

Undergraduate Program in Central European Studies

CERGE-EI and the School of Humanities at Charles University



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Central Europe: Shaping a Modern Culture

Dr. Tomáš Hříbek

Fall 2009

Thu 2:00-5:00pm

Course Description:

This course will discuss the emergence of major modernist movements and ideas in the three Central European cities: Prague, Vienna and Budapest. In the period between the late 19th century and the beginning of the WW2, these cities were the main centers of the then disintegrating Austrian-Hungarian Empire and, later, the capitals of three independent states—Czechoslovakia, Austria and Hungary, respectively. Despite the political turmoil, all the three cities became a watershed of the ideas that remain to be the sources of the Western culture even today, including the dominant trends in the current North American culture. Thus, we shall see how the dominant ideas in the fields as diverse as **religion, philosophy, science, psychology, art** and **architecture** that have shaped the 20th century culture in the West can all be traced back to the works of the Austrian, Czech or Hungarian intellectuals such as Franz Brentano, Sigmund Freud, Adolf Loos and Georg Lukács. We shall have the extraordinary opportunity to study the fermentation of these ideas “on site,” in the very places in which these ideas originated, as we shall trod the streets of Prague, Vienna and Budapest to experience the complex relationships between the ideas and the urban geography.

Course Objectives:

To provide the students with a good grasp of the ideas that originated in the Central European region in the era of modernism, and an understanding of their historical as well as contemporary relevance. This is not an art history course, but a course on the history of ideas.

Structure:

The course will consist of lectures, seminar discussions of readings, and city walks and trips.

Requirements:

Students are required to attend all classes as well as out-of-class activities. The course is primarily structured around class discussions of readings, so that everybody is expected to follow those in order to be able to actively participate in discussions. There are both **required readings** and **optional readings**, the former are usually primary sources, while the latter are mostly secondary sources. Whatever lecturing about history and context of the ideas from the primary sources there is, it will be anchored in the optional readings. Thus, if students don't catch everything from lectures, they are strongly encouraged to go to the relevant optional readings as well as the required readings. Ahead of each class, study questions for the upcoming required reading will be sent out to students by email. Occasionally, questions that we shall have no time to tackle in class will be assigned as **homework** to be turned in in writing. The main work for the class will consist of a **paper** on a topic chosen from a list of suggested topics. The paper should not exceed 10 typed pages (excluding any documentation, such as photos,

drawings, etc.). The style of formatting is optional, but whatever style is chosen should be adhered to consistently. Finally, there will also be a multiple-choice in-class **exam** based on readings and lectures. Make-up exams will be allowed only in the case of medical or family emergencies. The same applies to late papers.

Academic Honesty:

Although the students are encouraged to exchange ideas in and outside class, everybody is required to submit their own work. That means that copying the work of other students or published materials is strictly prohibited.

Selected Bibliography in English:

Primary sources:

Ayer, A. J. (ed.) (1959). *Logical Positivism*, London.

Brentano, Franz (1973 [1874]). *Psychology from an Empirical Standpoint*, trans. by L. L. McAlister. London: Routledge.

Freud, Sigmund (2002 [1930]). *Civilization and Its Discontents*, introd. by Leo Bersani, trans. and ed. by David McLintock. London: Penguin.

_____ (1999 [1900]). *The Interpretation of Dreams*, trans. by Joyce Crick, ed. with notes by Ritchie Robertson. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

_____ (2006). *The Psychology of Love*, introd. by Jeri Johnson, trans. by Shaun Whiteside. London: Penguin.

Kraus, Karl (1984). *In These Great Times: A Karl Kraus Reader*, ed. by Harry Zohn, London: Carcanet.

Loos, Adolf (1982 [1921]). *Spoken into the Void: Collected Essays 1897-1900*, introd. by Aldo Rossi, trans. by Jane O. Newman and John H. Smith. Cambridge, Mass.: The MIT Press.

Lukács, Georg (1971 [1922]). *History and Class Consciousness*, trans. by Rodney Livingstone. Cambridge, Mass.: The MIT Press.

_____ (1974 [1911]). *Soul and Form*, trans. by . Anna Bostock. London: Merlin Press.

Mach, Ernst (1959 [1886]). *The Analysis of Sensations and the Relation of the Physical to the Psychological*, trans. by M. C. Williams, rev. by Sydney Waterlow. New York: Dover.

_____ (1960 [1904]). *The Science of Mechanics: A Critical and Historical Account of Its Development*, trans. by Thomas J. McCormack. La Salle, Ill.: Open Court.

Mannheim, Karl (1936 [1929]). *Ideology and Utopia*, trans. by Louis Wirth and Edward Shils. London: Routledge and Kegan Paul.

Masaryk, Thomas G. (1972 [1898]). *Masaryk on Marx: An Abridged Edition of T. G. Masaryk, The Social Question*, trans. and ed. by Erazim Kohák. Bucknell University Press.

_____ (1970 [1881]). *Suicide and the Meaning of Civilization*, introd. by Anthony Giddens, trans. by William B. Weist and Robert G. Batson. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.

Matejka, Ladislav and Irwin R. Titunik (eds.) (1984), *Semiotics of Art: Prague School Contributions*, Cambridge, Mass.: The MIT Press.

Menger, Karl (1994). *Principles of Economics*, Glencoe, Ill.: The Free Press.

Mises, Ludwig von (1985). *Liberalism in the Classical Tradition*, trans. by Ralph Raico. New York: The Foundation for Economic Education.

- Mukařovský, Jan (1977). *The Word and Verbal Art*, trans. by John Burbank and Peter Steiner. Yale University Press.
- _____ (1978). *Structure, Sign and Function*, trans. and ed. by John Burbank and Peter Steiner. Yale University Press.
- Musil, Robert (1995). *Precision and Soul: Essays and Addresses*, trans. by Burton Pike and David S. Luft. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.
- Popper, Karl (1959 [1935]). *The Logic of Scientific Discovery*, London: Routledge.
- Riegl, Alois (2004 [1966]). *Historical Grammar of the Visual Arts*, introd. by Benjamin Binstock, trans. by Jacqueline E. Jung. New York: Zone Books.
- _____ (1992 [1893]). *Problems of Style: Foundations for a History of Ornament*, trans. by E. Kain. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Schoenberg, Arnold (1975 [1950]). *Style and Idea*, ed. by Leonard Stein, trans. by Leo Black. New York: St. Martin's Press.
- Teige, Karel (2002 [1932]). *The Minimum Dwelling*, Cambridge, Mass.: The MIT Press.
- _____ (2000 [1947]). *Modern Architecture in Czechoslovakia and Other Essays*, Santa Monica, Cal.: Getty Foundation.
- Waismann, Friedrich (1979). *Ludwig Wittgenstein and the Vienna Circle*, ed. by B. F. McGuinness, Oxford: Blackwell.
- Weininger, Otto (2005 [1903]). *Sex and Character: An Investigation of Fundamental Principles*, trans. by Ladislaus Lob, Daniel Steuer and Laura Marcus, Indianapolis: Indiana University Press.
- Wittgenstein, Ludwig (1961 [1919]). *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus*, trans. by D. F. Pears and B. F. McGuinness, with and introd. by Bertrand Russell. London: Routledge and Kegan Paul.
- Wood, Christopher (ed.) (2003). *Vienna School Reader: Politics and Art Historical Method in the 1930s*, New York: Zone Books.
- Zweig, Stefan (1943 [1942]). *The World of Yesterday: An Autobiography*, trans. anonymous, New York: Viking Press.

The dates in the square brackets indicate the first edition in the original language.

Secondary sources:

- Anderson, Mark M. (1992). *Kafka's Clothes: Ornament and Aestheticism in the Habsburg Fin-de-Siecle*, Oxford: Clarendon Press.
- Blackmore, J. T., R. Itagaki and S. Tanaka (eds.) (2001). *Ernst Mach's Vienna 1895-1930: Or Phenomenalism as Philosophy of Science*, Dordrecht: Kluwer.
- Colomina, Beatriz (1994). *Privacy and Publicity: Modern Architecture as Mass Media*, Cambridge, Mass.: The MIT Press.
- Dluhosch, Eric and Rostislav Švácha (eds.) (1999). *Karel Teige 1900 – 1951: L'Enfant terrible of the Czech Modernist Avant-garde*. Cambridge, Mass.: The MIT Press.
- Eagleton, Terry (1983). *Literary Theory: An Introduction*, Oxford: Blackwell.
- _____ (2007). *Ideology: An Introduction*. New and Updated Ed., London and New York: Verso.
- Gay, Peter (1988). *Freud: A Life for Our Time*, London: Dent.
- _____ (2002). *Schnitzler's Century: The Making of Middle-Class Culture 1815-1914*, New York: W. W. Norton.

- Gluck, Mary (1991), *Georg Lukács and His Generation, 1900-1918*, Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press.
- Grassl, Wolfgang and Barry Smith (eds.) (1986). *Austrian Economics: Historical and Philosophical Background*, London: Croom Helm.
- Gubser, Mike (2006). *Time's Visible Surface: Alois Riegl and the Discourse on History and Temporality in Fin-de-Siecle Vienna*, Detroit: Wayne State University.
- Haller, Rudolf (1988). *Questions on Wittgenstein*, London: Routledge.
- Hamann, Brigitte (1999). *Hitler's Vienna: A Dictator's Apprenticeship*, trans. by Thomas Thornton. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Hanák, Péter (1998). *The Garden and the Workshop: Essays on the Cultural History of Vienna and Budapest*, Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press..
- Janik, Allan and Stephen Toulmin (1973). *Wittgenstein's Vienna*, New York: Simon and Schuster.
- Johnston, William (1972). *The Austrian Mind*, Berkeley, Cal.: University of California Press.
- Luft, David S. (2003). *Eros and Inwardness in Vienna: Weininger, Musil, Doderer*, Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.
- Magris, Claudio (1989). *Danube*, trans. by Patrick Creagh, London: The Harvill Press.
- McBride, Patrizia C. (2006). *The Void of Ethics: Robert Musil and the Experience of Modernity*, Evanston: Northwestern University Press.
- Monk, Ray (1990). *Wittgenstein: The Duty of Genius*, London: Jonathan Cape.
- Moravánszky, Ákos (1998). *Competing Visions: Aesthetic Invention and Social Imagination in Central European Architecture 1867-1918*, Cambridge, Mass.: The MIT Press.
- Morton, Frederic (1979). *A Nervous Splendour: Vienna 1888-1889*, New York: Penguin.
- _____ (1989). *Thunder at Twilight: Vienna 1913-1914*, Cambridge, Mass.: Da Capo.
- Neu, Jerome (ed.) (1991). *The Cambridge Companion to Freud*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Nyíri, J. C. (ed.) (1981). *Austrian Philosophy: Studies and Texts*, Munich: Philosophia.
- Pynsent, Robert (ed.) (1989). *Decadence and Innovation: Austro-Hungarian Life and Art at the Turn of the Century*, London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson.
- Sayer, Derek (2002). *The Coasts of Bohemia: A Czech History*, Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
- Schorske, Carl (1981). *Fin-de-siecle Vienna: Politics and Culture*, New York: Vintage Books.
- _____ (1998). *Thinking with History: Exploration in the Passage to Modernism*, Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
- Sengoopta, Chandak (2002). *Otto Weininger: Sex, Science, and Self in Imperial Vienna*, Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.
- Smith, Barry (1994). *Austrian Philosophy: The Legacy of Franz Brentano*, La Salle, Ill.: Open Court.
- _____ (ed.) (1981). *Structure and Gestalt: Philosophy and Literature in Austria-Hungary and Her Successor States*, Amsterdam: John Benjamins.
- Šváchá, Rostislav (1995). *The Architecture of New Prague*, Cambridge, Mass.: The MIT Press.
- Toman, Jindřich (1995). *The Magic of a Common Language: Jakobson, Mathesius, Trubetzkoy, and the Prague Linguistic Circle*, Cambridge, Mass.: The MIT Press.
- Woodfield, Richard (ed.) (2001). *Framing Formalism: Riegl's Work*, London: Routledge.

Grading System:

Class participation/attendance	13%
Homeworks	20%
Final exam	30%
Final paper	37%

Course Schedule:

R1	Course Reader 1 (Required Readings)
R2	Course Reader 2 (Optional Readings)
L	Library

Week 1

Oct 1 Introduction. Class trip around downtown Prague: modernization of an ancient city.

In class: Modernization of Vienna, Prague and Budapest – architectural, cultural and social aspects.

HAVE READ:

Schorske, “The Ringstrasse, Its Critics, and the Birth of Urban Modernism”, from Schorske (1981, 24-115) **(R1)**

Hanák, “Urbanization and Civilization: Vienna and Budapest in the Nineteenth Century”, from Hanák (1998, 3-43) **(R1)**

Švácha, “Modern Style in the Streets of Prague”, from Švácha (1995, 18-97) **(R1)**

OPTIONAL READING:

Janik and Toulmin, “Habsburg Vienna: City of Paradoxes”, from Janik and Toulmin (1973, 33-66) **(R2)**

Hanák, “The Garden and the Workshop: Reflections on Fin-de-Siecle Culture in Vienna and Budapest”, from Hanák (1998, 63-97) **(R2)**

Sayer, “Mirrors of Identity”, from Sayer (2000, 82-153) **(R2)**

Week 2

Oct 8 Franz Brentano and the Austrian tradition in philosophy. Brentano and Franz Kafka.

Class trip to Café Louvre, the favorite hangout of the Prague Brentanists.

HAVE READ:

Brentano, “The Concept and Purpose of Psychology”, from Brentano (1973 [1874], 3-27) **(R1)**

Brentano, “The Distinction Between Mental and Physical Phenomena”, from Brentano (1973 [1874], 77-100) **(R1)**

Kafka, “The Metamorphosis” (1995 [1915], 76-126) **(R1)**

OPTIONAL READING:

Smith, “Austrian Philosophy and the Brentano School”, from Smith (1994, 7-34) **(R2)**

Smith, “Kafka and Brentano: A Study in Descriptive Psychology”, from Smith (1981, 113-144) **(R2)**

Week 3

Oct 15 Ernst Mach on theory of science and T. G. Masaryk on modernity and suicide.

HAVE READ:

Mach, “Introductory Remarks: Antimetaphysical”, from Mach (1959 [1886], 1-37) **(R1)**

Masaryk, "Civilization and the Tendency to Suicide", from Masaryk (1970 [1881], 140-220) (R1)
Masaryk, "Toward a Remedy for the Modern Suicide Tendency", from Masaryk (1970 [1881], 221-231) (R1)

OPTIONAL READING:

Janik and Toulmin, "Language, Ethics and Representation", from Janik and Toulmin (1973, 120-166, esp. 133-142) (R2)
Giddens, "Introduction", from Masaryk (1970, xix-xli) (R2)

Week 4

Oct 22 Sigmund Freud's new science of the mind.

HAVE READ:

Freud, "The Method of Interpreting Dreams", from Freud (1999 [1900], 78-97) (R1)
Freud, "The Dream is a Wish-Fulfillment", from Freud (1999 [1900], 98-105) (R1)
Freud, "Dream-Distortion", from Freud (1999 [1900], 106-125) (R1)

OPTIONAL READING:

Schorske, "Politics and Patricide in Freud's Interpretation of Dreams", from Schorske (1981, 181-207) (R2)
Hopkins, "The Interpretation of Dreams", from Neu (1991, 86-135) (R2)

Week 5

Oct 29 Otto Weininger on women and the Jews.

Freud on female sexuality.

HAVE READ:

Weininger, "The Nature of Woman and Her Purpose in the Universe", from Weininger (2005 [1903],) (R1)
Weininger, "Judaism", from Weininger (2005 [1903],) (R1)
Freud, *Three Essays on Sexual Theory* (1905), from Freud (2006, 118-153) (R2)

OPTIONAL READING:

Luft, "Otto Weininger's Vision of Gender and Modern Culture", from Luft (2003, 45-88) (R2)
Chodorow, "Freud on Women", from Neu (1991, 224-248) (R2)

Week 6

Nov 5 Adolf Loos on modern design and urban lifestyle.

HAVE READ:

Loos, "Ornament and Crime" (1908) (R1)

OPTIONAL READING:

Colomina, "City", from Colomina (1994, 17-73) (R2)
Colomina, "Interior", from Colomina (1994, 233-280) (R2)

Week 7

Nov 12 Class trip to the Mueller House, the last and the best work of Loos.

Week 8

Nov 19 *Finis Austriae* and the aftermath of the WW1.

OPTIONAL READING:

Moravánszky, "The Architecture of Social Reform", from Moravánszky (1998, 409-442) (R2)

Sayer, "Modernisms and Modernities", from Sayer (2000, 154-220) (R2)

From Ludwig Wittgenstein to the Vienna Circle on language, science and value.

HAVE READ:

Wittgenstein, "Lecture on Ethics", from Wittgenstein (1993 [1929], 37-44) (R1)

"Wissenschaftliche Weltauffassung: Der Wiener Kreis" (1929) (R1)

OPTIONAL READING:

Janik and Toulmin, "The *Tractatus* Reconsidered: An Ethical Deed", from Janik and Toulmin (1973, 167-201) (R2)

Week 9

Nov 26 Georg Lukács on Marxism and totality, Karl Mannheim on ideology and utopia.

HAVE READ:

Lukács, "Class Consciousness", from Lukács (1971 [1922], 46-86) (R1)

Mannheim, "The Utopian Mentality", from Mannheim (1929) (R1)

OPTIONAL READING:

Lukács, "Introduction", from Lukács (1974 1911) (R2)

Lukács, "Metaphysics of Tragedy", from Lukács (1974 1911) (R2)

Congdon, "The Tragic Sense of Life: Lukács's 'The Soul and the Forms'", from Nyíri (1981, 43-74) (R2)

Gluck, "The Sunday Circle", from Gluck (1991) (R2)

Eagleton, "From Lukács to Gramsci" (2007, 93-123, esp. 93-106, 107-110) (R2)

Week 10

Dec 3 Karel Teige on Art and Architecture.

HAVE READ:

Teige, "Constructivism and the Liquidation of Art" (1926), from Teige (2000, 331-340) (R1)

Teige, "Introductory Remarks: Toward a Dialectic of Architecture and a Sociology of Dwelling", from Teige (2002 [1932], 9-31) (R1)

OPTIONAL READING

Švábca, "Scientific and Emotional Functionalism" (1995, 240-301) (R2)

TOPICS FOR THE FINAL PAPER AND STUDY QUESTIONS FOR THE FINAL EXAM MADE AVAILABLE IN CLASS.

Week 11

Dec 10 Sigmund Freud on religion and civilization.

HAVE READ:

Freud, *Civilization and Its Discontents*, from Freud (2002 [1930], 3-82) (R1)

OPTIONAL READING:

Deigh, "Freud's Later Theory of Civilization: Changes and Implications", from Neu (1991) (R2)

Week 12

Dec 17 FINAL PAPER DUE IN CLASS, FINAL EXAM IN CLASS.

European studies is a university program that is offered by a number of universities across the world. Enrolling in this masters program gives the student an opportunity to learn the different issues affecting the European countries. Most of the Universities offer programs that emphasize on European development and policies across the European Union member countries and how to foster unity among them. Read more. The masters degree in European studies is an interdisciplinary program encompassing such topics as political science, linguistics, philosophy and geography. Public policies and the differences in application throughout Europe form the core units of the program. The program was initially offered in European countries and it still is more common in the European states. Home Undergraduate Program Requirements. Program Requirements. Majors. Russian Studies. Central & East European Studies. To enter the Central and East European Languages and Cultures minor, students must have an overall grade-point average of 2.0 or better. Required Lower Division Courses (5 units): Central and East European Studies 91 or Slavic 90. Required Upper Division Courses (28-31 units): One three-quarter introductory central and east European language sequence or one 12-unit intensive introductory central and east European language course to be selected from Czech 101A, 101B, 101C; Hungarian 101A, 101B, 101C; Polish 101A, 101B, 101C; Romanian 101A, 101B, 101C, 103; S European studies etc. Europe. Securing admission to an undergraduate certificate program often helps individuals learn about a trade school program. This type of program does not require a prior degree. The certificate indicates an understanding of the basics of the field. The 1993 Maastricht Treaty has had far greater ramifications than on economic policies alone. The discipline of European studies has developed in order to understand the European Union. Read more. Undergraduate Certificate in European Studies. Featured. Read More. European College for Liberal Studies. Barcelona , Spain +5 More. Undergraduate Certificate in European Studies (30 credits). Featured. Undergraduate Certificate in European Studies (30 credits). - Undergraduate Certificate. Full-time.