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| Course title: 20th Century Social and Cultural History of Hungary | Credit number: 4 |
| Type of lessons: lecture/seminar format Number of lectures/seminars: 2 hours per week | |
| Type of evaluation: in-class written test | |
| Place in curriculum: spring term | |
| Course prerequisites: none | |
| Course description: | |
| <p>Course content: The course is designed to provide competences in understanding the basic facts of 20th century Hungarian society and culture. Providing a brief overview of the major trends of social development in the 18th and 19th centuries, the course focuses on the fundamentals of demography, social stratification, the varying patterns of mentality and those of cultural life in 20th century Hungary. Among the phenomena of the latter the course will glimpse upon the changing practices of everyday life in the different epochs of 20th century, as well as some major and outstanding cultural products and personalities in visual arts and films, music, literature, architecture and design. The course will also observe the lives of communities of different denominations, the changing patterns of religiosity in 20th century Hungary.</p> <p>The course will also make students get acquainted with major cultural icons from Béla Bartók to Albert Szentgyörgyi, from László Moholy-Nagy to Miklós Jancsó, from Zsigmond Móricz to Péter Nádas of 20th century cultural life in Hungary.</p> <p>Learning objectives: Students will learn the basics of what it might have been like to live in Hungary in the 20th century. They will have a glimpse of everyday life in the household of a small holder peasant family in an eastern Hungarian village before WW I, and that of a middle-class family in Budapest in the 1930s. Similarly, what it might have been like to live in the home of a miner in the 1950s, or that of a school teacher in a small town in the 1970s.</p> | |
| Required and optional reading (The 3-5 most important required and optional pieces of reading): | |
| <p>Required reading:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kósa, László (ed.), <i>A Cultural History of Hungary in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries</i>, Budapest: Corvina, 2000. 2. Éri, Gyöngyi, Jobbágyi, Zsuzsa (eds.), <i>A Golden Age: Art and Society in Hungary, 1896-1914</i>, Budapest: Corvina, 1997. 3. Pataki, Gábor, <i>The History of Hungarian Art in the Twentieth Century</i>, Budapest: Corvina, 1999. <p>Optional reading:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Held, Joseph (ed.), <i>The Columbia History of Eastern Europe in the Twentieth Century</i>, New York: Columbia University Press, 1992. | |

2. Kósa, László (ed.), *A Cultural History of Hungary in from the Beginnings to the Eighteenth Century*, Budapest: Corvina, 1999.
3. Vadas, József, *A Pictorial History of Hungarian Art*, Budapest: Corvina, 1998.

Course syllabus:

Week 1 – Introduction: What are Hungarians like?

Week 2 – Hungary at the gate of modernisation (basic facts)

Week 3 – Everyday life and cultural milieu in Pre-WW I Hungary (1)

Week 4 – Everyday life and cultural milieu in Pre-WW I Hungary (2)

Week 5 – In a vacuum: life and culture in Hungary in the 1920s

Week 6 – Crises: life and culture in Hungary in the 1930s

Week 7 – Casualties and consequences: Hungary in WW II
Attempts and experiments: Post WW II Hungary (1945-1948)

Week 8 – Desperation and Thawing: everyday life and cultural milieu in Hungary in the 1950s and 1960s

Week 9 – Fermentation: everyday life and cultural milieu in Hungary in the 1970s and 1980s

Week 10 – 1989: life and culture in a shifting country

Week 11 – A shifting culture: life in Hungary in the 1990s

Week 12 – A shifting culture: life in Hungary in the 2000s

Week 13 – End-Term Test

Course instructor in charge: Attila Kőszeghy, assistant lecturer

Additional course instructor(s): –