In the 19th century, the lands of Central Europe existed as the meeting place of three Empires: the German, Austro-Hungarian, and Russian. Today, no fewer than 16 independent nation-states occupy the same European territories once controlled by these Empires. The political transformation of Central (and Eastern) Europe since 1848 included six major revolutionary periods and experiments with almost every modern political ideology, most notably liberalism, nationalism, communism, and fascism. This course is predominantly concerned with how the map of Central Europe changed so radically in the post-1848 period, and what these changes meant to the inhabitants of the region. The focus of the course will be on Germany, Austria, and the lands most impacted by German rule: Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, and to a lesser extent the former Yugoslavia.

With border shifts and regime changes, men and women were forced to make stark, life-altering decisions that often pitted their citizenship, national leanings, religious persuasion, family commitments, ideological affiliations, or economic interests against one another. They were subject to increasing violence from aggressive states to achieve radical ideological goals, reaching a nadir in the murder and genocide of World War II – a cataclysm which destroyed centuries of Jewish life and remade the ethno-political fabric of an entire region. This course thus explores both the political forces and leaders who remade Central Europe, as well as the (often counter-intuitive) choices made by everyday citizens forced to navigate this turbulent history.

The requirements of the course are as follows:
- Attendance and Participation – including group presentation (15%)
- Two map quizzes (10%)
- Three response papers and one research paper précis, 2-pages double-spaced (20%)
- One research paper, 10-12 pages (25%)
- Final Exam (30%)

Attendance and participation are mandatory and unexcused absences will adversely affect your grade. The response papers are intended to gauge your comfort level with historical analysis, and address any issues in your writing before the final paper. Response papers may address a pre-distributed discussion question for any week you choose; however, all three response papers must be written by Week 9. A group presentation during discussion sections, 8-10 minutes in length, will cover a city in Central Europe. You should trace the city’s political history, ethnic and social makeup, and relevance to the themes of the course. You are encouraged to make use of multimedia aids (pictures, maps, YouTube clips, etc.) as warranted.

Your research paper may be on any topic germane to the course. Students must pre-approve their topic with a précis submitted in Week 10. You are expected to consult outside sources for your work. Plagiarism is a serious offense and will result in referral to the Harvard Administrative Board. A handout on citation guidelines will be distributed in class. The final exam will cover the entire course and will consist mainly of analytic essay prompts. There will also be three mandatory evening film screenings during the semester; students who miss the screening are responsible for watching the film on their own.
Books for purchase and on reserve at Lamont:
Marx, *Communist Manifesto*
M. Fulbrook, *Divided Nation* (any edition)
C. Miłosz, *Native Realm*
Rothschild & Wingfield, *Return to Diversity* (any edition) Also available online:
http://digital.library.upenn.edu/ebooks-public/pdfs/0195119924.pdf
A. Spiegelman, *Maus*
H. Kovaly, *Under a Cruel Star*

Items marked with a (*) are available in the course pack, and items with a (‡) can be found online.

**Weeks 1 & 2 – Locating Central Europe**
9/1: Defining Central Europe
9/8: Pre-national Central Europe
‡ L. Wolff, “Introduction” in *Inventing Eastern Europe*, 1-16
http://hdl.handle.net.ezp-prod1.hul.harvard.edu/2027/heb.05073
* M. Fulbrook, *A Concise History of Germany*, 104-115
‡ P. Wandycz, *Lands of Partioned Poland*, Ch. 1
http://hdl.handle.net.ezp-prod1.hul.harvard.edu/2027/heb.05069

**Week 3 – Revolutions and Counter-Revolutions**
9/13: 1848 in Central Europe
9/15: A Failure to Turn?
‡ L. Namier, “1848: Seed-Plot of History?” in *Vanished Supremacies*, 21-30
http://www.archive.org/details/vanishedsupremac002641mbp
- Marx & Engels, *Communist Manifesto*

**Week 4 – Unifications and Responses**
9/20: Unifications and the Liberal Era
9/22: Anti-Semitism and Jewish Life

‡ G. Mazzini, “Duties of Man,” Chs. 1, 5
http://books.google.com/books?id=90cMAAAAYAAJ
* T. Hamerow, *Age of Bismarck*, Selected Documents on German Unification

Week 5 – Between Empires: Nations and Classes
9/27: Nationalism and National Indifference
9/29: The Social Question and Class Movements

* B. Pauley, The Habsburg Legacy, 1-31
- C. Milosz, “Introduction” and “Place of Birth” in Native Realm, 1-35
* J. King, “The Nationalization of East Central Europe,” in: Staging the Past, 112-152
* “Wenzel Holek,” in Kelly, The German Worker, 97-120

Week 6 – The First World War & Revolutions
10/4: Imperial Aims and ‘Mitteleuropa’
10/6: Home Front & Collapse; National and Social Revolutions

Map Quiz #1

* R. Dmowski, Problems of Central & Eastern Europe, 76-89
* B. Davis, “Homefront: Food Politics, and Women’s Everyday Life During the First World War” in Home/ Front, 115-137
* I. Berend, “Class Revolutions and Counter-Revolutions,” “Belated National Revolutions” (excerpts) in: Decades of Crisis, 119-130, 145-73

Week 7 – The 1920s: Between experimentation and revision
10/13: Nation-states, Minorities, Democracies

- M. Fulbrook, The Divided Nation, Ch. 2
- C. Milosz, “Nationalities” and “Marxism,” in Native Realm, 91-127
* I. Berend, “Economic Nationalism…” in Decades of Crisis, 224-245
* J. Roth, What I Saw: Reports from Berlin 1920-1933, Excerpts

Film Screening: M, 1931

Week 8 – Fascism and New International Order
10/18: Nazism and the Decline of International Order
10/20: Toward a Partitioned Europe

- M. Fulbrook, The Divided Nation, Chs. 3 & 4.
* I. Berend, “Political Impact: The Dirty Torrent of Dictatorships” in Decades of Crisis, 300-18, 340-45
- C. Milosz, “The Publican” in Native Realm, 185-202
‡ “Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact,” 22 Aug. 1939
http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1939pact.html

Week 9 – The Holocaust and the Remaking of Nation-States
10/25: Nazi Genocide Between Planning and Chaos
10/27: The Violent Remaking of Central Europe

- M. Fulbrook, Divided Nation, Ch. 5.
‡ Chad Bryant, “Either German or Czech: Fixing Nationality in Bohemia and Moravia, 1939-1946” Slavic Review, 61.4, 2002, 683-706
- A. Spiegelman, Maus, Vol. 1

Film Screening: Shop on Main Street, 1965

Week 10 – The Cold Peace
11/1: Germany: The Fulcrum of Europe
11/3: Stalinism in Central Europe

Map Quiz #2

- M. Fulbrook, The Divided Nation, Ch. 6 (Partial) 150-67
- Rothschild and Wingfield, “Communists Come to Power” (Partial) in Return to Diversity, 75-106
- H. Kovaly, Under a Cruel Star: A Life in Prague, 67-153

Week 11 – Economies, Societies, Protests
11/8: Diverging Economies and Societies
11/10: Protest Eastern and Western Style

Precis Due

- Fulbrook, Divided Nation, 221-64
- Rothschild and Wingfield, “Revenge of the Repressed” (Partial) in Return to Diversity, 147-160, 166-73
* S. Drakulić, How We Survived Communism and Even Laughed, 21-32, 55-65
* M. Djilas, “Dogmatism in the Economy” in The New Class, 103-23
‡ Documents from Prague Spring and invasion, May and Aug 1968:
http://library.thinkquest.org/C001155/documents/doc17.htm
http://library.thinkquest.org/C001155/documents/doc44.htm
http://library.thinkquest.org/C001155/documents/doc50.htm

Week 12 – Bridging the Iron Divide?
11/15: Ostpolitik and Converging Economic Crises
11/17: State & Society in East and West
   - Fulbrook, *Divided Nation*, 265-290
   - Rothschild and Wingfield, “A Precarious Stalemate” in *Return to Diversity*, 191-211
   ‡ Charter 77 Manifesto
   * V. Havel, *The Power of the Powerless*, Chs. 1-4, 10-14

Film Screening: *The Lives of Others*, 2006

Week 13 – The Collapse of Communist Europe
   11/22: Solidarity and New Civil Society
   11/24: From Gorbachev to Germany Reunited
   - Rothschild and Wingfield, “The Various Endgames” in *Return to Diversity*, 226-250
   - Fulbrook, “The East German Revolution” (Partial) in *Divided Nation*, 324-45
   ‡ P. Kenney, “As If in Europe…” in *Carnival of Revolution*, 91-120
   http://hdl.handle.net.ezp-prod1.hul.harvard.edu/2027/heb.05015
   ‡ V. Havel “New Year’s Address to the Nation” 1 Jan 1990

Week 14 – Central Europe’s New Place
   11/29: Democracy, Nationalism, and Violence
   12/1: Towards a Single Europe?
   * T. Judt, “The Reckoning” (Parts on Yugoslavia) in *Postwar*, 665-685
   * Heinen, “Clashes and Ordeals of Women’s Citizenship” in *Women and Citizenship in Central and Eastern Europe*, 81-100
   http://www.h-net.org/~habsweb/occasionalpapers/untaughtlessons.html
   ‡ Garton Ash, “The Puzzle of Central Europe” 1999 (re-read from Week 1)
   ‡ Browse agenda of Central European Forum

*Papers Due by 5 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 7*