Class code: (HIST - UA 9091)

Instructor Details
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Office hours: after Wednesday class (or by arrangement)

Class Details

A Cultural History of the City in Central Europe: Prague, Budapest, Vienna, Berlin

Mon./Wed. 10:30-11:50
Kupka classroom, Richtrův Dům - Malé náměstí 11

Prerequisites
None

Class Description
This course aims to acquaint students with the history and urban development of four principal Central European cities – Vienna, Prague, Budapest and Berlin – in the context of the European urban tradition, focusing especially on unique moments of their historical importance and cultural achievement, when they made significant contributions in the arts, science and technology; and we examine the background to these creative periods in terms of the social, economic, political and cultural conditions of the time.

Study of the selected cities will be set within the context of the main stages of urban history and planning in Europe since the end of the Roman Empire, making comparison with major Western European and certain non-European cities.

Further themes include the process and causes of urbanization, the changing populations of the cities (including religious and ethnic minorities, migrant and worker communities); analysis of the physical city (its urban form and spatial topography, landmarks and architectural monuments); the distinctive identities of capital cities; and debates on urban planning and historical preservation.

Class meetings will consist of lectures, class discussions, student presentations, analysis of readings, occasional films and short walking tours in Prague.

Students are required to make one presentation and submit two written papers (a short personal response essay and a 10-page final research paper). There will also be one mid-term and one final exam (based on essay questions).

• An understanding of the history of the European urban tradition from the Roman Empire to the present, and of key stages and examples of urban planning.
• An appreciation of individual cities and the unique contributions made by each to European history and civilization.
• A familiarity with key periods in the culture of Central European cities and their landmark cultural achievements.

Desired Outcomes
• An understanding of the value of comparative history as a field of academic inquiry, and how it informs our experience of the contemporary world.

**Components of Final Grade**

Participation 20%, Presentation 20%, Short Paper (3-5 pages) 10%, Mid-term 10%, Final Paper (10 pages) *(Paper Outline = 5% of final grade)* 30%, Final 10%

For more detailed instructions on course work, please see the document **Assignment Instructions** on NYU Classes.

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

**Assessment Expectations**

**Grade A:** Excellent work demonstrating a critical and observant approach to the subject, sound research and an ability to analyse and express thoughts clearly and persuasively. A straight ‘A’ grade is reserved for work which in addition shows originality of thought and exceptional attention to relevant examples and detail.

**Grade B:** Good work.

**Grade C:** Satisfactory work.

**Grade D:** Passable work.

**Grade F:** Failure to achieve a passable standard.

**Grade conversion**

A=95-100
A-=90-94
B+=87-89
B= 84-86
B-= 80-83
C+= 77-79
C= 74-76
C-= 70-73
D+= 67-69
D= 65-66
F= below 65

**Attendance Policy**

Each unexcused absence will result in your final grade being reduced by 3%. Absences only for medical reasons will be excused. To obtain an excused absence, you are obliged to supply either a doctor’s note or corroboration of your illness by a member of the housing staff (either an RA or a Building Manager). Absences due to travel will not be excused.
Late Submission of Work

1. Assignments should be handed in at the start of class on the due date.
2. Late work will incur a penalty of 5% if submitted within three days, 10% within seven days.
3. Work more than one week late will not be accepted unless an extension has been agreed due to exceptional and unavoidable circumstances.
4. If you miss a quiz due to exceptional and unavoidable circumstances and are granted the opportunity to make it up, this must be completed within one week of the original date of the quiz. You should inform the instructor of your circumstances before the test where possible.

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.” (Liberal Studies Program Student Handbook)

Plagiarism Policy

Required Text(s)

Braunfels, Wolfang, Urban Design in Western Europe, (Chicago, 1988) 0-226-07179-0
Girouard, Mark, Cities and People – A Social and Architectural History, (Yale, 1985) 0-300-03968-9
Hall, Peter, Cities in Civilization, Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 1998
Ladd, Brian, The Ghosts of Berlin: Confronting German History in the Urban Landscape, Univ. of Chicago Press, 1997
LeGates, R., Stout, F. (eds.), *The City Reader*, Routledge, 1999 (2nd edition) or later editions
Paces, Cynthia, *Prague Panoramas*, (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2009) 0822960354
Reader, John, *Cities* (Vintage, 2005) 978009284260
Smith, P.D., *City: A Guidebook for the Urban Age*, (Bloomsbury, 2012) 1408801914

Please rely on institutional (e.g. museum and gallery) and accredited academic websites where possible.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The content of classes may be subject to changes. Lecture topics listed in square brackets are among possible topics for student presentation. Please discuss your preferences with me after consulting the instructions and further suggested topics posted on NYU Classes.

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**Overview of the course**

**What is a city? How do we study cities?**

**Cities in antiquity: from the first cities to Ancient Greece and Rome**

Kostof, *The City Shaped*, 37-41 (4 pages)

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**The Central European region: Budapest and Vienna as Roman settlements**

**Constantinople and the Byzantine Empire**

Hohenburg/Lees, *The Making of Urban Europe, 1000-1994*, 7-12, 17-34 (23 pages)

Fazio/Moffett/Wodehouse, *A World History of Architecture*, 244-248 (4 pages)

Giroud, *Cities and People*, 3-14 (11 pages)

Benevolo, *The European City*, 1-22 [Reader 2] (21 pages)
Session 3
Monday, February 10

Europe from the fall of the Roman Empire – European Cities in the Middle Ages
Central Europe: introduction to Prague, Vienna, Berlin, Budapest as medieval cities

Reader, John, Cities, 82-92 [not in reader] (10 pages)
Johnson, Central Europe, 13-26 (13 pages)
Braunfels, Urban Design in Western Europe, 278-307 (29 pages)

Session 4
Wednesday, February 12

Medieval Paris

Prague as capital of the Holy Roman Empire

Braunfels, Urban Design in Western Europe, 307-327 (20 pages)
Demetz, Prague in Black and Gold, pp. 67-117 (50 pages)

Session 5
Monday, February 17

[Italian and Flemish cities in the late Middle Ages and Renaissance]

Benevolo, The European City, ch. 3 [Reader 2] (30 pages)

Session 6
Wednesday, February 19

Walking tour in Prague Old Town (t.b.c.)

Session 7
Friday, February 21
Make up for Monday

Counter-Reformation Rome – the urban plan of Pope Sixtus V

Paris – urban development under Henri IV

Girouard, Cities and People, ch. 6 (21 pages); 171-174 (3 pages)
Benevolo, The European City, 124-130 [Reader 2] (6 pages)
Braunfels, Urban Design in Western Europe, 350-365 (15 pages)

Session 8
Monday, February 24

PAPER # 1 DUE

The Renaissance city in Central Europe
[London in the Elizabethan era]

Rudolfinie Prague

Braunfels, Urban Design in Western Europe, 327-339 (12 pages)
Marshall, The Mercurial Emperor, 43-86 (43 pages)
RECOMMENDED
Girouard, Cities and People, (ch. 7) (13 pages) [not in reader]
[*Hall, Cities in Civilization, ch. 4 (44 pages) [not in reader]]

Session 9
Wednesday, February 26

[Amsterdam and the Dutch Republic's “Golden Age”]

Architecture and absolutism – Baroque cities: Rome, Paris and Versailles

Benevolo, The European City, 132-135 [Reader 2] (3 pages)
Girouard, Cities and People, 151-166 (15 pages)
Hohenberg / Lees, The Making of Urban Europe, 1000-1994, 151-159 (8 pages)

Session 10
Monday, *

STUDENT PRESENTATIONS (t.b.c.)

Please discuss your ideas for presentation with me as soon as you can so that we can schedule a
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Reading</th>
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| 11      | March 5    | Vienna and the Turkish Wars                                          | Benevolo, *The European City*, 136-159 [Reader 2] (23 pages)  
|         |            |                                                                      | Johnson, *Central Europe*, 85-102 (17 pages)  
|         |            |                                                                      | Fazio et al. *A World History of Architecture*, ch. 12 (39 pages)  
|         |            |                                                                      | Kostof, *The City Shaped*, ch. 4 (selections), 208-275 (67 pages)  
|         |            |                                                                      | Parsons, *Vienna: A Cultural and Literary History*, 149-172 (23 pages)  |
| 12      | March 10   | Baroque Prague                                                        | Braunfels, *Urban Design in Western Europe*, 289-302 (13 pages)  
|         |            |                                                                      | Burton, Richard, *Prague: A Cultural and Literary History*, 5-6, 18-21, 24-35 (17 pages) [Not in reader]  |
| 13      | March 12   | [London: the Great Fire of 1666 and plans for rebuilding the city]   | Reader, John, *Cities*, 144-146, 261-270 (11 pages)  
|         |            |                                                                      | Girouard, *Cities and People*, 212-232 (20 pages)  |
| 14      | March 17   | Berlin: from its origins to the Great Elector                        | Braunfels, *Urban Design in Western Europe*, 212-220, 253-266 (21 pages)  |
| 15      | March 19   | MID-TERM TEST                                                        |                          |
| 16      | March 24   | Berlin: Frederick the Great                                           | Johnson, *Central Europe*, 103-123, (sections on Frederick the Great, Josef II) (20 pages)  
|         |            |                                                                      | Hall, *Cities in Civilization*, 159-200 (41 pages)  
|         |            |                                                                      | Ladd, *The Ghosts of Berlin* (ch. 2) 40-81 (41 pages)  |
| 17      | March 26   | [American cities]                                                    | Benevolo, *The European City*, (ch. 6) [Reader 2] (28 pages)  
|         |            |                                                                      | Girouard, *Cities and People*, 271-284 (13 pages)  |
| 18      | March 31   | The rise of the capitalist industrial city – Manchester               | Friedrich Engels: *The Great Towns* in *The City Reader*, pp.46-55 (10 pages)  
|         |            |                                                                      | Girouard, *Cities and People*, 257-270 (13 pages)  |
|         |            |                                                                      | Hall, *Cities in Civilization*, (chapters 6 [37], 24 [39], 12 [18]) (94 pages)  |
Spring Break
April 7-11

No classes

Session 20
Monday, April 14

Vienna – from Biedermeier to the Ringstrasse

Hall, Cities in Civilization, (ch. 7) 159-200 (41 pages)
Parsons, Vienna: A Cultural and Literary History, ch. 18, pp.191-215/6 (25 pages)

Session 21
Wednesday, April 16

Budapest in the 19th century

Dent, Bob: Budapest – A Cultural and Literary History, (ch.1,2) pp. 1-60 (60 pages)
Lukacs, Budapest 1900 – A Historical Portrait of a City and its Culture, 3-66 (63 pages)

Easter Monday
April 21

No classes

Session 22
Wednesday, April 23

Berlin in the 19th century - the pioneer technopolis; capital of the German Empire

Hall, Cities in Civilization, ch. 12, 377-395 (18 pages)

Session 23
Monday, April 28

FINAL PAPER TOPIC CHOICE MUST BE APPROVED THIS WEEK—(NO CHANGE OF TOPIC AFTER THIS DATE)

Fin-de-siecle culture in [Paris], Vienna, Prague, Budapest

Parsons, Vienna: A Cultural and Literary History, ch. 20 (19 pages)
Dent, Bob: Budapest – A Cultural and Literary History, (ch.3) (11 pages)
RECOMMENDED
Schorske, Fin-de-siecle Vienna, ch. 1 (20), 2 (91) (101 pages)

Session 24
Wednesday, April 30

Fin-de-siecle Vienna, Prague, Budapest, (Berlin)
Avant-garde artistic culture to WWI

Parsons, Vienna: A Cultural and Literary History, ch. 21 (20 pages)
Burton, Richard, Prague: A Cultural and Literary History, ch 5 (page selections t.b.c.)
Dent, Bob: Budapest – A Cultural and Literary History, (ch.4) (page selections t.b.c.)

Session 25
Monday, May 5

Central European cities post-1918

• Berlin, capital of the Weimar Republic

Hall, Cities in Civilization, 239-278 (39 pages)
Ladd, The Ghosts of Berlin, 82-125 (43 pages)

Session 26
Wednesday, May 7

Central European cities post-1918

• Prague, capital of the first Czechoslovak Republic
• Red Vienna

Burton, Richard, Prague: A Cultural and Literary History, ch 5 (page selections t.b.c.)
Parsons, Vienna: A Cultural and Literary History, ch. 21
ALSO: Dent, Bob: Budapest – A Cultural and Literary History, ch.5
Session 27
Monday, May 12

*European cities in totalitarian regimes*
- Nazi Berlin
- The Berlin Wall
- Prague and Budapest during communism

Ladd, *The Ghosts of Berlin* (ch. 4 (126-173), ch. 5) (47+ pages)
Burton, *Prague: A Cultural and Literary History*, ch 6 ff. (page selections t.b.c.)
Dent, *Budapest – A Cultural and Literary History*, (page selections t.b.c.)

**PAPER # 2 DUE: RESEARCH PAPER** (10 pages)

Session 28
Wednesday, May 14 (last day of classes)

*The city and collective memory*

Central European cities today

READING (t.b.a.)

Session 29
Monday, May 19

**FINAL EXAM**

**FINAL PRESENTATIONS**

Session 30
Wednesday, May 21

**FINAL EXAM**

**Classroom Etiquette**

- No eating in class.
- No coming and going during class. Toilet breaks should be taken before or after class or during class breaks.
- Computers and tablets can be used only for note-taking. Your device should not be connected to the internet during class.
- Mobile phones should be set on silent and should not be used in class except for emergencies.