**Semester**
Spring 2017

**Class code**
HIST-UA9176001

**Instructor Details**
Milada Polišenská
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Office hours (NYU): Monday and Wednesday 13:20-14:00

**Class Details**
**History of Nationalism in Central and Eastern Europe**
Monday and Wednesday 12-13:20
Richtrův dům, classroom Werich
Location to be confirmed.

**Prerequisites**
none

**Class Description**
The introductory section of this course familiarizes the students with the theory of nationalism, the development of nationalism studies as an academic discipline and with preconditions for nationalism.

The main focus of the course will be on history of nationalism in Ukraine and Russia including the roots of recent escalating tensions, on development of national identity and nationalism in Poland and Hungary and in former Yugoslavia including its break-up and the civil war in the Balkans which was the largest military conflict in Europe since the World War II. Nationalism in former Czechoslovakia, present-day Czech Republic and Slovakia will be linked with visits of historical sites, museums and exhibitions.

We will identify the main sources of national identity and of nationalism in each of these countries and examine, how a romantic picture of national history influenced the development of national identity and what role the interpretation of national history has had in political struggles and programs of Central and East European nations, particularly in 19th and 20th C. As examples, major nationalist campaigns, arguments and leaders will be analyzed as well as the outbursts of nationalist hysteria and atrocities.

Comparative histories of the formation of modern national identities, including the ‘national awakening’ of non-dominant nations, will be interpreted against the backdrop of national policies of multi-ethnic states, national programs and leaders. The major focus of the course will be oriented toward topics surrounding post-WWI Central and Eastern Europe, Nazism and Communism. We will see whether and how is this historical heritage reflected in present Central European EU member states vis-a-vis the immigration crisis.

Basic format of the course are lectures with power-point presentations, presentations and discussions, short written assignments, mid-term project and a final project.

Each class will start by a brief report on current issues based on media prepared by a student who will also be a moderator of a discussion. Each student will also prepare a presentation based on academic articles and chapter. Short written assignments will have a one week deadline and will be related to field trips or selected topics in primary sources, reading or art. Mid term and final projects will be assigned with sufficient time for completion (in the beginning of the semester the mid-term project and in the middle of semester the final project).

The course includes 4-6 field trips to museums, historical sites and exhibitions related to the nationalism issues.

**Desired Outcomes**
After completion of this course, the students should be able to apply a theory of nationalism to its various manifestations. They will acquire a survey knowledge of national histories in the examined
region, will have a solid understanding of main sources of nationalism in Central and Eastern Europe, and will have skills to examine specific examples of this phenomena in modern and contemporary Central and Eastern Europe.

Assessment Components

- Presentation and discussion on current issues: 10 points maximum
- Presentation based on scholarly texts or primary sources: 15 points maximum
- 3 short assignments (2-3 pages): 5 points each assignment maximum, total 15 points maximum
- Mid-term project (5-7 pages): 25 points maximum
- Final project (7-10): 35 points

The study guidelines for the projects will be given 3 weeks –one month in advance.

Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.

Assessment Expectations

- **Grade A: Excellent performance.** The student has shown originality and displayed an exceptional grasp of the material and a deep analytical understanding of the subject.
- **Grade B: Good performance.** The student has mastered the material, understands the subject well and has shown some originality of thought and/or considerable effort.
- **Grade C: Satisfactory performance.** The student has acquired an acceptable understanding of the material and essential subject matter of the course, but has not succeeded in translating this understanding into consistently creative or original work.
- **Grade D: Poor.** The student has shown some understanding of the material and subject matter covered during the course. Minimum Passing Grade.
- **Grade F: Fail.** The student has not succeeded in mastering the subject matter covered in the course.

Grade conversion

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<th>Letter Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
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<td>A-</td>
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Attendance Policy

Absences only for medical reasons and for religious observance will be excused. To obtain an excused absence, you are obliged to supply either a doctor’s note or corroborator of your illness by a member of the housing staff (either an RA or a Building Manager). To be excused for religious observance, you must contact the instructor and the Academic Director via e-mail one week in advance of the holiday. Your absence is excused for the holiday only and does not include days of travel associated with the holiday. Unexcused absences will be penalized with a 2% percent deduction from your final course grade for every week of classes missed.

Please note that Friday, April 7 (9am – 5pm) is reserved as a make-up day for missed classes. Do not schedule any trips for this day.

Late Submission of Work

Late submission of the work has to be approved by the instructor and has to have a serious reason. In case of difficulties related to research or interpretation of sources, contact the instructor, consult your problem and do not hesitate to discuss the issue.

Plagiarism Policy

According to the Liberal Studies Program Student Handbook, plagiarism is defined as follows:

**Plagiarism is presenting someone else’s work as though it were one’s own. More specifically**
plagiarism is to present as one’s own a sequence of words quoted without quotation marks from another writer, a paraphrased passage from another writer’s work; facts or ideas gathered, organized and reported by someone else, orally and/or in writing. Since plagiarism is a matter of fact, not of the student’s intention, it is crucial that acknowledgment of the sources be accurate and complete. Even where there is no conscious intention to deceive, the failure to make appropriate acknowledgment constitutes plagiarism.

The College of Arts and Science’s Academic Handbook defines plagiarism similarly and also specifies the following:

“presenting an oral report drawn without attribution from other sources (oral or written), writing a paragraph which, despite being in different words, expresses someone else’s idea without a reference to the source of the idea, or submitting essentially the same paper in two different courses (unless both teachers have given their permission in advance).

Receiving help on a take-home examination or quiz is also cheating – and so is giving that help – unless expressly permitted by the teacher (as in collaborative projects). While all this looks like a lot to remember, all you need to do is give credit where it is due, take credit only for original ideas, and ask your teacher or advisor when in doubt.”

“Penalties for plagiarism range from failure for a paper, failure for the course or dismissal from the university.” (Liberal Studies Program Student Handbook)

Required Text(s)


NYU Prague library

One of the following:


Laruelle, Marlene (ed.). Russian Nationalism and the National Reassertion of Russia. Routledge, 2009. NYU Prague Library or on line in Classes


NYU Prague Library

Polišenská, Milada. Nationalism in Central and Eastern Europe. Study guide for the course.


NYU Prague Library and on line in Classes.

Supplemental Texts(s) (not required to purchase as copies are in NYU-P Library)


Additional primary sources could be added via Classes.

It is expected that the student will read 70-100 pages of academic text and sources per week.

### Internet Research Guidelines

Following internet resources will be used by the course:

- The website of the Nationalism Project [http://www.nationalismproject.org/what.htm](http://www.nationalismproject.org/what.htm)
- Other lists on H-NET related to the focus of the course, mainly HABSBURG, H-Russia and H-Poland

### Additional Required Equipment

- Prague Guidebook, map, camera, eventually a voice recorder for a project

**Reading** is linked to the respective session. Therefore it is necessary to read the assigned texts in advance, or, as in case of the first session, to “catch up”. Schedule you reading well and make an arrangement with other students in case that sharing a book is necessary, as it is your responsibility. In case of difficulties, consult the instructor.

### Session 1

**Monday, January 30**

**Theory of Nationalism I. and Historical Outline**

**Reading:**

Alter, *Nationalism.*


The website of the Nationalism Project [http://www.nationalismproject.org/what.htm](http://www.nationalismproject.org/what.htm)

**Assignment of media reports**

**Assignment of academic writing presentations**

### Session 2

**Wednesday, February 1**

**Ukrainian national identity and nationalism**

**Reading:** Polišenská, *Study Guide*, chapter on Ukraine.

**Activity:** Euronews, BBC or other media on current events in Ukraine: reports and discussion

### Session 3

**Monday, February 6**

**Ukrainian national identity and nationalism**

**Reading:**

Prizel, *National Identity and Foreign policy. Nationalism and Leadership in Poland, Russia and Ukraine*. Chapter on Ukraine. NYU Library or in Classes.

**Activity:** discussion with Ukrainian students in class

**Assignment of mid-term projects**

### Session 4

**Wednesday, February 8**

**Historical context of current situation in Ukraine**

**Reading:**

Prizel, I. *National Identity and Foreign policy. Nationalism and Leadership in Poland, Russia and Ukraine*. Chapter on Ukraine. NYU Library or in Classes.

**Activity:** Media: current events in Ukraine for report and discussion
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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| 5       | Friday, February 10 | Make-up day  
Visit: Museum of the City of Prague – House at the Golden Ring, Týnská 6, Prague 1 – Old Town 110 00  
Meeting: Richtrův dům, at the reception in the ground floor, 12:00 |
| 6       | Monday, February 13 | Nationalism in Russian Empire, Soviet Union and Russia  
Reading:  
Polišenská, Study Guide, chapter on Russia  
Prizel, National Identity and Foreign policy. Nationalism and Leadership in Poland, Russia and Ukraine. Chapter on Russia . NYU Library or in Classes.  
Activity: Media: current events in Russia for report and discussion |
| 7       | Wednesday, February 15 | Nationalism in Russian Empire, Soviet Union and Russia  
Prizel, National Identity and Foreign policy. Nationalism and Leadership in Poland, Russia and Ukraine. Chapter on Russia . NYU Library or in Classes.  
Activity: Media: current events in Russia for report and discussion . |
| 8       | Monday, February 20 | Search for new identity and nationalism in Russia today  
Reading:  
Laruelle, Russian Nationalism and the National Reassertion of Russia. NYU Library or in Classes.  
Activity: Activity: discussion based on chapters from Laruelle |
| 9       | Wednesday, February 22 | Poland: topics in nationalism  
Reading:  
Polišenská, Study Guide, chapter on Poland.  
Prizel, I. National Identity and Foreign policy. Nationalism and Leadership in Poland, Russia and Ukraine. Chapter on Poland. NYU Library or in Classes.  
Primary documents in Classes  
Activity: Media: current events in Poland for report and discussion  
Assignment of 1st short written home work. Topic: Ukraine, Russia and Poland |
| 10      | Monday, February 27 | Poland: topics in nationalism  
Reading:  
Prizel, I. National Identity and Foreign policy. Nationalism and Leadership in Poland, Russia and Ukraine. Chapter on Poland. NYU Library or in Classes.  
Activity: Mid-term projects due: presentations |
| 11      | Wednesday, March 1  | Hungary: topics in nationalism  
Reading:  
Primary documents in Classes  
Activity: Media: current events in Hungary, report and discussion  
1st short written home work due |
| 12      | Friday, March 3  | Visit of Mucha Museum, Prague 1, Nové Město, Panská 7  
Meeting: Richtrův dům, at the reception in the ground floor, 12:00 |
| 13      | Monday, March 6  | Theory of Nationalism II- Review, application of acquired specific knowledge towards the theory and vice versa  
Reading:  
Hroch, In the national interest: demands and goals of European national movements of the |
### Session 14
**Wednesday, March 8**

**Topics in Nationalism in the Balkans**

**Reading:**
- Polišenská, Study Guide, chapter on Yugoslavia.
- Mazower, Mark: *The Balkans: A Short History.*

**Activity:**
- Reports and discussion: current events in the Balkans
- Assignment of 2nd short written home work. Topic: Balkans

### Session 15
**Monday, March 13**

**Topics in Nationalism in the Balkans**

**Reading:**
- Polišenská, Study Guide, chapter on Yugoslavia.
- Mazower, Mark: *The Balkans: A Short History.*

**Activity:**
- Reports and discussion: current events in the Balkans

### Session 16
**Wednesday, March 15**

**Historical site visit (Betlehem Chapel and Jan Hus Apartment)**

**Meeting:** 12:00, Richtrův dům, Ground floor reception

2nd short written home work due

### Session 17
**Monday, March 20**

**Topics in Nationalism in the Balkans**

**Reading:**
- Polišenská, Study Guide, chapter on Yugoslavia.
- Mazower, Mark: *The Balkans: A Short History.*

**Activity:**
- Reports and discussion: current events in the Balkans

### Session 18
**Wednesday, March 22**

**Czech Nationalism: Discourse on the meaning of Czech history**

**Reading:**
- Polišenská, Study Guide, Czech/Czechoslovak chapter

**Activity:**
- Reports and discussion: current events in the Czech Republic and Slovakia

### Session 19
**Monday, March 27**

**Topics in Czech and Slovak Nationalism**

**Reading:**

**Activity:**
- Assignment of 3rd short written home work. Topic: Czechs, Slovaks, Hungarians

### Session 20
**Wednesday, March 29**

**Historical site visit (Old Town City Hall)**

**Meeting:** 12:00, Richtrův dům, Ground floor reception

### Session 21
**Monday, March 30**

**Topics in Czech and Slovak Nationalism**

**Reading:**
### Session 22
**Wednesday, April 5**

**Topics in Czech and Slovak Nationalism in Central and Eastern European context**

Reading:

### Make-up Day
**Friday, April 7 (9am-5pm)**

**Historical site visit (National Memorial to the Heroes of the Heydrich Terror)**

Meeting: 12:00, Richtrův dům, Ground floor reception

### Session 23
**Monday, April 10**

**Topics in Czech and Slovak Nationalism in Central and Eastern European context**

Reading:

Primary archival sources in Classes

### Session 24
**Wednesday, April 12**

**Roma in Central and Eastern Europe in the past and today**

Presentation of projects and discussion. Review of the course.

*Reading: in Classes*

### Spring Break
**April 15-23**

No classes

### Session 25
**Monday, April 24**

**Roma in Central and Eastern Europe in the past and today**

*Reading: in Classes*

### Session 26
**Wednesday, April 26**

**Nationalism in Central Europe in the past and today**

Conclusion of the course, summary discussion.

### National Holiday
**Monday, May 1**

No Classes.

### Session 27
**Wednesday, May 3**

Nationalism and patriotism in Prague: observation tour

### National Holiday
**Monday, May 8**

No Classes.

### Session 28
**Wednesday, May 10 (last day of classes)**

Individual work on final versions of projects. Meeting in class for consultation by agreement.

### Session 29
**Monday, May 15**

Individual work on final versions of projects.

### Session 30
**Wednesday, May 17**

Final exams. Submission of finals version of projects by 13:20 via classes

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Even if the atmosphere in class should be open, friendly and informal, certain basic etiquette is
Etiquette

necessary for the effective work of both instructor and students. It is expected that the students will be in class at time and prepared for the session. The students should not leave the classroom without a serious reason and should not stay outside longer than necessary.

Students should not eat in class and their mobile phones should be switched off. Even if the instructor provided the students her mobile phone number, the students should not misuse it and call the instructor just in very urgent matters.

Required Co-curricular Activities

Students are required to follow regularly mass media (online news, TV, newspaper) reporting and commenting on Central and Eastern European issues. This information will serve as a background for class discussions in each session. An active participation in the discussion is expected.

Students are required to participate in trips and other activities organized by the NYU if they are related to Central European area. Particularly important are visits to Bratislava, Budapest, Cracow and other important locations, and lectures and panels at NYU, such as the Gellner Seminars.

Suggested Co-curricular Activities

Suggested other activities will be recommended during the semester. The students should also note that the visits of historical sites may be slightly rescheduled pending the opening hours of the monuments, and therefore a certain flexibility is necessary. All information about the visits will be provided in advance.