

Political Science 53
East European Politics

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Wednesday 1:15- 4:00 pm

Office Hours: MWF 1:00 - 3:00 pm
T 11:00 – 12:00 & by appointment

This course will explore contemporary political trends in Central and Eastern Europe. We will explore the process of the transitions of 1989 -- social, political and economic -- and explore both their positive and negative effects. In this way we will explore the benefits and deficits of capitalism, liberalism, and Western-style democracy.

Throughout the semester, students will be expected to keep up with the assigned readings (noted for each week on the syllabus) and be prepared for discussion in class. This is very important, as this will be a discussion intensive course. Students will also be required to write four “thought” papers during the course of the semester. These pieces, four to five pages in length, will be based on the weeks’ readings, and will form the basis of debate and discussion in class. In addition, there will be a research paper of fifteen to twenty pages, and a final examination.

Required Texts:

Social Currents in Eastern Europe: The Sources and Meanings of the Great Transformation, Ramet, Sabrina, (Duke University Press, 2nd Edition 1994).

Subversive Institutions: The Design and Destruction of Socialism and the State, Bunce, Valerie, (Cambridge, 1999).

Civil Society , Constitution and Legitimacy, Arato, Andrew (Rowman and Littlefield, 2000).

The Dynamics of Democratization: Elites, Civil Society and the Transition Process, Gill, Graeme, (St. Martin’s Press, 2000).

Post Communist Party Systems, ed. Kitschelt, Robert, (Cambridge University Press, 1999).

Where the World Ended: Re-unification and Identity in the German Border Land, Berdahl, Daphine, (University of California, 1999).

Politics of Gender After Socialism, Gal, Susan and Kligman, Gail, (Princeton, 2000).

A Culture of Corruption: Coping with Government in Post-Communist Europe, Miller, William, et al., (Central European University Press, 2001).

Making Capitalism Without Capitalists, eds., Eyal, Gail, Szelenyi, Ivan, and Townsley, Eleanor (Verso Press, 2000).

The New Russian Transition Gone Awry, ed. Klien, Lawrence and Pomer, Marshall, (Standford University Press, 2001).

Optional:

Atlas of Eastern Europe in Twentieth Century, Crampton, Ben and Crampton, Richard, (Routledge, 1996).

PART ONE: THE SECOND GREAT TRANSFORMATION

Week One: Introductions

September 5

Week Two: Unheard Rumbblings; Unforeseen Consequence

September 12

Readings: Social Currents in Eastern Europe: The Sources and Meanings of the Great Transformation, Ramet, Sabrina, (Duke University Press, 1994).
Chapters. 1-5 (pp.3-120) & 12-15 (pp.279 – 370)

Week Three: Collapse of Institutions

September 19

Project Due: Short Paper on Ramet (3-5 pages)

Readings: Subversive Institutions: The Design and Destruction of Socialism and the State, Bunce, Valerie (Cambridge, 1999). (pp. 1-164)

Reserves: “What Did We Lose After 1989” Siklova, Jirina, in *Social Research*, Vol. 63, No. 2 (Summer 1996) pp. 531-541

“The World They Lost: An Assessment of the Change in Easter Europe” Centeno, Miguel Angel and Rands. Tania in *Social Research*, Vol. 63, No. 2 (Summer 1996) pp. 369-402

Week Four: (Re)Building Civil Society?

September 26

Readings: Civil Society, Constitution and Legitimacy,
Arato, Andrew (Rowman and Littlefield, 2000). (pp. 1-166).

The Dynamics of Democratization: Elites, Civil Society and the Transition Process, Gill, Graeme, (St. Martin’s Press, 2000). (pp. 80-234).

Week Five: Constitutions, Legitimacy and Democratization

October 4

Project Due: Short paper on Civil Society and Transitions (4-5 pages)

Readings: Civil Society , Constitution and Legitimacy,
Arato, Andrew (Rowman and Littlefield, 2000). (pp. 167-256)

Reserves: “The Post-Communist Economic Elite,” Lengyel, György in A Society Transformed: Hungary in Time-Space Perspective, ed. Andorka, Rudolf, et. al. (CEU Press 1999).

“The Middle Strata in Transformation,” Fábíán, Zoltán in A Society Transformed: Hungary in Time-Space Perspective, ed. Andorka, Rudolf, et. al. (CEU Press 1999).

“Dissatisfaction and Alienation,” Andorka, Rudolf in A Society Transformed: Hungary in Time-Space Perspective, ed. Andorka, Rudolf, et. al. (CEU Press 1999).

Week Six: *Parties and Interests*

October 11

Readings: Post Communist Party Systems,
ed. Kitschelt, Robert, (Cambridge, 1999). Chapters 1, 3, & 5 + Part IV
(pp. 1-42, 95-132, 157-194, 223-308)

Reserves: “Two Paths of Change? How Former Communist Parties Remade Themselves After
Communism’s Collapse” Ziblat, Daniel in Communist Successor Parties in Post-
Communist Politics, ed. Ishiyama, John (Nova Science, 1999). pp.71-100

“What Kinds of Parties Are Emerging? Pattern of Successor Party Organizational
Development” Ishiyama, John in Communist Successor Parties in Post-Communist
Politics, ed. Ishiyama, John (Nova Science, 1999). pp.131-154

Week Seven: *Holiday*

October 18

PART TWO: ALTERED IDENTITIES

Week Eight: *German Identities*

October 25

Project Due: Short Paper on Berdahl (4-5 pages)

Readings: Where the World Ended: Re-unification and Identity in the German Border
Land, Berdahl, Daphine, (University of California, 1999). (pp 1-234).

Reserve: The Politics of Memory: Looking for Germany in the New Germany, Kramer, Jane,
Random House, 1996). pp. 153-212

Week Nine: *Families and Gender*

November 1

Readings: Politics of Gender After Socialism,
Gal, Susan and Kligman, Gail, (Princeton, 2000). (pp. 3-118)

Social Currents in Eastern Europe: The Sources and Meanings of the Great
Transformation, Ramet, Sabrina, (Duke University Press, 1994).
Chapters. 9- 11(pp.219 – 278)

Week Ten: *Religious and Ethnic Identities*

November 8

Readings: Social Currents in Eastern Europe: The Sources and Meanings of the Great
Transformation, Ramet, Sabrina, (Duke University Press, 1994).
Chapters. 6- 8 (pp.155 – 218)

Reserve: Bloodlines: From Ethnic Pride to Ethnic Terrorism, Volkan, Vamik, (Farrar, Straus and
Giroux, 1997), Chapters 1, 3, 6 &10 (pp. 3-29, 36-49, 101-115, 156-167)

Religion and the Politics of Identity in Kosovo, Duijzings, Ger (Columbia, 2000),
Chapters 1 & 3 (pp. 1-36 & 65-85)

Week Eleven: *Organized Hatred*

November 15

Project Due: Short Paper on Identities, or Politics of Hate

Readings: All on Reserves

Reserve: “Defining the Radical Right,” Ramet, Sabrina, in The Radical Right in Central and Eastern Europe Since 1989, ed. Ramet, Sabrina (Penn State Press, 1999) pp. 3-28

“Problems of the Transition and the Rise of the Radical Right,” Williams, Christopher, in The Radical Right in Central and Eastern Europe Since 1989, ed. Ramet, Sabrina (Penn State Press, 1999) pp. 29-48

“Women and the Radical Right: Ethnocracy and Body Politics,” Mostov, Julie, in The Radical Right in Central and Eastern Europe Since 1989, ed. Ramet, Sabrina (Penn State Press, 1999) pp. 49-66

Free to Hate, Hockenos, Paul, (Routledge, 1993), Intro, Chapters 1 & 8, Conclusion (pp. 1-68 & 269-316).

PART THREE: ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATIONS

Week Twelve: *Corruption: The Effect of New Money or Old Power?*

November 22

Readings: A Culture of Corruption: Coping with Government in Post-Communist Europe, Miller, William, et al., (Central European University Press, 2001).
Chapters 1,2 4,6, 8 & 9

Week Thirteen: *Liberalism’s Dream: Building Capitalism*

November 29

Readings: Making Capitalism Without Capitalists,
eds., Eyal, Gail, Szelenyi, Ivan, and Townsley, Eleanor (Verso Press, 2000).
(pp. 1-198)

Week Fourteen: *Transitions Gone Wrong?*

December 6

Readings: The New Russian Transition Gone Awry,
ed. Klien, Lawrence and Pomer, Marshall, (Stanford University Press, 2001).
Chapters 1- 7 (pp. 1- 116) & Chapters 9-13 (139 – 220)

Week Fifteen: Final Papers Due