



## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### Course catalogue for Erasmus+ students of history

Spring semester, academic year 2019/2020

Institute of Historical Studies  
Faculty of Humanities  
Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest  
Múzeum krt. 6–8.

ECTS: 6 credits for each course

For more information on courses, please contact the respective professors.

**BARTHA, Eszter dr.**  
**Stalinism and Nazism: Dictatorships in Comparison**

Course code: BBN-ERA-187  
Language: English  
Time: Tuesday, 12.00-13.30  
Location: Múzeum krt. 6–8. II/229  
Email: barthaeszter@hotmail.com

The course gives an overview of the history of dictatorships in the Twentieth century, while challenging the simplistic notion of totalitarianism. We seek to explore the historical and social roots of Stalinism as well as place the state socialist regimes in a global context. Whereas both Stalinism and Nazism can be seen as products of the global crisis of capitalism (or a particular response to it), it is important to distinguish between the two regimes because of the unique character of the Nazi genocide. We study the history of both regimes, their social and political context as well as their functioning in the everyday life. Whereas terror escalated with the outbreak of the Second World War, the Soviet system could transform itself into a consolidated regime. We will give a brief overview of de-Stalinization and conclude with the discussion of economic reforms in Central Europe.

*Skills:*

the development of comparative skills and a deeper understanding of the political culture in the region.

*Readings:*

- Applebaum, Anne: *Gulag: A History of the Soviet camps*. Penguin Books, London, 2014.  
Arendt, Hannah: *The Origins of Totalitarianism*. Harcourt, Brace and Co., New York, 1951.  
Berend, T. Iván: *Central and Eastern Europe, 1944-1993: detour from the periphery to the periphery*. Cambridge University Press, 1996.  
Deutscher, Isaac: *The great purges*. Blackwell, Oxford – New York, 1984.  
Deutscher, Isaac: *Unfinished revolution: Russia, 1917-1967*. Oxford University Press, New York, 1967.  
Fitzpatrick, Sheila: *The cultural front: power and culture in revolutionary Russia*. Cornell University Press, Ithaca, N. Y., 1992.  
Fitzpatrick, Sheila: *Stalin's peasants. Resistance and survival in the Russian village after collectivization*. Oxford University Press, New York, 1994.

Fitzpatrick Sheila: *Everyday Stalinism. Ordinary life in extraordinary times. Soviet Russia in the 1930s*. Oxford University Press, New York, 1999.

Geyer, Michael – Sheila Fitzpatrick (eds.): *Beyond Totalitarianism: Stalinism and Nazism Compared*. Cambridge University Press, New York, 2009.

Kenéz, Péter: *The birth of the propaganda state: Soviet methods of mass mobilization, 1917-1929*. New York, Cambridge University Press, 1985.

Kershaw, Ian - Moshe Lewin (eds.): *Stalinism and Nazism. Dictatorships in Comparison*. New York, Cambridge UP, 1997.

Kershaw, Ian: *Hitler, 1936-1945. Nemesis*. Penguin Books, London, 2000.

Kotkin, Stephen: *Magnetic Mountain. Stalinism as a Civilization*. University of California Press, Berkeley, 1997. 2

Krausz, Tamás: *Reconstructing Lenin. An Intellectual Biography*. Monthly Review Press, New York, 2015.

Krausz, Tamás: *The Soviet and Hungarian Holocausts: A comparative essay*. Social Science Monographs, Boulder, Colo., 2006.

Pittaway, Mark: *Eastern Europe 1939-2000*. Arnold, London, 2004.

Viola, Lynne (ed.): *Contending with Stalinism: Soviet power and popular resistance in the 1930s*. Cornell University Press, Ithaca, 2002.

*Classes:*

1. Totalitarianism versus revisionism: Theorizing State Socialism
2. The Bolshevik revolution
3. Stalinism in the Soviet Union
4. Repression and Terror in the Soviet Union
5. Hitler's rise to power
6. The Nazi terror and the persecution of Jews
7. The Soviet Union in the Second World War
8. Holocaust in Eastern Europe
9. The bipolar world order
10. Stalinist culture and society
11. The education of the masses in the Soviet Union
12. De-Stalinization

**BYRAPPA, Ramachandra dr.**  
**Geopolitical Debating Exercises**

**Course code: BBN-ERA-185/32**

**Language: English**

**Time: Tuesday, 16.00-17.30**

**Location: Múzeum krt. 6–8. II/204**

**Email: rama.byrappa@gmail.com**

Today's events are not islands in an ocean. Most of the current happenings have geopolitical origins in the century before or even earlier. To get a good understanding of today's world affairs, one needs an analytical perspective of the geopolitical and historic developments. To know and analyze these events is one thing but being able to convey them to others verbally is another thing. The true extent of your understanding of a situation or event very much depends upon your ability to convey it to others, and the rational defense of your interpretation of it. This seminar can be an excellent arena for testing and developing your intellectual capabilities.

**FAZEKAS, István dr.**

**Konfession und Konfessionalisierung im Mitteleuropa in der Frühen Neuzeit (Confession and Confessionalisation in Central Europe in the Early Modern Period)**

**Course code: BBN-ERA-182/2, BMA-ERAD-0182**

**Language: German**

**Time: Thursday 10.00-11.30**

**Location: Múzeum krt. 6-8., I/128.**

**Email: fazekas.istvan@btk.elte.hu**

Das Paradigma der Konfessionalisierung wurde von den deutschen Historikern für das Heilige Römische Reich ausgearbeitet. Die Lehrveranstaltung sucht die Antwort auf die Frage, ob man das Paradigma für den mitteleuropäischen Raum, für den östlichen Teil der Habsburgermonarchie verwenden kann oder nicht. Für diesen Zweck werden die Erscheinungen der katholischen Erneuerung, die im 17. Jahrhundert im Königreich Ungarn ausgefaltet, mit Hilfe der Quellen und Fachliteratur untersucht, gleichzeitig werden auch die Verhältnisse des westlichen Teils der Habsburgermonarchie berücksichtigt.

The theory of confessionalisation was elaborated for the circumstances of the Holy Roman Empire by German historians. The seminar deals with the question if the paradigm can be adapted also for the middle European space, if the phenomena composed by the theory appear also in the Eastern part of the Habsburg Monarchy. For this purpose, the aspects of the Catholic Reformation are considered to explore by means of sources and literature regarding the relationships of the Western part of the Monarchy.

**GÉRA, Eleonóra dr.**

**Stadtgeschichte(n) von Pest-Buda in der Neuzeit (Urban histories from Pest-Buda in the early modern period)**

**Course code: BBN-ERA-189, BMA-ERAD-189**

**Language: German**

**Time: Tuesday 14.00-15.30**

**Location: Múzeum krt. 6-8., II/254**

**Email: gera.eleonora@btk.elte.hu**

The course gives an overview of the development of Buda and Pest from the expulsion of the Turks (1686) to the establishment of the united Budapest (1873). It puts an emphasis on cultural history and it combines macro- and microhistorical approaches. Buda and Pest were reborn as German cities, the second largest group of the new settlers were Orthodox and Catholic Southern Slavs. Pest became home for many Hungarians as well. Both towns attracted also Armenian, Jewish, Albanian, Slovakian and Italian settlers. What conflicts arose from the cultural-linguistic differences, and how the town administration sought to handle these conflicts and create a new urban community out of the settlers with a very diverse background? One important element of the creation of a common identity was the reclaim of the status of the royal free city and the gradual removal of the capital city rights from Pozsony (Bratislava) to Budapest, which leads us to the 19. century. At that time many Protestants and Jews settled in Budapest, who had been formerly banned from the city. Buda fought for the capital city rights not with Pozsony but with the neighboring Pest. One of the important questions of the contest was the use of language – next to the economic indicators and the scale of urbanization. What did the “Magyarization” of Buda and Pest mean in practice, how did the change

of language occur in the families? Who were the main actors of the rapid urban change and what did they do to advocate the progress of the capital city so that Budapest can catch up with other European capitals after the unification? The students can get acquainted with the various stations of this development and the original documents in the “field” (common city tours, archival visits, etc.)

Csendes, Peter – András Sipos (Hrsg.): *Wien und Budapest. Technischer Fortschritt und Urbaner Aufschwung im 19. Jahrhundert*. Wiener Stadt und Landesarchiv – Institut Österreichisches Biographisches Lexikon und Biographische Dokumentation – Archiv der Hauptstadt Budapest, Budapest – Wien, 2003.

Tamáská, Máté – Csaba Szabó (Hrsg.): *Donau – Stadt – Landschaften / Danube – City – Landscapes. Donau-Stadt-Landschaften / Danube-City-Landscapes. Budapest - Wien / Vienna. Beiträge der Tagungen in Wien (16.04.2014) und Budapest (23. - 24.01.2015) / Contributions to conferences held in Vienna (14.04.2014) and Budapest (23. - 24.01.2015)*. Berlin – Münster – Wien – Zürich – London, LIT Verlag, 2016.

**HALMOS, Károly dr.**

**Social History of Nineteenth-century Hungary. An Overview**

**Course code: BBN-ERA-186/16**

**Language: English**

**Time: Tuesday, 17.30-19.00**

**Location: Múzeum krt. 6–8. II/265**

**Email: halmos.karoly@btk.elte.hu**

The course is based on the recent volume of studies on nineteenth and twentieth century Hungarian social history, the nineteenth-century part of which was written by György Kövér. It serves as a chronological preparation for the courses offered in the field of nineteenth-century Hungarian history. Demography, spatiality, stratification, mobility, nation building (cultural history and mentality, history of political participation) are the basic issues of the sessions.

*Requirements:*

- Visiting the classes
- Preparation for the classes (e.g. posing questions concerning the chapter read)
- Participation in the discussion
- A paper of 15,000 characters comparing your native or favoured country and Hungary along one of the topics discussed, in the time-frame of the Nineteenth century

*Readings:*

Kövé, György: Inert Transformation: Social History of Hungary from the Reform Era to World War I. In: Gyáni, Gábor – Kövér, György – Valuch, Tibor: *Social History of Hungary from the Reform Era to the End of the Twentieth Century*. (Atlantic Studies on Society in Change 113 – East European Monographs 692.) Social Science Monographs – Atlantic Research and Publications, Boulder, CO – Highland Lakes, N.J. 2004, pp. 3-267.

**HALMOS, Károly dr.**

**Social History of Twentieth-century Hungary. An Overview**

**Course code: BBN-ERA-186/19**

**Language: English**

**Time: Thursday, 17.30-19.00**

**Location: Múzeum krt. 6–8. II/265**

**Email: halmos.karoly@btk.elte.hu**

The course is based on the recent volume of studies on nineteenth and twentieth-century Hungarian social history, the twentieth-century part of which was written by Gábor Gyáni and Tibor Valuch. It serves as a chronological follow up of the courses offered in the field of nineteenth-century Hungarian history. Demography, spatiality, stratification, mobility, social policy, ethnicity, nation building (cultural history and mentality, history of political participation) are the basic issues of the sessions.

*Requirements:*

- Visiting the classes
- Preparation for the classes (e.g. posing questions concerning the chapter read)
- Participation in the discussion
- A paper of 15,000 characters comparing your native or favoured country and Hungary along one of the topics discussed, in the time-frame of the Twentieth century

*Readings:*

Gyáni, Gábor: Social History of Hungary in the Horthy Era. In: Gyáni, Gábor – Kövér, György – Valuch, Tibor: *Social History of Hungary from the Reform Era to the End of the Twentieth Century*. (Atlantic Studies on Society in Change 113 – East European Monographs 692.) Social Science Monographs – Atlantic Research and Publications, Boulder, CO – Highland Lakes, N.J. 2004. 269-507.

Valuch, Tibor: Changes in the Structure and Lifestyle of the Hungarian Society in the Second Half of the XXth Century. In: Gyáni, Gábor – Kövér, György – Valuch, Tibor: *Social History of Hungary from the Reform Era to the End of the Twentieth Century*. (Atlantic Studies on Society in Change 113 – East European Monographs 692.) Social Science Monographs – Atlantic Research and Publications, Boulder, CO – Highland Lakes, N.J. 2004. 509-671.

**KÖRMENDI, Tamás dr.**

**Chancelleries and Literacy in Central Europe in the 11th-15th Centuries**

**Course code: BBN-ERA-192; BMA-ERAD-192**

**Language: English**

**Time: Monday, 16.00-17.30**

**Location: Múzeum krt. 6-8. III/320**

**Email: kormendi.tamas@btk.elte.hu**

The medieval history of literacy and historiographic writing is closely related to the history of chancelleries throughout Europe. Central European states in the Middle Ages (and especially in the early centuries of their statehood) had practically no or very few so-called centres of literal tradition (mainly populous and strong monasteries and charters) where chronicles and annals could have been written or compiled — apart from the royal or ducal courts where most of the historical notes were

generated. Strong connections between royal and ducal chancelleries and literacy, and especially historiography are very characteristic to medieval Central European states and their culture. The course offers a brief overview of the history of chancelleries and diplomatic practice in the Polish, Czech, Moravian and Hungarian territories, peregrination from Central Europe to Western schools and universities, and then proceeds to discuss the genesis and selected aspects of some major works of regional historiography: the Hungarian Illuminated Chronicle, the chronicle of Cosmas Pragensis and its continuations, and the monumental annals of Jan Długosz.

**LALA, Etleva dr.**

### **Albania and the Ottoman Empire, Fifteenth to Twentieth Centuries**

**Course codes: BBN-ERA-187/2, BMA-ERAD-187/2**

**Language: English**

**Time: Monday, 12.00-13.30**

**Location: Múzeum krt. 6–8. II/229.**

**Email: etlevalala@yahoo.com, lala.ettleva@btk.elte.hu**

This course studies the Ottoman rule in Albania starting from the fall of Albanian territories under the Ottoman rule to the state independence in 1912. It is focusing on the following topics:

- The fall of Albania under the Ottoman rule (Fifteenth to Sixteenth centuries)
- The *defter* and the registration of the populace (Fifteenth to Eighteenth centuries)
- The politico-administrative organization of Albanian territories into Sandžaks – the rise of the Albanian dynasties
- The economic development in Albania
- The cultural development in Albania
- The Code of Lek Dukagjini and the Islamic Law
- Muslim Religion and Identity in Albania
- Albanian nationalism under Ottoman Rule
- Ottoman Legacy in Albania

Student evaluation will be based on learning portfolio. Students will submit different small tasks like summaries, reflective papers, literature review on a chosen topic, annotated bibliography, or even a research proposal. At the end of the course, students will choose three of these tasks to receive their grades.

**LALA, Etleva dr.**

### **History of Daily Life – Albania in the Balkan Context**

**Course codes: BBN-ERA-187/3, BMA-ERAD-187/3**

**Language: English**

**Time: Monday, 10.00-11.30**

**Location: Múzeum krt. 6–8. II/229.**

**Email: etlevalala@yahoo.com, lala.ettleva@btk.elte.hu**

The *History of Daily Life in Albania in the Balkan Context* aims at highlighting the role of repetitive, habitualized and routinized behavior of humans of this region in the past, spotting thus patterns that otherwise would be hidden by the big events. Since the Balkan countries share in many aspects mentality and behavior, standard of living, (outer) appearance, dress, food, nutrition, housing, and their development, the comparative approach in addressing the daily life would enrich the better understanding of the country and of the region. The case studies that highlight the shared

experiences and traditions of the region will be underpinned with literature that pays special attention to the theoretical and methodological aspects of analysis, the usage of various types of sources (written material, images, archaeological evidence) and their critical interpretation. Questions of source intention, representation, image and 'reality,' norm and practice, contrasts, connotations, ambiguities, and ambivalences will have a special focus.

**MÁTAY, Mónika dr.**

### **History of Crime in Modern Europe**

**Course code: BBN-ERA-186/20**

**Language: English**

**Time: Thursday, 12.00-13.30**

**Location: Múzeum krt. 6–8. II/262**

**Email: matay.monika@btk.elte.hu**

During the past few decades, since the 1970s, various new topics of culture attracted historical interest. Among others, the history of crime emerged as a new field. As a result, these days we know much more about the nature of modern crime, criminal personalities, the correlation between crime and the metropolitan environment – just to list a few of the relevant topics. During the course we apply microscopic and macroscopic approaches to our chosen field. We attempt to understand the social environment of modern crime, the role of the nation state in controlling criminal activities, and we also study individual crime stories, ill-famed murders, robberies, and other episodes of the thick book of sinful doings. We shall use the most recent textbooks and academic literature as well as historical documents of court trials, media representations and other archival sources.

**MÁTAY, Mónika dr.**

### **Film and History: Visual Representation of the Past**

**Course code: BBN-ERA-186/15**

**Language: English**

**Time: Thursday, 14.00-15.30**

**Location: Múzeum krt. 6–8. II/262**

**Email: matay.monika@btk.elte.hu**

How can historians use films as historical sources? Can we only incorporate documentaries into our research, or films in general are worth of historical analysis? Visual sources have been integral to social memory since the early times of human history, cave drawings had been important ways of expressing feelings and ideas. Since that ancient time period, the human being had produced immense amounts of visual traces which are supposed to be read as texts and interpreted as objectifications of human behavior and thoughts.

Since the beginning of the Twentieth century the moving picture became even more integral part of human history. Paraphrasing John Austin's seminal question, How to do things with words?, we can pose the question: How to do things with films? To understand the influences and manipulative potentials, techniques of films are possible analytical ways to approach this unique set of sources, but beyond that, we can turn to films in many other ways. How did electronic visual image change the perception of reality? How did films influence historical, geographic, etc. knowledge in general?

How did values transmitted via films shape social life, communication, social behavior? During the seminars we watch and analyze a selection of important and influential European films in order to understand the relationship between the modern social world and the moving picture more deeply. The goal of class discussions is to put films into their original political and cultural context in order to get a better understanding of their impacts.

**NAGY, Balázs dr. – NOVÁK, Veronika dr. – VADAS, András dr. – ERDŐSI, Péter dr.**  
**Towns and their Spaces in Medieval and Early Modern Europe (Society, economy and civilisation in Medieval and Early Modern Europe)**

**Course codes: BBN-ERA-231, BMA-ERAD-231**

**Language: English**

**Time: Wednesday, 8.30-10.00**

**Location: Múzeum krt. 6–8. I/136**

**Email: nagybal@elte.hu, novak.veronika@btk.elte.hu, vadas.andras@btk.elte.hu, erdosi.peter@btk.elte.hu**

Towns in the Middle Ages represent a distinct group of settlements. However they are very varied in their physical appearance, topography as well as their societies. The course aims to explore the development of some urban centers in medieval Europe from the early medieval period up to the Seventeenth century.

Three problems will be discussed in details. On the one hand, the problem of defining towns in the Middle Ages: how much legal, topographic, functional approaches can be fruitful in the study of medieval towns. Second, the topographic development of some towns, both in medieval Western and Central Europe, will be analyzed. Amongst the case studies Buda, Prague, Cracow as well as Paris and London will be discussed. Thirdly, the course looks at the problem of the use of space in medieval towns.

Based on these problems, the last section of the seminar will analyse the impact of early modern trends, such as the making of princely courts as centralising institutions of power and the advent of Reformation and Catholic Reform, on the uses of urban space, especially in Central Europe.

**SZILÁGYI, Ágnes Judit dr. – PESENYÁNSZKI, Bence**  
**Space Race in the Cold War. The Fuel of Exploration**

**Course code: BBN-ERA-185**

**Language: English**

**Time: Tuesday, 10.00-11.30**

**Location: Múzeum krt. 6–8. II/213**

**Email: szilagyi.agnes@btk.elte.hu**

“On October 4, 1957, the Soviet Union launched an inaugural satellite into orbit. Sputnik was silver in color, about the size of two basketballs and weighed 184 pounds. It spurred a competition between the United States and the Soviet Union for supremacy not just in outer space — but in science and technology in general. [...] Prior to Sputnik’s launch, U.S. airspace had never been penetrated — even during two world wars. Sputnik, while not an enemy aircraft, was controlled by a hostile power and



could be seen and heard directly overhead, contributing to its dramatic effect. On October 10, 1957, six days after Sputnik's launch, there was a special meeting of the U.S. National Security Council, held to address the implications of Sputnik for U.S. security. Following Sputnik's launch, the U.S. Defense Department stepped up missile development, and the U.S. Congress established the National Aeronautics and Space Administration — NASA — on July 29, 1958." (The Globalist)

Our seminar intends to follow the history of the Space Race, an informal competition between the United States and the Soviet Union between 1957 and 1975, as the project of the "rival" nations in the Cold War.

*Selected Bibliography:*

Lara Seligman: The New Space Race, <https://foreignpolicy.com/2019/05/14/the-new-space-race-china-russia-nasa/>

Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, Including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, <https://2009-2017.state.gov/t/isn/5181.htm>

Richard W. Orloff: Apollo by the Numbers: A Statistical Reference, <https://history.nasa.gov/SP-4029.pdf>

**VARGA, Zsuzsanna dr.**  
**Everyday Socialism in Hungary**

**Course code: BBN-ERA-184/3, BMA-ERAD-184/3**

**Language: English**

**Time: Friday, 12.00-13.30**

**Location: Múzeum krt. 6-8. II/218.**

**Email: [varga.zsuzsanna@btk.elte.hu](mailto:varga.zsuzsanna@btk.elte.hu)**

The focus of most historical research into the recent past of Hungary has been and still continues to be on the processes of high politics. Much less attention has been paid to the issue of how socialism was experienced by the Hungarian population. This course gives an overview on the relationship between state projects (forced industrialization, collectivization, etc.) and social groups. However, the main focus is on everyday experience of the society from a bottom-up perspective. It concentrates on topics such as socialist consumerism, private and public spheres, leisure time activities, youth culture, etc.