CIEE Budapest, Hungary

Course name: Ethnicity, Rural Society and Folk Culture in Historic Hungary
Course number: ANTH 3001 BUDP
Programs offering course: Business and European Studies
Language of instruction: English
U.S. Semester Credits: 3
Contact Hours: 45
Term: 2020 Spring

Course Description

Hungary has a rich and complex tradition of cultural heritage. Agrarian economy and rural existence had been a significant component of Hungary’s economic and social history. Up until the middle of the 20th century larger part of the society lived in small towns and villages in the rural countryside, belonged to tightly knit local communities with rich network of human connections and shaped their life according consented expectations and rules. The rich regional traditions of folk art (architecture, dress, decorative arts, cuisine, speech, folk poetry, music and dance) evolved gradually from the late medieval and early modern antecedents had peak periods in the 19th and early 20th century and has been disintegrating during the 20th century up to recent days. The discovery of peasant culture by non-peasants (elite, artists, scholars, urban middle class, politicians etc.) and the evolution, use, reinterpretations or “exploitation” of the concept of the “folk” played an essential role in the “invention” of East-Central European national cultures and ideologies.

Learning Objectives

- Acquisition of knowledge in area studies and field-studies Interdisciplinary approach
- Ability in critical analysis

Course Prerequisites

No prerequisite studies are required.

Methods of Instruction

The course deals with the ethnic, social and regional subcultures of the region from interdisciplinary perspectives using data and approaches of anthropology, ethnography, history,
ethno-musicology, ethno-choreology and sociology. The course will focus on studying folk culture, history of everyday-life and understanding social, economic, demographic processes and structures in different historic periods. There will be an emphasis on interpreting phenomena in its social history and East-Central European regional context. (The material is in part based on the field-experience of the instructor; field-photos and audiovisual materials will be used for illustration.) One of the specialties of the course, that time by time we invite guests – acknowledged experts of their field - or visit some important institutions to broaden the study experience.

**Assessment and Final Grade**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>25%</td>
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| Seminar work         | Weekly written assignments, work with web-sources: 25%

**Course Requirements**

All the readings (in PDF file), maps, statistics, visual and audio-visual material, links related to the class topics will be posted through e-mail. Please open a (gmail, yahoo or similar) account, where you can receive large format PDF-s and please send me your e-mail address as soon as possible to fulemile@gmail.com. Please regularly check your mail and expect written assignments week by week, besides the readings. I will post the material after each class. Please submit written assignments through e-mail up until the next class. (The list of readings are tentative, there might be some further changes, adjustments according the rhythm of our class work and focus of discussions.).

**Midterm exam:** The topics of the midterm PowerPoint presentations and final essays are to be discussed in class.

**Final exam:** The Final exam will be based on the classes and handouts.

**Class Participation:**
Three unexcused absences (10%) will result in a written warning.
Six unexcused absences (20%) will result in an F grade for the student.

In exceptional cases (hospital treatment, permanent illness) provided that the total absence is less than 50%, the tutor can (if he/she so decides) give an opportunity for supplement.

In case of absence related to illness, you are required to provide a doctor’s note. Please send it to fszabo@ciee.org or bring it to the CIEE office room 140.
Arriving at least 15 minutes late to class will count as half of an unexcused absence.

Students who in any way disrupt a class (lecture or seminar) will be warned once. If the student’s disruptive behavior continues after the first warning, the tutor has the right to send the student out of the room and note that the student has been absent from the given class.

**Seminar work:** Your Professor will post the material after each class. Please submit written assignments through e-mail up until the next class.

**Attendance**

Class attendance is mandatory. Participation in lectures is an important part of the process and understanding of the subject.

Each student is expected to attend all sessions of the course and to participate actively in class discussion and during field trips. Attendance will be taken by the course instructor at the beginning of class.

**Weekly Schedule**

**Week 1**

**Class 1.1**


**Readings:**
- Béla Pomogáts: One Thousand Years of Hungarian Culture. (Fact sheets on Hungary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 12 pp)
- National symbols, national days (Fact sheets on Hungary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2003)

**Class 1.2**

II. Orientation. Ethnic symbols and stereotypes of Hungary and the Hungarians.

**Readings:**
- Béla Pomogáts: One Thousand Years of Hungarian Culture. (Fact sheets on Hungary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 12 pp)
- National symbols, national days (Fact sheets on Hungary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2003)
Week 2

Class 2.1

I. Hungary in East Central Europe, a brief survey of geography. The Landscape and the environment.

Readings:

Non-mandatory readings:

Class 2.2

II. Hungary in East Central Europe, a brief survey of geography. The Landscape and the environment.

Readings:
- Non-mandatory readings:

**Week 3**

**Class 3.1** I. Early History of the Hungarian Population

**Readings:**

**Class 3.2** II. Early History of the Hungarian Population

**Readings:**
- Comparison of Maternal Lineage and Biogeographic Analyses of Ancient and Modern Hungarian Populations, American Journal of Physical Anthropology
Week 4
Class 4.1 Visit to the Hungarian National Museum (classes to be held at the permanent exhibitions)

Class 4.2 Archeologic Cultures in the Carpathian Basin Hungarians in the Carpathian basin in the 10th century. II – Hungary in the Early Middle Ages.
Readings:
http://hnm.hu/en?_ga=1.203157009.1483465886.1485860840

Week 5
Class 5.1 I. Nomads of Central Asia. Guest lecture by Dávid Somfai-Kara (linguist and anthropologist) on his Central-Asian fieldwork.
Readings:
- Gráfik, Imre: The Hungarian Saddle, Hungarian Heritage vol. 3 (2002) 96-105pp

Class 5.2 II. Followers of Sándor Csoma Körösi. Hungarian Scholars in Asia. A documentary film by Dávid Somfai Kara

Week 6
Class 6.1 Visit to the Budapest History Museum and the Buda Castle

Readings:
- Bogucka, Maria: The towns of East-Central Europe from the fourteenth to the

Week 7
Class 7.1 Visit to the Open Air Museum in Szentendre.

Class 7.2 Economy, society, patterns of settlement system and architecture in the countryside. http://skanzen.hu/en
Readings:
- Introduction by Zsuzsanna Nagyné Batári: An Exhibition is born. 2014, Skanzen, Szentendre, 4-22 pp

Week 8
Class 8.1 Hungary and its population in the Early Modern Period
Readings:
– István György Tóth: A Concise History of Hungary, Corvina/Osiris, 2005, Read only pp 312 -316 A multiethnic and multidenominational country, Protestants, catholics, orthodoxes, Jews, Nationalities in Hungary in the 18th century
- Jenő Gergely: Churches since the establishment of the Hungarian kingdom up to modern times (Facts sheet on Hungary)

Class 8.2

Week 9
Class 9.1 Midterm Exam
Class 9.2  
Ethnicity, Religions and Society in pre-modern Hungary  
Readings:  
- Béla Pomogáts: Wounds caused by Trianon, Minorities Research 13, 2011, pp 177-187 (Look for the very last article in the PDF named Minorities Research 13)  

Week 10

Class 10.1  
I Multiethnic society and Folk culture in Transylvania.  
Readings:  
- István Pávai: Some Aspects of Interethnic Relations in Transylvanian Traditional Dance Music (lecture-presentation 2008)

Class 10.2  
II Multiethnic society and Folk culture in Transylvania.  
Readings:  
- István Pávai: Some Aspects of Interethnic Relations in Transylvanian Traditional Dance Music (lecture-presentation 2008)

Week 11

Class 11.1  
I Agrarian Society and Folk culture in the 19th and 20th century.  
Readings:  
- Tamás Hofer: Peasant Culture and Urban Culture in the Period of Modernization: Delineation of a Problem Area Based on Data from Hungary, In: Winner, I. P. -

Class 11.2  Visit to the Museum of Ethnography [http://www.neprajz.hu/en]

Week 12
Class 12.1 I Decorative Folk Art. Discovery of ‘Folk’ and the Construction of National Culture.
Readings:
- Kincső Verebélyi: Does the Peasantry Have Its Own Art? Hungarian Heritage, Budapest 2004 vol 5 no 1-2 20-28pp

Class 12.2 II Decorative Folk Art. Discovery of ‘Folk’ and the Construction of National Culture.
Readings:
- Kincső Verebélyi: Does the Peasantry Have Its Own Art? Hungarian Heritage, Budapest 2004 vol 5 no 1-2 20-28pp

Week 13
Class 13.1 Archaic layers of Hungarian Folk Culture. Csángó people of Moldva and Gyimes.
Readings:
- László Diószegi: Historic Moments of Hungarian Folk Dance from the Gyöngyösbokréta to the Dance House
  – Martin, György: Discovering Szék. Hungarian Heritage 2001/1-2. 31–40
Non-mandatory:
- Bence Szabolcsi: A concise history of Hungarian Music II. Chapters Middle Ages, Church Music and Minstrel Music

Class 13.2 Music and Folk Dance traditions in the Carpathian basin.
Guest lecture by László Diószegi (choreographer, historian)

Week 14

Readings:
- Márta Fügedi: The Discovery of Matyó Folk Art
- Imre Romsics: The Folk Art of Kalocsa

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Week 15

Final exam
Course Materials:

Readings / In situ classes
Courses will also include several field trips. Please note that in certain instances students will be required to pay entrance fees possibly in the amount of approximately 50 $.

All the readings listed above in the Weekly Schedule (in PDF file), maps, statistics, visual and audio-visual material, links related to the class topics will be posted through e-mail.

Compulsory Readings


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**Recommended Readings**


