

CET Syllabus of Term



Program: CET Prague

Course Title: Prague, Vienna, and Budapest - An Intellectual and Cultural History

Course Code: JSCE354

Total Hours: 45

Recommended Credits: 3

Suggested Cross Listings: History, Philosophy

Language of Instruction: English

Prerequisites/Requirements: Open to all students

Professor: Dr. Tomáš Hříbek

Email: tomas_hribek@hotmail.com

Class Schedule: Mon 14:40-16:10pm, Tue 14:40-16:10

Description of the course

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.

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

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.

Course Method & 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

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CET Syllabus of Term

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 two multiple-choice in-class **exams**, mid-term and final, 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.

Methods of Evaluation

Attendance/Homeworks	10%
Mid-Term exam	25%
Final exam	25%
Final paper	40%

Grading scale

A: 93-100%	C+: 77-79%
A-: 90-92%	C: 73-76%
B+: 87-89%	C-: 70-72%
B: 83-86%	D+: 67-69%
B-: 80-82%	D: 60-66%
	F: 59% and below

Attendance Policy

Mandatory attendance is a primary requirement for a responsible learning experience. Please consider that every absence has the potential to lower the final grade, as it may affect the “attendance and participation” portion of your grade or result in missing key information that could appear on quizzes or exams. In addition, professors take attendance at the beginning of the class. If you are more than 10 minutes late, professors mark one hour of absence from class. Onsite visits count as regular class hours. A no-show to a site visit counts as an absence. Detailed information about the Attendance you will find in the **CET**

Prague Academic Policies

Primary texts

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

CET Syllabus of Term

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 Psychical*, 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.

CET Syllabus of Term

_____ (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 texts

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.

CET Syllabus of Term

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.

Švách, 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.

CET Syllabus of Term

Books marked by an asterisk are available in the CET library.

Course Schedule

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

Week 1

Jan 29 Introduction. Class trip around downtown Prague: modernization of an ancient city.

Jan 30 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

Feb 05 Franz Brentano and the Austrian tradition in philosophy.

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)

OPTIONAL READING:

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

Feb 06 Franz Kafka and Franz Brentano. Class trip to Café Louvre, the favorite hangout of the Prague Brentanists.

HAVE READ:

Kafka, "The Metamorphosis" (1995 [1915], 76-126) (L)

OPTIONAL READING:

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

CET Syllabus of Term

Week 3

Feb 12 Ernst Mach and theory of science.

HAVE READ:

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

OPTIONAL READING:

Janik and Toulmin, "Language, Ethics and Representation", from Janik and Toulmin (1973, 120-166, esp. 133-142) **(R2)**

Feb 13 T. G. Masaryk on modernity and suicide.

HAVE READ:

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:

Giddens, "Introduction", from Masaryk (1970, xix-xli) **(R2)**

Week 4

Feb 19 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-Fulfilment", from Freud (1999 [1900], 98-105) **(R1)**

Feb 20 Sigmund Freud's new science of the mind (cont.)

HAVE READ:

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

Feb 26 Otto Weininger on women.

HAVE READ:

CET Syllabus of Term

Weininger, "The Nature of Woman and Her Purpose in the Universe", from Weininger (2005 [1903],) (R1)

Feb 27 Otto Weininger on the Jews.

HAVE READ:

Weininger, "Judaism", from Weininger (2005 [1903]) (R1)

OPTIONAL READING:

Luft, "Otto Weininger's Vision of Gender and Modern Culture", from Luft (2003, 45-88) (R2)

STUDY QUESTIONS FOR THE FINAL EXAM MADE AVAILABLE IN CLASS.

Week 6

Mar 05 Freud on perversion and infantile sexuality.

HAVE READ:

Freud, *Three Essays on Sexual Theory* I-II (1905), from Freud (2006, 118-186) (R1)

OPTIONAL READING:

Neu, "Freud on Perversion", from Neu (1991, 175-208) (R2)

Mar 06 Freud on female sexuality.

HAVE READ:

Freud, *Three Essays on Sexual Theory* III-Recapitulation (1905), from Freud (2006, 187-220) (R1)

OPTIONAL READING:

Chodorow, "Freud on Women", from Neu (1991, 224-248) (R2)

Week 7

Mar 12 MID-TERM EXAM

Mar 13 Georg Lukács on the tragic character of human life.

HAVE READ:

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

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

OPTIONAL READING:

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

CET Syllabus of Term

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

Week 8

Mar 19 NO CLASS: Traveling Seminar

Mar 20 NO CLASS: Traveling Seminar

Week 9

Mar 26 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)

Mar 27 Class trip to the Villa Mueller, the last and best work of Loos.

Week 10

Apr 02 NO CLASS: Spring Break

Apr 03 NO CLASS: Spring Break

Week 11

Apr 09 *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)

Apr 10 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 Weltfaufassung: 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 12

CET Syllabus of Term

Apr 16 Georg Lukács on Marxism and totality.

HAVE READ:

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

OPTIONAL READING:

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

Apr 17 Karl Mannheim on ideology and utopia.

HAVE READ:

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

OPTIONAL READING:

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

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

Week 13

Apr 23 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

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

Apr 24 Jan Mukařovský and aesthetic structuralism: literature and the visual arts.

HAVE READ:

Mukařovský, "On Poetic Language" (1940), from Mukařovský (1978) **(R1)**

Mukařovský, "The Essence of the Visual Arts" (1944), from Mukařovský (1978) **(R1)**

OPTIONAL READING:

Eagleton, "Structuralism and Semiotics", from Eagleton (1983, 91-126) **(R2)**

Week 14

Apr 30 Von Mises on socialist calculation.

HAVE READ:

Von Mises, "Economic Calculation in the Socialist Commonwealth" (1920), from von Hayek (1935, 87-122) **(R1)**

CET Syllabus of Term

OPTIONAL READING:

Steele, "A Quick Look at the Mises Argument" (1992), from Steele (1992, 1-24) (R2)

May 01

Freud on religion and civilization.

HAVE READ:

Freud, *Civilization and Its Discontents*, chaps. I-IV (2002 [1930], 3-44) (R1)

OPTIONAL READING:

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

Week 15

May 07

Sigmund Freud on religion and civilization.

HAVE READ:

Freud, *Civilization and Its Discontents*, chaps. V-VIII (2002 [1930], 45-82) (R1)

May 08

FINAL PAPER DUE IN CLASS, FINAL EXAM IN CLASS.