352-562-5956

Required readings:

Iván Berend, *Decades of Crisis*

Iván Berend, *Central and Eastern Europe, 1944-1993*

Heda Kovaly, *Under a Cruel Star*

Czeslaw Milosz, *Captive Mind*

Tadeus Borowski, *This Way for Gas, Ladies and Gentlemen*

•Gale Stokes, *From Stalinism to Pluralism*

•Slavenka Drakulic, *Café Europa, Life After Communism*

Requirements:

Midterm 25%; 5-6 page paper, 30%; Final, 30%; Participation (oral and discussion board), 15%.

This course studies the emergence of six small European countries (Austria, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Romania and Yugoslavia) through a tumultuous period of nationalist rivalry, holocaust, and forced cooperation. This area became the battlefield and slaughterhouse of Europe. We will take seriously the years of grieving, the time between genocide and the Cold War.

Eastern Europe seemed to disappear from European concern for nearly fifty years. What happened in Eastern Europe while it was in the icebox of Communism? In addition to its intellectual and economic troubles, we will watch life ease into a “normal” pattern, politics restarting, and examine the immediate and long-range causes of the unexpected chain of revolutions that swept through the region in 1989.

With Soviet interference removed, a labyrinth of ethnic, religious and racial tensions were again exposed. War raged in the former Yugoslavia; Czechoslovakia split apart.

The region has joined the EU but turned nostalgically to the 1920s and its nationalist, illiberal past.

Discussions will not be recorded, but both audio and video presence is required

Participation in our class is fundamental since improving oral conversation skills is a key objective of the course. Thus, students are required to have their cameras on from start to finish during our classes on Zoom. A default setting for our sessions in Zoom is that participants will be muted when they enter, so you will unmute yourself when you comment orally during our whole-group conversations and when you are in small groups. Your instructor may also ask students to reply in the chat box for specific activities. Oral comments on camera and written comments in the chat box are considered activities for participation.

Exceptions will be made for technical difficulties. If you have technical issues, please immediately consult UF IT Help to resolve them and then contact your instructor.

Please dress appropriately for class. I prefer people be sitting up on a chair or bed, if possible.

Zoom sessions will not be recorded by the instructor and may not be recorded by students. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded material is prohibited.

Sessions are to be recorded, when I share the screen to lecture using a powerpoint or texts, I will usually record the session. *If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.*

Schedule of classes (The schedule of classes is approximate and subject to change—including test dates. Movies are dependent on availability.)

Week 1

Who are we? Where is Eastern Europe?

Jan. 11-13 Introductions

15 WWI

Reading: Pieter Judson, Ch. 8 & Epilogue

Jan. 18: no class

Week 2, Jan. 20-22

Breakup of the Habsburg Monarchy

Readings: Pieter Judson, Ch. 8 & Epilogue

Berend, *Crisis*, Part II, Ch. 5-7, pp. 115-202

Week 3, Jan. 25-29

25-27. Revolution: Nationalism in Charge

Berend, *Crisis*, Part II, Ch 5-6, 115-184

29. Drawing states

Berend, *Crisis*, Part II, Ch. 7, pp. 185-202

Week 4, Feb 1-5

Fascism and Economic Crises

Readings: Berend, *Crisis*, ch. 9-12, pp. 224-299

Week 5, Feb. 8-12

Midterm Feb. 8

War and the Road to Genocide

Readings: Berend, *Crisis*, ch. 13, pp. 300-357; Tadeus Borowski, *This Way for Gas, Ladies and Gentlemen*

Week 6: Feb. 15-19

The Holocaust

Finish Borowski, Heda Kovaly, *Under a Cruel Star*, first part.

Week 7, Feb. 22-24

Liberation, Migration, and the Immediate Postwar Years, 1945-48

Reading:

Reading: Kovaly; begin Milosz; Stokes, 10-50; Berend, *Detour*, pp. 1-38;

Feb. 26 *The Third Man*

(optional movie: *1945*)

Week 8, March 1-5

Tito, Home Communism & The Making of the Cold War

Reading: Complete Milosz, Stokes, 58-77; Berend, *Detour*, 39-93

Movie: *Sunshine* or *Those Who Remained*

Week 9, March 8-12

March 8 5 pg. paper due

Hungarian Revolution of 1956

Reading: Berend, *Detour*, 94-152; Stokes, 80-114

Movie: *Unbearable Lightness of Being*

Week 10, March 15-19

Prague Spring

Reading: Berend, *Detour*, 153-181; Stokes, 122-180

Week 11, March 22-26

Economic Stagnation, Goulash Communism

24—no class

Reading: Berend, *Detour*, 182-253 begin; Stokes 182-203

Movie: Wajda, *Man of Marble*

Week 12, March 29-31, April 2

Living in Communism-lite

Reading: *Detour*, 182-253, complete; Stokes, 204-241

Week 13, April 5-9

The “revolutions” of 1989

Reading: Ch. 7, *Detour*, 254-301; Stokes, 242-253

Week 14, April 12-16

The Collapse of Yugoslavia

Reading: Excerpt from Slavenka Drakulic, *Café Europa, Life After Communism*, Stokes, 256-294

Movie: Tone Bringa, "*Bosnia: We Are All Neighbors*"

Week 15, April 19

Illiberal democracy

Reading: Berend, *Detour*, 301-381

Final Exam:

April 30 **7:30-9:30 a.m.**