

Gender and Minorities in Post-Socialist Europe

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OUTLINE OF THE COURSE:

This course aims to introduce students with historical and contemporary issues of gender and “minorities” in post-socialist Central/Eastern Europe. In recent years the territorial frontiers of the European community towards the outside and the internal political frontiers between the community and its member states have been shifting significantly. Based on ethnographic work, among other sources, we will analyze how the complex project of Europe is trying to guarantee the coexistence of different ethnic, religious and political forms across national borders based on the principle of cultural diversity and cosmopolitan tolerance.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS-GRADING POLICY:

-Class preparation and participation: this must be the element most crucial to the student’s interest and therefore, the class’s success. Students need to read well the text assigned prior to each class. Students are expected to actively participate in all class discussions. The goal of the course is to develop analytical and critical thinking skills that enable students to understand the texts and lectures and to engage in provoking discussion and written analysis.

-Attendance policy: Students are required to attend class. Excuse medical absence requires a written document the day of return to class. UPCES program only allows one un-excuse absence.

-Grading: Throughout the course students will have weekly assignments and readings, a mid-term exam and a final research project.(see course schedule for due date). Final research paper should be 12 pages length and double-spaced. Guidelines will be given in class.

Participation/daily preparation: 20%

Mid-term exam: 40%

Final research paper: 30%

Oral presentation: 10%

Letter Grade	Percentage	Description
A	93-100	Outstanding work
A-	90-92	
B+	87-89	Good work
B	83-86	
B-	80-82	
C+	77-79	Acceptable Work
C	73-76	
C-	70-72	
D+	67-69	Work that is significantly below average
D	63-66	
D-	60-62	
F	0-59	Work that does not meet the minimum standards for passing the course

REQUIRED READINGS:

Package of readings classified by weeks will be available on-line and in paper.

Additional readings, as any other resource as current documentaries, doc-films or even music, will also be recommended throughout the course according to the needs and expectations of the class and any particular student's interest.

UPCES Non-Discrimination/Harassment Policy

The UPCES program in Prague promotes a diverse learning environment where the dignity, worth, and differences of each individual are valued and respected. Discrimination and harassment, whether based on a person's race, gender, sexual orientation, color, religion, national origin, age, disability, or other legally protected characteristic, are repugnant and completely inconsistent with our objectives. Retaliation against individuals for raising good faith claims of harassment and/or discrimination is prohibited.

UPCES Diversity Policy

UPCES fully embraces diversity and strives to create a safe and welcoming environment for students from all backgrounds. Prague is a wonderfully diverse community and UPCES is no different. All students should feel at home while studying abroad and UPCES will do its utmost to make sure that becomes a reality. Although unique challenges may arise, we believe that students from all walks of life will encounter wonderful opportunities for enrichment as they explore a new culture while studying abroad.

WEEKLY PROGRAM

Week 1

UPCES Orientation Lecture Series

Lectures and site visits on subjects of history, culture, politics, and the economies of the Czech Republic and Central Europe in order to establish a common interdisciplinary background and vocabulary for all courses.

Week 2

Introduction. The construction of minorities in Central and Eastern Europe

Reading

- Agarín, T and Brosig, M. Minority integration in Central and Eastern Europe-An introduction in Agarín. and M. Brosig. *Minority integration in Central and Eastern Europe*. Rodopi BV. Amsterdam-NY, 2009
-Peter Vermeersch and Melanie H. Ram. The Roma in B. Rechel, *Minority rights in Central and Eastern Europe*. Routledge 2009

Week 3

The Jews, The Roma and other minorities under the Nazi regime

Reading

-Uli linke. Gendered difference, violent imagination in U. Linke, *Blood and nation. The European Aesthetics of Race*. University of Pennsylvania Press, 1999

Week 4

Minorities under State Socialism

Reading

-Zoltan Barany, The Roma under State- Socialism in Barany, Z *The East European Gypsies*. Cambridge University Press, 2002
-Georges Mink. Between reconciliation and the reactivation of past conflicts in Europe. Rethinking social memory paradigms. *Sociologický Casopis-Czech Sociological Review*, 2008, Vol 44, No, 3

Week 5

Transition to Democracy and the socio-economic impact on minorities. The cycle of poverty and social exclusion.

Reading

- Renata Sedláková, The media as a tool of social exclusion. An example of presentation of the Roma in the Czech Media, in Sirovatká, T *The Challenge of social inclusion. Minorities and marginalised groups in Czech Society*. Barrister Principal, 2006
- Pavel Navrátil. Social work with socially excluded Roma families in T. Sirovatká, *The Challenge of social inclusion. Minorities and marginalised groups in Czech Society*. Barrister Principal, 2006

Week 6

The policies of the labour market. Gender, Class and the “underclass”

Reading

- Pine. R “Retreat to the household? Gendered domains in Postsocialist Poland” in, Hann, C.M (ed). *Postsocialism. Ideals, Ideologies and Practices in Eurasia*. Routledge. London and New York, 2002
- True, J. Engendering Political Economy in J. True. *Gender, Globalization and Postsocialism. The Czech Republic after Communism*. Columbia University Press, 2003

Week 7

Mid-term Exam

Reading

- Aidan McGarry. Round Pegs in square holes. Integrating the Romani community in Hungary in T. Agarín. and M. Brosig. *Minority integration in Central and Eastern Europe*. Rodopi BV. Amsterdam-NY, 2009

Week 8

Housing and Roma settlements. Can we talk of a process of *Ghettoization*?

Reading

- Tomas Sirovatká. “The policy of labour market and social inclusion” in Sirovatká, T *The Challenge of social inclusion. Minorities and marginalised groups in Czech Society*. Barrister Principal, 2006

Week 9

Education and language minority rights

Reading

- Laura Cashman. Romani teaching assistants in the Czech education system. An opportunity to address barriers to the labour market in T.. Agarín. and M. Brosig. *Minority integration in Central and Eastern Europe*. Rodopi BV. Amsterdam-NY, 2009
- *Alternative secondary schools in Hungary*. Orson and others, 3000, OSCE 2000

Week 10

Islam and women’s rights in the new construction of Europe

Reading

- Umut Erel. Reconceptualizing Motherhood. Experiences of migrant women from Turkey to Germany in, D. Bryceson and U. Vuorela. *The transnational family. New European frontiers and global networks*. BERG, 2002

Week 11

Roots of ethnic conflict and the increase of Neo-nazi groups

Reading

-Lukas Novotný. Right- wing extremism and no-go areas in Germany. In Sociologický Casopis-Czech Sociological Review. Vol 45, 2009

Week 12

Social movements. Towards new policies of multicultural integration in the process of Europeanization and Globalization.

Reading

-Zoltan Barany. Romani mobilization in Z. Barany. *The East European Gypsies*. Cambridge University Press, 2002

-T. Agarin and M. Brosig. Multicultural solutions for Central and Eastern Europe. Concluding observations in T. Agarin. and M. Brosig. *Minority integration in Central and Eastern Europe*. Rodopi BV. Amsterdam-NY, 2009

- Bernd Rechel. The way forward in, B. Rechel. *Minority rights in Central and Eastern Europe*. Routledge, 2009

Week 13

Dateline for Final Research Paper Oral presentations

ADDITIONAL READINGS

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

Balibar, Étienne. 2004. *We, the People of Europe: Reflections on Transnational Citizenship*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Barth, F. 1969. *Ethnic Groups and Boundaries: the Social Organization of Cultural Difference*. London: Allyn and Unwin.

Beck, U and Grande. E. 2007. *Cosmopolitan Europe*. Polity Press.

Borneman, John. 1997. *Settling Accounts: Violence, Justice, and Accountability in Postsocialist Europe*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Bernhard, Michael and Kubik, Jan. 2014. *Twenty years after Communism. The politics of memory and commemoration*. Oxford University Press.

Bloch, Maurice. 2004. "What goes without saying" in *Anthropology and the Cognitive knowledge*. Cambridge University Press.

Borneman, John. 2011. *Political crime and the memory of loss*. Indiana University Press.

Climo, Jacob and Clatell, Maria. 2002. *Social memory and history. Anthropological perspectives*. AltaMira Press.

- Colovic, I. 2002. *The politics of symbol in Serbia*. Hurst Company, London.
- Douglas, Mary. 1966. *Purity and danger. An analysis concept of pollution and taboo*. Routledge and Keeger Paul.
- Gellner, E. 1983. *Nations and Nationalism*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.
- Goll, Sebastian, Mlinaric, Martin and Gold Johannes (Ed.). 2016. *Minorities under attack. Othering and Right-Wing Extremism in Southeast European Societies*. Harrassowitz Verlag. Wiesbaden
- Grandskova, Yulia. 2016. "Women's everyday life in Soviet Russia. Collecting stories, dealing with silences and exploring nostalgia" Ilic, Melanie and Leinarte, Dalia. *The Soviet Past in Post-Socialist present. Methodology, and Ethics in Russia, Baltic and Central Europe*. Routledge.
- Halbwachs, M. 1992. *On Collective Memory*. Univ of Chicago Press.
- Hann, C.M (ed). 2001. *Postsocialism. Ideals, Ideologies and Practices in Eurasia*. Routledge.
- Haukanes, Haldis. 2005. "Telling lives. Autobiography and history after Socialism" *Anthropology of East Europe Review*.
- Pine, Francis, Deema Kaneff, Haukanes, Haldis. (2004) *Memory, politics and religion The past meets the present in Europe*. Lit Verlag
- Soler, E and Calvo (eds). 2016. *Transiciones culturales. Perspectivas desde Europa Central y del Este (Cultural transitions. Perspectives from Central and Eastern Europe)* Madrid: Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC)(chapters in English and in Spanish)
- Stewart, M. 2004. "Remembering without commemoration. The mnemonics and politics of Holocaust memories among European Roma". *The Journal of the Anthropological Institute*. Vol 10, No 3, pp 561-582
- Svasek, M. Postsocialism. *Politics and emotions in Central and Eastern Europe*. Berghahn Books, 2006
- Verdery, K. *The political Lives of Dead Bodies. Reburial and Postsocialist Change*. Columbia University Press, NY, 1999