Course description:
Both individual and collective identities underwent historically unprecedented shake-up in the twentieth century. Mass totalitarian ideologies used in Western political discourse at this time to explain major economic and social changes have altered forever the relationship between the state and its citizens. The aspiration of authoritarian regimes to acquire total control over even individual lives through the regime control of education, employment, health systems, media and, later also entertainment has succeeded beyond anything perceived possible until then in any political situation after European Enlightenment. First the Chauvinist reactions to industrial revolutions and then Nazism and Communism have mobilized irrationally motivated mass support. Misuse and manipulation of instruments of political democracy helped to their success, as well as mass propaganda using for the first time electronic media, and using fear as a primary instinctive argument to create a portrait of external and internal Enemy.

The major focus of the course will be oriented towards topics trying to explain the psychological reasons and models for mass support of even clearly totalitarian ideologies praising and requiring mass support for extermination of large collectives of humans. On the basis of an individual and collective psychology. We will examine psychological explanations of survivor syndrom, self-victimisation, acceptance of the roles of victim, perpetrator and bystander, obedience mechanisms, majority society response to mass human rights abuses and the abusive past. Against this background the phenomenon of identity and the phenomenon of political and cultural dissent in the 20. and 21. century will be introduced and discussed using case studies examples from different time and place in the world. The defining role of electronic mass media as radio, film and television in the changes in political culture and workings of political democracy, the theory of post-modern dictatorships, terrorism and antiglobalisation tendencies are discussed as possible modern vehicles of totalitarian tendencies and reactions against them. The course will be a mixture of lecture, discussion and first hand experience as well as model crisis situation decision making exercises. Students will be expected to write two research papers and consult their readings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading policy</th>
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<tr>
<td>Class participation/attendance:</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>Paper or other assignment:</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>Mid-term:</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<td>Final:</td>
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Schedule of classes

Week 1
14 February - Overview of course
Introduction into the life in extreme. Psychological reactions to extreme stress and fear for survival. Issue of individual responsibility. Formation of individual and group identity. Knot in history situations and modernity’s love for short cuts...

16 February

Week 2
21 February
Communism, Communist Manifesto and where was Karl Marx wrong from the very beginning?
Communist Manifesto

23 February
Appeal of Fascism and National Socialism, Roles, Grey zone and Decent Nazis. Science and Experts in service to Evil. Leni Riefenstahl case.
Mein Kampf, film - Triumph of the Will

Week 3
28 February
Primo Levi – the psychology of survival, torture, guilt and suicide
Primo Levi – The Drowned and the Saved

1 March
Roles and Identitties – Victims, perpetrators and Bystanders

Week 4
6 March
Robert Jay Lifton – Thought Reform, Brainwashing in Communist China
Reader text

8 March
Stanley Milgrams obedience experiments, Philip Zimbardo, Stockholm syndrome
Reader text

Week 5
13 March
Abu Ghraib experience. Are we different?
Film - Ghosts of Abu Ghraib

15 March
Karl Jaspers – The Question of Guilt
Reader text

Week 6
20 March
What Jaspers could not envisage?

22 March
Cult formation, Religious and other cults, televangelist movement, escaping the reality, Jones´ tapes.
Robert Lifton - Cult Formation

Week 7

27 March
Dissent as Art of Defeat – the need to communicate.
Reader text

29 March
David Thoreau, Sufragette movement – direct action and power of example
Reader text, internet

Week 8

3 April
Victim rehabilitation. Torture victim clinics, rehabilitation of child soldiers, Veteran care.
Reader text, internet sources

5 April
Mahatma Gáñdhí – use of media
Reader text

Week 9 – Spring Break – no classes

Week 10

17 April
Anticolonial movements and their failure as dissent. Cold War.
Internet sources. Case studies.

19 April
Civil Rights Movement – use of television

Week 11

24 April
NGOs – Amnesty International, Greenpeace – human rights and environmental agenda, internationalisation
Internet sources

26 April
Zapatista movement – internet mobilisation on global scale, antiglobalisation tactics, roots of terrorism
Reader text

Week 12

1 May – National Holiday – no classes

3 May
Dissent under Communism. Two schools – Vaclav Havel vs Adam Michnik, postmodern dictatorships. 
Vaclav Havel - The Power of the Powerless, Adam Michnik – Letters from Prison, Letters from Freedom

Week 13  
8 May – National Holiday – no classes

10 May 
Ideological response to the fall of Communism, lessons of wars in Yugoslavia, Iraq and Afghanistan.  
Film – Stake No.12

Week 14  
15 May 
Dissent tactics – how to fight totalitarian tendencies, lessons of dissent for democratic societies.  
Adam Michnik - letters from Prison

17 May  
Summary of the course
Selection of required and recommended readings:

1. Karl Marx, Friedrich Engels: Communist manifesto
2. Adolf Hitler: Mein Kampf
3. Giovanni Gentile: The Doctrine of Fascism
4. Primo Levi: The Drowned and the Saved
5. Alexandr Solzhenitzyn: Gulag Archipelago
7. Rober Jay Lifton: Thought Reform and the Psychology of Totalism
12. C.J.Friedrich and Zbigniew Brzezinski, Totalitarian Dictatorship and Autocracy, 1967
15. Philip Zimbardo: The Pathology of Imprisonment, Society, 9,1972, 6, pp. 4-8
24. Vaclav Havel: Power of the Powerless
25. Vaclav Havel: A Word About Words
26. Adam Michnick: Letters from Prison
27. Adam Michnick: Letters from Freedom
33. Rock the Vote: Political Power for Young People – www.rockthevote.com