

Syllabus of Record

Program: CET Prague

Course Code / Title: (PR/INTR 342) Nationalism, Minorities, and Migrations in Europe

Total Hours: 45

Recommended Credits: 3

Primary Discipline / Suggested Cross Listings: International Relations / Sociology, Political Science, History

Language of Instruction: English

Prerequisites/Requirements: None

Description

Since the French revolution, nationalism has become one of the leading forces in European politics and culture. It has progressively transformed all European states and societies into nation states and national societies. The core of the nationalist project lies at the intersection of two claims--the claim to self-government of a people and the claim to its distinct national identity. This course explores these two claims and delves deeper into historical conditions and the transformation of current European multiculturalism.

The Czech Republic, situated in the center of Europe, is a permanent intersection of cultures and concepts of the West and East. Originally one of the most heterogeneous places in Europe, the Czech Republic began the 1990's as one of the most homogeneous ones. Currently, thanks to migration, EU membership and globalization, the Czech Republic is rapidly becoming diverse again. With these circumstances, the country serves as the ideal location from which to examine this course's topic.

Objectives

The course examines the various issues connected to processes that have formed contemporary European society (Czech society). Students are introduced to the complex phenomena of migration, nationalism, formation of ethnic minorities etc. via a range of perspectives including not only theoretical overviews but also practical illustrations and examples. Some semesters are more theoretically-oriented, while others use a theoretical overview to explore case studies and practical examples.

After completing this course, students are able to:

- Show similarities and differences in national consciousness and minority policies across Europe (e.g., eastern vs. western or ethnic vs. civic nations, small nations vs. colonial powers) and in different historical periods (e.g., from the spring of nations to the age of empire to the post-WWII period)
- Overview European attitudes and policies towards the Jews and the Roma and responses of those minorities to them – from assimilation to dual identity to nationalism
- Discuss European policies towards immigration and immigrants in the post-WWII period including the recent redefinition of some European countries as the countries of immigration

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- Discuss following questions: Can we make analogies between past and present discriminations? Is still anti-Semitism Europe's major problem, or are there new targets of xenophobia (e.g., Muslims, Africans)? What are the effects on these issues of the new international and global situation – e.g., enlargement of the EU, American “war on terror”, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict?

Course Requirements

Students are required to participate actively in class and involve themselves in class discussions.

Participation

Students are required to participate actively in class and involve themselves in class discussions.

Position paper presentation

Each student will be asked once a semester to present her/his position paper (20 min.). Position paper should summarize the reading. It should show students' understanding of the connection with the overall goals of the course. The discussion with the rest of the students will follow. In the week of the presentation of students' position papers, the students should submit extended position paper – it should be at least 800 words long. It is also possible to submit Power Point or other type of presentation/summary which will be made visible to other students of the course.

The Role of Discussant

Once per semester each student will play a role of a discussant. Discussant is asked to submit a discussion outline (300 words at least) based on the reading for the week. This outline should reflect issues and important questions from the texts and also student understanding of connection with the overall goals of the course. Please, bring your outline printed with you to the lesson. The role of a discussant is to summarize the discussion, to ask further questions to student who is presenting the outline and to help other students to understand the papers better.

Midterm Test

The midterm test will be based on the topics discussed in the first half of the semester.

Final Test

The final test will consist of questions related to the discussed topics and obligatory reading.

Final Paper

The final paper is the most important part of the students' work during the whole semester. The topic will be chosen from the list of themes in the syllabus. In writing the final paper, students should draw from the obligatory and suggested readings, guest lecturers, and their own experience. The minimal length of the text is 2000 words.

Students are asked to deliver an outline (200 words) for the final paper by Week 8. The outline should contain a description of the topic, the aims of the final paper, methodology, and a basic list of literature and resources to be used. At the beginning of the semester students will receive a rubric for the final paper - clearly defining how each component of the assignment will be graded.

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Students are expected to abide by CET's Attendance Policy.

Grading

The final grade is determined as follows:

Participation	10%
Role of the Discussant (Outline)	10%
Position paper presentation	30%
Midterm test	10%
Final test	10%
Final paper	30%

Readings

Texts may vary from semester to semester, but usually include:

- Baer, J. "Imagining Membership: The Conception of Europe in the Political Thought of T. G. Masaryk and Václav Havel." *Studies in East European Thought* 52, no. 3 (September 2000): 203–226.
- Barša, P. "Ethnocultural Justice in East European States and the Case of the Czech Roma." In *Can Liberal Pluralism Be Exported? Western Political Theory and Ethnic Relations in Eastern Europe*, edited by W. Kymlicka and M. Opalski, 243–258. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001.
- Berdahl, D. *Where the World Ended: Re-Unification and Identity in the German Borderland*. Berkeley, Los Angeles, and London: University of California Press, 1999.
- Bell, David Andreas, Zan Strabac, and Marko Valenta. "The Importance of Skin Colour in Central Eastern Europe: A Comparative Analysis of Racist Attitudes in Hungary, Poland, and the Czech Republic." *Central and Eastern European Migration Review* 11, no. 1 (2022).
- Betts, P. "The Twilight of the Idols: East German Memory and Material Culture." *The Journal of Modern History* 72, no. 3 (September 2000): 731–765.
- Bryant, Chad Carl. "Global City." In *Prague: Introduction: Belonging and Imagination*, 203–248. In *Prague, Belonging in the Modern City*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press, 2021.
- Bryant, Chad Carl. *Prague: Introduction: Belonging and Imagination*. In *Prague, Belonging in the Modern City*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press, 2021. 1–14.
- Crul, Maurice, and Frans Lelie. "Chapter 8 — A New Political and Policy Framework for the Practice of Living Together." In *The New Minority: People Without a Migration Background in the Superdiverse City*, 121–132. Amsterdam: VU University Press, 2023.
- Čulík, Jan. "Fencing off the East: How the Refugee Crisis Is Dividing the European Union." *The Conversation*. Accessed February 6, 2025. <https://theconversation.com/fencing-off-the-east-how-the-refugee-crisis-is-dividing-the-european-union-47586>.
- Danaher, David S. "Understanding East and West: The World in Existential Crisis." In *Reading Václav Havel*, 138–173. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2015. <https://doi.org/10.3138/9781442621794>.

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- Drbohlav, D., and Džúrová, D. "Where Are They Going? Immigrant Inclusion in the Czech Republic (A Case Study on Ukrainians, Vietnamese, and Armenians in Prague)." *International Migration* 45, no. 2 (2007): 69–93.
- Drbohlav, D., and Čermáková, D. "'A New Song or Evergreen...?' The Spatial Concentration of Vietnamese Migrants' Businesses on Prague's Sapa Site." *Österreich Z Soziol* 41 (2016): 427. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11614-016-0247-1>.
- European Communities. "Declaration on European Identity." *Bulletin of the European Communities*. Copenhagen, December 1973, no. 12: 118–122.
- Frank, S. "Kundera." In *Migration and Literature: Günter Grass, Milan Kundera, Salman Rushdie, and Jan Kjærstad*, 79–127. New York: 2008.
- Frith, K. T., and Mueller, B. "Advertising and Race." In *Advertising and Societies: Global Issues*, 109–120. 2nd ed. New York: Peter Lang Publishing, 2010.
- Hall, Suzanne M. "Super-Diverse Street: A 'Trans-Ethnography' Across Migrant Localities." *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 38, no. 1 (2015): 22–37. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01419870.2013.858175>.
- Hall, Stuart. "The Spectacle of the Other." In *Representations: Cultural Representations and Signifying Practices*, edited by Stuart Hall, 225–279. London, Thousand Oaks, New Delhi: Sage, 2002.
- Hnízdo, B. "Migration and Czech Lands in Modern History and at Present – A Geo-Political Reflection." In *Ai Weiwei: Law of the Journey*, edited by J. Fajt and A. Budak, 124–129. National Gallery in Prague, 2017.
- Holy, L. *The Little Czech and the Great Czech Nation*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996.
- Jeannet, Anne-Marie, and Lenka Dražanová. "Blame It on My Youth: The Origins of Attitudes Towards Immigration." *Acta Politica*, October 28, 2023. <https://doi.org/10.1057/s41269-023-00314-6>.
- Joppke, Christian. "The Neoliberalism–Nationalism Nexus." In *Neoliberal Nationalism: Immigration and the Rise of the Populist Right*, 1–67. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2020. <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108696968>.
- Kalmar, I. "How Central Europeans Became Central European (Time and Time Again)." In *White But Not Quite: Central Europe's Illiberal Revolt*, 112–135. Bristol: Bristol University Press, 2022.
- Kocourek, J. "A Brief History of Czech-Vietnamese Relations and Activities of the Vietnamese in the Czech Republic." In *Tolerance in Multicultural Society of Central Europe*, edited by A. Kroupová and D. Urban, 82–89. Prague: EIS-SVLP UK, 2006.
- Krastev, I. "Perhapsburg: Reflections on the Fragility and Resilience of Europe." In *Rethinking Open Society*, edited by M. Ignatieff and S. Roch, 87–104. Central European University Press, 2018.
- Kudrnáč, Aleš, A. Maureen Eger, and Mikael Hjerm. "Scapegoating Immigrants in Times of Personal and Collective Crises: Results from a Czech Panel Study." *International Migration Review* 0 (2023): 1–20. <https://doi.org/10.1177/01979183231177971>.
- Kundera, M. "The Tragedy of Central Europe." *The New York Review of Books* 31, no. 7 (April 26, 1984): 33–38. ProQuest Central.

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- Luthar, B. "Remembering Socialism: On Desire, Consumption, and Surveillance." *Journal of Consumer Culture* 6 (2006): 229–259.
- Miroslav, N., and Kraus, F. "Bosses, Soldiers and Rice Grains: Vietnamese Criminal Networks and Criminal Activities in the Czech Republic." *Europe-Asia Studies* 68, no. 3 (2016): 508–528.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/09668136.2016.1156054>.
- Pehe, J. "Refugees in Modern Czech History." In *Flight and Exile in Art*, 22–24. Prague: UNHCR, 2002.
- Rupnik, J. "Migrants as a Mirror: European Divides and Narratives." In *Ai Weiwei: Law of the Journey*, edited by J. Fajt and A. Budak, 108–113. National Gallery in Prague, 2017.
- Rosenberg, Karen, and Ceija Stojka. "They Couldn't Take Our Thoughts: A Conversation with Ceija Stojka." *The Women's Review of Books* 12, no. 6 (March 1995): 18–20.
- Ryšavý, Zdeňek. "British Newspaper *The Guardian* Reports on the Festering Crisis at the Main Railway Station in Prague, Czech Republic." *Romea.cz*. Accessed February 6, 2025.
<https://romea.cz/en/news/czech/british-newspaper-the-guardian-reports-on-the-festering-crisis-at-the-main-railway-station-in-prague-czech-republic>.
- Růžička, M. "Researching and Politicizing Migration: The Case of Roma/Gypsies in Post-Socialist Czechoslovakia." In *Boundaries in Motion: Rethinking Contemporary Migration Events*, edited by O. Hofírek, R. Klvaňová, and M. Nekorjak, 79–103. Brno: Centre for the Study of Democracy and Culture, 2009.
- Schweitzer, Andras. "Eastern Europe's Hard Attitude to Refugees Is Born out of Trauma." *The Guardian*, October 22, 2015. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/commentisfree/2015/oct/22/refugee-eastern-europe-trauma-governments-bigotry>.
- Scott, S., and K. H. Cartledge. "Migrant Assimilation in Europe: A Transnational Family Affair." *International Migration Review* 43, no. 1 (Spring 2009): 60–89.
- Shore, C. "Creating the People's Europe: Symbols, History, and Invented Traditions." In *Building Europe: The Cultural Politics of European Integration*, 41–65. London and New York: Routledge, 2002.
- Sloan, Lacey, et al. "Chapter 2: Critical Self-Reflection and Identity Development." In *Critical Multiculturalism and Intersectionality in a Complex World*, 23–49. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018.
- Sloan, Lacey, et al. "Chapter 3: Race, Ethnicity, Color, Caste, Tribe, and Nationality." In *Critical Multiculturalism and Intersectionality in a Complex World*, 50–65. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018.
- Sloan, Lacey, et al. "Chapter 6: Intersectionality, Positioning Privilege, and Marginalization." In *Critical Multiculturalism and Intersectionality in a Complex World*, 97–113. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018.
- Stråt, B. "A European Identity: To the Historical Limits of a Concept." *European Journal of Social Theory* 5, no. 4 (2002): 387–401.
- Sturken, M., and L. Cartwright. *Practices of Looking: An Introduction to Visual Culture*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2001.

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- Travis, Raphael, and Anne Deepak. "Empowerment in Context: Lessons from Hip-Hop Culture for Social Work Practice." *Journal of Ethnic and Cultural Diversity in Social Work* 20, no. 3 (July 2011): 203–22. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15313204.2011.594993>.
- Wucker, M. "Immigrant Integration: Lessons from the U.S. Experience." *Reports & Analyses 26/06*, Center for International Relations, 1–7.
- Zeman, "Czech Firefighters Should Help Police, Military on Border." *Prague Daily Monitor*, January 28, 2016. <http://praguemonitor.com/2016/01/28/zeman-czech-firefighters-should-help-police-military-border>.

Outline of Course Content

- Topic 1 – Course overview: The Mystery of Central Europe. Who cares?
Theoretical approaches
- Topic 2 – Is Nationalism the Last Phase of Communism as stated by Jacek Kuroń? What are the specifics of Central European Nationalism and the reaction to globalization and diversity in view of the current development in the rest of the EU?
- Topic 3 – Prague, the cosmopolitan capital of a nation state?
- Topic 4 – Asylum and the Czechs in the Communism Era, and Asylum and the Czechs in the age of freedom, democracy and prosperity. Migration and a New Role of Central Europe in Enlarged European Union.
- Topic 5 - Refugee crisis in 2015 – (Refugee Crisis in Europe – political response in the Czech Republic)
Czech Republic's Welcome to Ukrainian Refugees in 2022
- Topic 6 – Roma: the issue of exclusion – Roma: the most Foreign of Foreigners in Czech lands. Roma revolt and grief in the poems of Roma women
- Topic 7 – Current theories and issues of diversity studies and nationalism; Media and diversity in the Czech Republic
- Topic 8 – Ethnic Stereotypes and Czech Commercial Culture.
- Topic 9 – Theory of Intersectionality – East Europeanism; Roma revolt and grief in the poems of Roma women; Roma and Hip Hop
- Topic 10 – Are the Czech forever "Ossis" from the West European perspective?
- Topic 11 – The concept of the Czech national identity; Central Europe in the net of global capitalism -

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consumerism as a reason of creating stereotypes and labour migration.

Topic 12 – Vietnamese community in the Czech Republic: Integrated or segregated?
Field Trip to Sapa Market Place

Topic 13 – Creating of European identity. Are the Czechs Eurosceptical?