PSCI 4194/5194 (3 credits)
Politics, History, and Culture in Central East Europe

May 17 - June 1, 2015 (16 days)

Application Deadline: January 29, 2015

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
In this pre-summer session course learn about political, economic, and social changes in post-communist countries now part of the EU, and learn about experiences during WWII, the Holocaust, and struggles against authoritarianism throughout history. Site visits to Auschwitz, Schindler Factory, Warsaw Uprising Museum, Prague Castle, the Czech Senate, and more. Meetings with a Czech Senator, Polish politician, U.S. Consulate, and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty among others.

WHAT'S INCLUDED:
- Cultural experiences and field trips with local bilingual guides
- Entrance fees and reservations are included for tours unless otherwise noted
- Academic and professional excursions with presenters and/or professionals
- Coordinator to accompany your group during all planned visits and excursions while in Warsaw, Krakow, and Prague
- City maps for cities with an overnight stay and whenever free time is planned
- Accommodation: 13 nights at 2- or 3-star hotels with twin rooms and private bathrooms unless otherwise noted
- Meals: Special welcome dinner in Warsaw and farewell dinner in Prague. Daily breakfast.
- Transportation: Private coach bus and train tickets (where noted in the itinerary). Public transportation passes in Warsaw, Krakow, and Prague
- Gratuities, health insurance, contingency fee

CONTACT INFORMATION:
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Scholarships available. Financial aid, including TN lottery money, available for summer school tuition.
Day 1 >> Sun. May 17:
• Flight to Warsaw, Poland (airfare not included)

Day 2 >> Mon. May 18: (Warsaw)
Stay 3 nights at a 2-star hotel in Warsaw
• Arrival at Warsaw Airport
• Transportation by private bus from the airport to the hotel
• Check-in and welcome orientation provided by your coordinator
• Guided walking tour of Warsaw to get a first impression of the city
• Welcome dinner at a restaurant in Warsaw to kick off the program

Day 3 >> Tues. May 19: (Warsaw)
• Meeting with Dariusz Szved, a Polish politician and feminist activist
• Presentation on "Poland’s Political Situation Heading Towards The October Parliamentary Elections"
• Free afternoon to discover the city of Warsaw on your own

Day 4 >> Wed. May 20: (Warsaw)
• Guided tour of the Warsaw Rising Museum that was opened in 2004 to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the doomed Warsaw Uprising of 1944
• Free afternoon to discover the city of Warsaw further on your own

Day 5 >> Thurs. May 21: (Warsaw - Krakow)
Stay 4 nights at a 3-star hotel in Krakow
• Transportation by private bus to and from the train station
• Train tickets from Warsaw to Krakow (travel time: approx. 3 hours)
• Check-in and welcome orientation provided by your coordinator
• Private guided walking tour of Krakow including visits to St. Mary’s Basilica, Glowny Square and the Sukiennice Cloth Hall

Day 6 >> Fri. May 22: (Krakow)
• Visit to the US Consulate General in Krakow and meeting with the Consul for Political and Economic Affairs to get an insight into transitional politics in Poland and the country’s relationship to the US
• Guest lecture to learn from professionals in the field of Polish foreign policy and relations with countries to the east

Day 7 >> Sat. May 23: (Krakow)
• Private guided tour of Wawel Cathedral which was the traditional coronation site of Polish monarchs
• Free time for lunch at own expense
• Private guided tour of Schindler’s Factory & Museum

Day 8 >> Sun. May 24: (Auschwitz - Krakow)
• Transportation by private bus to Auschwitz and return
• Private guided tour of the former concentration camp Auschwitz-Birkenau
• Free afternoon in Krakow

Day 9 >> Mon. May 25: (Zakopane - Krakow - Prague)
• Transportation by private bus to Zakopane and return
• Free time to stroll around and to discover the market square, the Old Cemetery, the wooden Old Church at Koscielska street as well as the Ski Jumping venue Wielka Krokiew
• Tickets for the cable car to Mount Kasprowy will be arranged
• Transportation by private bus to the train station in Krakow
• Overnight train (4 - 6 person sleeper cars) from Krakow to Prague (travel time: approx. 8 hours)

Day 10 >> Tues. May 26: (Prague)
Stay 6 nights at a 3-star hotel in Prague
• Transportation by private bus from the train station to the hotel
• Check-in and welcome orientation provided by your coordinator
• Private guided walking tour of Prague to see the highlights of the city such as the Market Square, Charles Bridge, and Stare Mesto (the old town)

Day 11 >> Wed. May 27: (Prague)
• Visit to Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty or another radio/TV station in Prague to learn about their work and the purpose of RFE/RL during the Cold War as well as today
• Visit to the Museum of Communism

Day 12 >> Thurs. May 28: (Prague)
• Private guided walking tour of the Jewish Quarter
• Free afternoon to discover Prague on your own

Day 13 >> Fri. May 29: (Prague)
• Visit to the Czech Senate to learn about the Senate activity, the make-up of the Senate, its powers and the current situation in debating bills
• Free time for lunch at own expense
• Private guided tour of the Prague Castle, a UNESCO World Heritage site

Day 14 >> Sat. May 30: (Kutná Hora)
• Private guided tour of the Czech Museum of Silver which concentrates on the history of the Kutná Hora region
• Visit to the Cathedral of St. Barbara, the most spectacular gothic cathedral in the Czech Republic
• Entrance to the Ossuary also known as the Church of Bones

Day 15 >> Sun. May 31: (Prague)
• Free day for final discussions, reflection and wrap up of the program
• Farewell dinner at a restaurant in Prague

Day 16 >> Mon. June 1: (Prague)
• Transportation by private bus to the airport in Prague
• Departure from Prague Airport to the USA (airfare not included)

Program price: $2,700* per person

Not included: round-trip airfare, tuition, meals not listed, passport expenses, personal and misc. expenses.

Additional costs:
Airfare: $1,300 - 1,400
Additional meals: $380 (approx.)
Undergraduate tuition and fees: $1,044
Graduate tuition: $ 1,521

Scholarships available. Financial aid, including TN lottery money, available for summer school tuition.

* The program price is based on a minimum number of 12 participants and subject to change due to fluctuations in the value of the Euro in relation to the U.S. dollar.