

History 652

Readings in East-Central European History

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The basic goal of this class is to familiarize you with the English-language scholarship on modern East-Central Europe, defined (very approximately) as the territory encompassed today by Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Hungary. We will read a wide variety of texts, sampling a range of methodological approaches, topics, and academic disciplines. The main emphasis will be placed on more recent works that reflect the state of the field at this moment, but we will also include some classic works of scholarship that raise questions still discussed by historians today.

There are three basic requirements for this course: read the assigned material, participate actively in our discussions, and submit two 10-15 page review essays. For each week, you must read *one* of the books listed on the schedule of assignments. Many of these are out of print, so it will be necessary to negotiate among yourselves how to share the library copies, all of which have been placed on three-day reserve. Those taking a prelim field with me will want to read all of these books eventually, but you do not need to read them all for the purposes of this class.

The papers are due on October 30 and December 18. For each essay you are expected to read three or four books dealing with a topic of your choosing, and write a paper analyzing the methodological and/or theoretical approaches of the authors and the historiographical significance of the books. These essays are not supposed to be mere book reviews, but integrated critical surveys of a body of scholarship. We will discuss this project in more detail as the due-dates approach, and I will provide you with some model review essays. On October 23 and December 11 you will have to present a brief oral synopsis of your paper to the class (lasting no more than 10 minutes each). All of these dates are quite firm, and extensions will be granted only in extreme circumstances.

The reading list is organized thematically, with only a loose chronological progression. A basic grasp of the general narrative of modern East European history will be necessary to fully appreciate our discussions. The following survey textbooks are good background sources:

- Rothschild, Joseph. *East Central Europe Between the Two World Wars*. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1974.
 - Rothschild, Joseph. *Return to Diversity: A Political History of East Central Europe Since World War II*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1993.
 - Hoensch, Jorg. *A History of Modern Hungary, 1867-1994*. London: Routledge, 1996.
 - Kontler, László. *A History of Hungary*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2002.
 - Agnew, Hugh. *The Czechs and the Lands of the Bohemian Crown*. Palo Alto: Hoover Institute Press, 2004.
 - Mamatey, Victor and Radomir Luza, Eds. *A History of the Czechoslovak Republic, 1918-1948*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1973.
 - Stone, Norman and Eduard Strouhal, Eds. *Czechoslovakia: Crossroads and Crises, 1918-1988*. London: Macmillan, 1989.
 - Ascherson, Neal. *The Struggles for Poland*. New York: Random House, 1988.
 - Lukowski, Jerzy and Hubert Zawadzki. *A Concise History of Poland*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001.
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Discussion Topics and Assignments

For each week, read *ONE* of the books listed.

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
9/4	Introduction	
9/11	Nation Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bucur, Maria, and Nancy M. Wingfield, eds. <i>Staging the Past: The Politics of Commemoration in Habsburg Central Europe, 1848 to the Present</i>. West Lafayette: Purdue University Press, 1991. • King, Jeremy. <i>Budweisers into Czechs and Germans: A Local History of Bohemian Politics, 1848-1948</i>. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2002. • Dabrowski, Patrice M. <i>Commemorations and the Shaping of Modern Poland</i> (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2004). • Stauter-Halsted, Keely. <i>The Nation in the Village: The Genesis of Peasant National Identity in Austrian Poland, 1848-1914</i>. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2002. • Kieval, Hillel. <i>The Making of Czech Jewry: National Conflict and Jewish Society in Bohemia, 1870-1918</i>. New York: Oxford University Press, 1988. • Neuburger, Mary. <i>The Orient Within: Muslim Minorities and the Negotiation of Nationhood in Modern Bulgaria</i>. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2004. • Cooley, Timothy J. <i>Making Music in the Polish Tatras: Tourists, Ethnographers, and Mountain Musicians</i>. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2005.
9/18	The Jews of Eastern Europe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Levine, Hillel. <i>Economic Origins of Antisemitism: Poland and Its Jews in the Early Modern Period</i>. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1991. • Hundert, Gershon David. <i>The Jews in a Polish Private Town</i>. Baltimore, Johns Hopkins, 1992. • Rosman, M. J. <i>The Lords' Jews: Magnate-Jewish Relations in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth during the Eighteenth Century</i>. Cambridge: Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute and Center for Jewish Studies, 1991. • Martin, Sean. <i>Jewish Life in Cracow, 1918-1939</i>. London: Vallentine Mitchell, 2004. • Marcus, Joseph. <i>Social and Political History of the Jews in Poland, 1919-1939</i>. New York : Mouton Publishers, 1983. • Mendelsohn, Ezra. <i>The Jews of East Central Europe between the World Wars</i>. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1984.
9/25	The Politics of Exclusion and Inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bucur, Maria. <i>Eugenics and Modernization in Interwar Romania</i>. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2002. • Feinberg, Melissa. <i>Elusive Equality: Gender, Citizenship and the Limits of Democracy in Czechoslovakia , 1918-1950</i>. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2006. • Porter, Brian. <i>When Nationalism Began to Hate: Imagining Modern Politics in 19th Century Poland</i>. New York: Oxford University Pres, 2000. • Hanebrink, Paul. <i>In Defense of Christian Hungary: Religion, Nationalism, and Antisemitism in Hungary, 1890-1944</i>. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2006. • Blobaum, Robert, Ed. <i>Antisemitism and Its Opponents in Modern Poland</i>. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2005. • Naimark, Norman, <i>Fires of Hatred: Ethnic Cleansing in Twentieth-Century Europe</i>. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2002

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
10/2	Resistance and Collaboration during WWII	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jolluck, Katherine R. <i>Exile and Identity: Polish Women in the Soviet Union during World War II</i>. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2002. • Gross, Jan Tomasz. <i>Polish Society under German Occupation: The Generalgouvernement, 1939-1944</i>. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1979. • Gross, Jan Tomasz. <i>Neighbors</i>. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2001. If you read this, also read <i>Thou Shalt Not Kill: Poles on Jedwabne</i>, available at http://free.ngo.pl/wiez/jedwabne/main.html • Paulsson, Gunnar. <i>Secret City: The Hidden Jews of Warsaw, 1940–1945</i>. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2002. • Snyder, Timothy. <i>The Reconstruction of Nations: Poland, Ukraine, Lithuania, Belarus, 1569-1999</i>. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2002. • Nagy-Talavera, Nicholas. <i>The Green Shirts and the others; a history of Fascism in Hungary and Rumania</i>. Palo Alto: Stanford University Press, 1970. • Mastny, Vojtech. <i>The Czechs under Nazi Rule: The Failure of National Resistance</i>. New York: Columbia University Press, 1971.
10/9	Stalinism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kenney, Padraic. <i>Rebuilding Poland: Workers and Communists, 1945-1950</i>. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1997. • Connelly, John. <i>Captive University: The Sovietization of East German, Czech, and Polish Higher Education, 1945-1956</i>. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 2000. • Abrams, Bradley. <i>The Struggle for the Soul of the Nation: Czech Culture and the Rise of Communism</i>. Lanham: Rowman and Littlefield, 2004. • Naimark Norman and Leonid Gabianskii, Eds., <i>The Establishment of Communist Regimes in Eastern Europe, 1944-1949</i>. Boulder: Westview Press, 1997. • Tomaszewski, Jerzy. <i>The Socialist Regimes of East Central Europe: Their Establishment and Consolidation, 1944-1967</i>. Translated by Jolanta Krauze. New York: Routledge, 1989. • Kersten, Krystyna. <i>The Establishment of Communist Rule in Poland, 1943-1948</i>. Translated by John Micgiel and Michael H. Bernhard. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1991.
10/16	NO CLASS	
10/23	Midterm Presentations	
10/30	What Was Socialism?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verdery, Katherine. <i>What Was Socialism and What Comes Next?</i> Princeton University Press, 1996. • Berend, Ivan T. <i>Central and Eastern Europe, 1944-1993: Detour from the Periphery to the Periphery</i>. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996. • Swain, Nigel. <i>Hungary: The Rise and Fall of Feasible Socialism</i>. London: Verso, 1992. • Lampland, Martha. <i>The Object of Labor: Commodification in Socialist Hungary</i>. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1995. • Nagengast, Carole. <i>Reluctant Socialists, Rural Entrepreneurs</i>. Boulder: Westview Press, 1991. • Crowley, David and Susan Reid, Eds., <i>Style and Socialism: Modernity and Material Culture in Postwar Eastern Europe</i>. Oxford: Berg, 2000.
11/6	Women, Gender, and Socialism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goven, Joanna. <i>The Gendered Foundations of Hungarian Socialism: State, Society, and the Anti-Politics of Anti-Feminism, 1949-1990</i>. Ph.D. Dissertation, University of California, 1993. • Kligman, Gail. <i>The Politics of Duplicity: Controlling Reproduction in Ceausescu's Romania</i>. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1998. • Haney, Lynne. <i>Inventing the Needy: Gender and the Politics of Welfare in Hungary</i>. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2002.

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
11/13	Nation, Ethnicity, and Socialism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verdery, Katherine. <i>National Ideology under Socialism: Identity and Cultural Politics in Ceaușescu's Romania</i>. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1991. • Brown, Kate. <i>A Biography of No Place: From Ethnic Borderland to Soviet Heartland</i>. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press, 2004). • T. David Curp, <i>A Clean Sweep? The Politics of Ethnic Cleansing in Western Poland, 1945-1960</i> (Rochester: University of Rochester Press, 2006). • Stewart, Michael. <i>The Time of the Gypsies</i>. Boulder: Westview Press, 1997. • Steinlauf, Michael. <i>Bondage to the Dead: Poland and the Memory of the Holocaust</i>. Syracuse University Press, 1996. • Huener, Jonathan. <i>Auschwitz, Poland, and the Politics of Commemoration, 1945-1979</i>. Athens, Ohio: Ohio University Press, 2003.
11/20	Dissent and Resistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ost, David. <i>Solidarity and the Politics of Anti-Politics: Opposition and Reform in Poland since 1968</i>. Philadelphia, 1990. • Long, Kristi. <i>We All Fought For Freedom: Women in Poland's Solidarity Movement</i>. Boulder: Westview, 1996. • Kubik, Jan. <i>The Power of Symbols against the Symbols of Power: The Rise of Solidarity and the Fall of State Socialism in Poland</i>. University Park: Pennsylvania State University Press, 1994. • Kenney, Padraic. <i>A Carnival of Revolution</i>. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2002. • Litvan, Gyorgy, ed., <i>The Hungarian Revolution of 1956</i>. London: Longman, 1996. • Kusin, Vladimir. <i>The Intellectual Origins of the Prague Spring</i>. Cambridge University Press, 1971.
11/27	Economics and Politics after 1989	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dunn, Elizabeth C. <i>Privitizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business, and the Remaking of Labor</i>. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2004. • Verdery, Katherine. <i>The Vanishing Hectare: Property and Value in Postsocialist Transylvania</i>. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2003. • Ost, David. <i>The Defeat of Solidarity: Anger and Politics in Postcommunist Europe</i>. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2005 • Poznański, Kazimierz. <i>Poland's Protracted Transition: Institutional Change and Economic Growth, 1970-1994</i>. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996.
12/4	Society and Culture after 1989	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ghodsee, Kristen. <i>The Red Riviera: Gender, Tourism and Postsocialism on the Black Sea</i>. Durham: Duke University Press, 2005. • Zubrzycki, Geneviève. <i>Auschwitz With, or Without the Cross? Nationalism and Religion in Post-Communist Poland</i>. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2006. • James, Beverly. <i>Imagining Postcommunism: Visual Narratives of Hungary's 1956 Revolution</i>. College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 2005 • Gal, Susan and Gail Kligman, <i>The Politics of Gender after Socialism: A Comparative-Historical Essay</i>. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2000. • Gal, Susan and Gail Kligman, eds. <i>Reproducing Gender: Politics, Publics, and Everyday Life after Socialism</i>. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2000.
12/11		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Presentations