COURSE SYLLABUS
Genocide and Memory in Comparative Perspectives
2017

Instructor: Dr. Gábor Kádár, Visiting Professor

Department
Central European University

Semester/term, year

Course level (MA, PhD)

# Credits (# ECTS Credits)

Pre-requisites (if applicable)

Course e-learning site:

Course description
The course will provide an overview and analysis of various state-organized acts of violence, examples of ethnic cleansing, genocides and mass murders during the twentieth century. Questions and events in focus will be examined through a coherent conceptual framework and with a strong comparative aspect. The focus of the comparative approach will be the history of the Holocaust, using the Nazi attempt to destroy European Jewry as a main reference point. The analysis will focus on the historical, cultural and social contexts, stressing structural similarities and dissimilarities among the examined events. The final section of the course will explore the spatial, cultural and political memory of the Holocaust and other genocides.

Learning outcomes
By the end of the course, students will understand the complex genesis and evolution of genocides and mass murders of the 20th century as well as their main characteristics and various temporal and geographical patterns. They will be able to apply a comparative approach in the analysis of the events and have a deeper understanding of their historical and cultural contexts.
Course requirements

- Class attendance and participation in discussions: 50% of the final grade.
- Term paper: 50% of the final grade. The paper should be minimum 2500 words (not including bibliography) and should relate to the themes of the course.

1. Empire building and the roots of mass murder


2. Comparing genocides – a case study


3. A genocidal mind?


4. “Ordinary” murderers

5. The logistics of annihilation


6. Patterns of mass violence: pogroms, riots, atrocities


7. Plunder, rape, cultural genocide


8. Rescue and resistance

9. Memory and politics

- Joanna Michlic. The Polish debate about the Jedwabne Massacre. 
  [http://sicsa.huji.ac.il/21michlic.pdf](http://sicsa.huji.ac.il/21michlic.pdf)

10-11. Landscapes of Holocaust memory in Budapest – a walk


12. The Holocaust as a global icon