Ata 655 Politics and Society in Eastern Europe

Course description:

Analysis of the history and politics of Eastern Europe (including Balkans). The goal of the course is to make the participants familiar with the histories and current problems of East European and Balkan societies. The course will concentrate its focus on the post-Cold War period. It will cover subjects such as Revolutions in Eastern Europe; Consumption, Daily Life and Economy in Eastern Europe and Balkans during and after the Cold War; Political Culture, Political Parties and Elections in Post-Communist Eastern Europe; Civil Society and Democratization; Religion in Post-Communist Society; Minorities, Ethnicity and Nationalism in Eastern Europe and Balkans; Gender Politics in Eastern Europe and Balkans; Memory and Culture; Current Trends in Eastern Europe and Balkans.

The basic requirements:

1) required readings in this syllabus,

2) regular attendance and participation in class discussions,

3) The students will write a research paper (10-15 single spaced pages) on a related topic.

Evaluation:

Grades will be weighted as follows:

Presentations 50 %
Research paper 50 %
1) Historical Background of Eastern Europe and Balkans


2) Eastern Europe and Balkans in the Inter-War Period


3) Eastern Europe and Balkans during the Cold War


4) Revolutions in Eastern Europe and Balkans


5) Consumption and Daily Life in Cold War Eastern Europe and Balkans


6) Gender Politics in Eastern Europe and Balkans


7) Political Culture, Political Parties and Elections in Post-Communist Eastern Europe and Balkans


8) Civil Society and Democratization


9) Religion in Post-Communist Society


10) Minorities, Ethnicity and Nationalism in Eastern Europe and Balkans


11) Memory and Culture


12) Current Trends in Eastern Europe and Balkans


Zoltan Csefalvay, “Robotization in Central and Eastern Europe: Catching up or Dependence,” European Planning Studies, 2019, pp. 1-17.

Ivan Kalmar, “The East is just like the West, only more so: Islamophobia and Populism in Eastern Germany and the East of the European Union,” Journal of Contemporary European Studies, 2019, pp.1-12.
