



University of
New Haven

The Golden City of Prague: Past & Present

SECTION I: Course Overview

Course Code: ARH310PRG

Subject Area(s): Art History

Prerequisites: None

Language of Instruction: English

Additional Fees: See Below

Total Contact Hours: 45

Recommended Credits: 3

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course traces the evolution of Prague's rich architectural and artistic traditions from the past to present and seeks to follow the "dialogue" between art historical traditions and modernity. Delving into the past, this course examines the relationship between legends and architectural facts, Bohemian art and architecture as physical forms of collective memory and political propaganda, and the use of public areas of the city for daily activities. Turning toward the present, the course explores how present-day Prague - once a city of artistic and architectural tradition - is being shaped by global forces and international esthetic synergies. The course examines the works of selected international and local architects and artists such as Frank O. Gehry and David Cerny, who have looked to Prague as a place of modernist artistic experiment and architectural expression and have helped transform the city into a fascinating mix of traditionalism and international modernism.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Distinguish different art-historical periods, including their key esthetical principles
- Situate the studied works of art and architecture within relevant historical and socio-political context
- Describe how global forces of internationalization have shaped Prague's contemporary artistic and architectural landscape
- Compare and contrast Prague's traditionalist and modernist artistic and architectural expressions
- Critically analyze major works of art and architecture in Prague

ADDITIONAL COURSE FEES

This course requires payment of an additional fee to cover active learning components that are above and beyond typical course costs, such as site visits, entrance fees and other expenses. Please see the Course Overview online for further information.

SECTION II: Instructor & Course Details

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Name: | TBD |
| Contact Information: | TBD |
| Term: | SUMMER |

PARTICIPATION POLICY

This class will meet three times per week for 190 minutes. All students are expected to arrive on time and prepared for the day's class session.

Participation is required at all regularly scheduled class sessions, including any field trips, site visits, guest lectures, etc. that are assigned by the instructor. In compliance with NECHE and UNH accreditation requirements, CEA instructors compile regular attendance records for every course and take these records into account when evaluating student participation and overall course performance. When students do not participate, they undermine their ability to make progress toward the stated learning objectives of the course, as well as miss an opportunity to strengthen relationships with faculty and classmates.

Late arrivals or early departures from class can result in being marked absent. Additionally, in accordance with US accreditation standards and immigration requirements, students must maintain a full-time course load in order to preserve their student status for the duration of the semester. As part of its commitment to student success, CEA will connect with students who demonstrate a pattern of non-participation to understand their reasons for missing class. CEA may warn, place on probation, or dismiss from courses, programs, activities and housing any student who fails to maintain satisfactory academic progress or full-time student status.

GRADING & ASSESSMENT

The instructor will assess your progress towards the above-listed learning objectives by using the forms of assessment below. Each of these assessments is weighted and will count towards your final grade. The following section (Assessment Overview) will provide further details for each.

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Class Participation | 15% |
| Class Presentations | 30% |
| Midterm Exam | 25% |
| Field Study Assignments | 30% |

The instructor will calculate your course grades using the CEA Grading Scale shown below. As a CEA student, you should understand that credit transfer decisions—including earned grades for courses taken abroad—are ultimately made by your home institution.

CEA GRADING SCALE

The instructor reserves the right to make changes or modifications to this syllabus as needed

| Letter Grade | Numerical Grade | Percentage Range | Quality Points |
|--------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------|
| A+ | 9.70 – 10.0 | 97.0 – 100% | 4.00 |
| A | 9.40 – 9.69 | 94.0 – 96.9% | 4.00 |
| A- | 9.00 – 9.39 | 90.0 – 93.9% | 3.70 |
| B+ | 8.70 – 8.99 | 87.0 – 89.9% | 3.30 |
| B | 8.40 – 8.69 | 84.0 – 86.9% | 3.00 |
| B- | 8.00 – 8.39 | 80.0 – 83.9% | 2.70 |
| C+ | 7.70 – 7.99 | 77.0 – 79.9% | 2.30 |
| C | 7.40 – 7.69 | 74.0 – 76.9% | 2.00 |
| C- | 7.00 – 7.39 | 70.0 – 73.9% | 1.70 |
| D | 6.00 – 6.99 | 60.0 – 69.9% | 1.00 |
| F | 0.00 – 5.99 | 0.00 – 59.9% | 0.00 |
| W | Withdrawal | N/A | 0.00 |
| INC | Incomplete | N/A | 0.00 |

ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW

This section provides a brief description of each form of assessment listed above. Your course instructor will provide further details and instructions during class time.

Class Participations (15%): Student participation is mandatory for all courses taken at a CEA Study Center. The instructor will use the rubric below when determining your participation grade. All students should understand that attendance and punctuality are expected and will not count positively toward the participation grade.

| CLASS PARTICIPATION GRADING RUBRIC | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Student Participation Level | Grade |
| You make major & original contributions that spark discussion, offering critical comments clearly based on readings, research, & theoretical course topics. | A+ (10.0 – 9.70) |
| You make significant contributions that demonstrate insight as well as knowledge of required readings & independent research. | A/A- (9.69 – 9.00) |
| You participate voluntarily and make useful contributions that are usually based upon some reflection and familiarity with required readings. | B+/B (8.99 – 8.40) |
| You make voluntary but infrequent comments that generally reiterate the basic points of the required readings. | B-/C+ (8.39 – 7.70) |
| You make limited comments only when prompted and do not initiate debate or show a clear awareness of the importance of the readings. | C/C- (7.69 – 7.00) |
| You very rarely make comments and resist engagement with the subject. You are not prepared for class and/or discussion of course readings. | D (6.99 – 6.00) |

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You make irrelevant and tangential comments disruptive to class discussion. You are consistently unprepared for class and/or discussion of the course readings.

F
(5.99 – 0.00)

Virtual class participation will be measured by (a) how often students log in the course, (b) their performance and attitude in mandatory live sessions, and (c) how significant their contributions to the virtual discussions are; students should be ready to offer critical comments clearly based on readings, research, & theoretical course topics.

Class Presentations (2 x 15%): Each student will prepare two brief presentations on a specific aspect of the artistic, architectural, aesthetic or societal themes relevant to topics covered in class. The first presentation will be held during the semester, the schedule of presentations will be determined at the beginning of the semester. Second presentation will be presented on the last day of the semester. The topic of the presentation is to be discussed with and approved by the instructor. This presentation should be well structured, usage of visuals is encouraged. Students should use at least 3 scholarly resources in developing their topic. Each presentation is to be a maximum of 10 minutes long and include discussion questions. Presentation assessment includes accuracy of concepts presented, the clarity of presentation, the choice of examples, the relevance of discussion questions to the covered course material and the engagement of the rest of the class.

Midterm Exam (25%): The midterm exam is designed to establish and communicate the progress you are making towards meeting the course learning objectives listed above. The exam is comprised of three questions: First, two image-based questions from a list that will be provided beforehand, consisting of key topics covered in the class and field visits. The questions will require you to compare pieces of art and architecture, shortly describe them and link them to socio-political conditions of the time. Images of works will be presented during the test. The second part will include a short essay on one style of your own choice covered in the course. The essay must be coherent and well-organized and include: an introduction in which you clearly introduce the characteristics of your selected style, and religious and socio-political conditions of the era; a substantial body of description and analysis of one selected piece of art or architecture; and a conclusion that pulls and links your ideas together. The exam questions will test your abilities in three important areas of competency: the amount of information you master, the accuracy of the information you present, and the significance you ascribe to the facts and ideas you have integrated across your study in this course. Question 1 and 2 weight both 30%, short essay on style weights 40% of the grade.

Field Study Assignments (30%): Students will produce three written field study assignments (each worth 10% of the grade) based on having attended multiple field-studies during class. The written assignment should include the student's direct in-person observations and impressions from the field study, but these also need to be academically contextualized by the course readings and/or content of class lectures. Citation of 2-3 external bibliographical sources is recommended. All sources should be preferably academic and must be cited.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING ACTIVITIES (AICAP)

CEA courses are designed to include a variety of experiential learning activities that will take you out of the classroom and allow you to explore your local, host city. These activities may include field studies, guest lectures and/or activities offered through our Academically Integrated Cultural Activities Program (AICAP). Please check the Forms of Assessment section to find out if AICAP activities are related to any specific form of assessment. The following experiential learning activities are recommended for this course:

- Field Studies: *Old Town Square, Jewish Quarter Josefov, St. Agnes Convent, Charles Bridge, Prague Castle, St. Vitus Cathedral, Our Lady of the Tyn, Ungelt, Schwarzenberg Palace, St. Nicholas Church, National Museum, Trade*

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Fair Palace, Mucha Museum, House of the Black Madonna, Kunsthalle Prague, Museum of Communism, House at the Stone Bell.

REQUIRED READINGS

Reading assignments for this course will come from the required text(s) and/or the selected reading(s) listed below. All required readings—whether assigned from the text or assigned as a selected reading—must be completed according to the due date assigned by the course instructor.

- I. SELECTED READING(S):** The selected readings for this course are listed below. You will not need to purchase these readings; the instructor will provide these selected readings to you in class (either in paper or electronic format).

Butler, C. *Postmodernism. A Very Short Introduction*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2002. Print.

Czech Modern Art 1900-60. Prague: The National Gallery in Prague, 1995. Print.

Gombrich, E.H. *The Story of Art*. London: Phaidon, 1995. Print

Hoptman, L. J., Pospiszyl, T. New York: The Museum of Modern Art, 2002. Print.

Chalupecký, J. “The Intellectual under Socialism”. *Primary Documents: A Sourcebook for Eastern and Central European Art since the 1950s*. pp. 29-37.

Kaufmann, T. DaCosta. *Court, cloister, and city: The art and culture of Central Europe*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1995. Print.

Mansbach S. A. *Modern Art in Eastern Europe*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999. Print

Petrasová, T., Švácha, R. eds. *Art in the Czech Lands 800 – 2000*. Prague: Arbor Vitae, 2017. Print.

Rubin, J. H. *Impressionism*. London, New York: Phaidon, 1999. Print.

Srp, K. “Poetry in the Midst of the World: the Avant-garde as Projectile”. In Benson, T. O. ed. *Central European Avant-Gardes: Exchange and Transformation, 1910-1930*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: The MIT Press, 2002. 108-131. Print.

Tietz, J. *The Story of Architecture*, Cologne: Könemann, 1999. Print.

Benson, T. O. ed. *Central European Avant-Gardes: Exchange and Transformation, 1910-1930*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: The MIT Press, 2002. 108-131. Print.

Benson, T.O., Forgács, E. eds. *Between Worlds: A Sourcebook of Central European Avant-Gardes, 1910-1930*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: The MIT Press, 2002. 86-92. Print.

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Wittlich, P.: *Czech Modern Painters 1888 - 1918*. Charles University in Prague: Karolinum Press, 2012. Print.

RECOMMENDED READINGS

The recommended reading(s) and/or text(s) for this course are below. These recommended readings are not mandatory, but they will assist you with research and understanding course content.

Baborovská, S., Wittlich, P. eds. *The Restless Figure: Expression in Sculpture 1880 – 1914*. Karolinum Press, Charles University, 2017.

Boehm, B., Fajt, J. eds. *Prague, The Crown of Bohemia, 1347-1437*, New York: MetPublications, 2005, 384 pp.

Fucikova, E. *Renaissance Prague*, Prague: Karolinum Press, 2018, 184 pp.

Janák, P. “Prism and Pyramid”. In Benson, T. O., Forgács, E. eds. *Between Worlds: A Sourcebook of Central European Avant-Gardes, 1910-1930*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: The MIT Press, 2002. 86-92. Print.

Muchka, I. ed. *Rudolfinská Praha - Rudolfine Prague*. Prague: Central Europe Gallery, 2006. Print.

Souckova, M. *Baroque in Bohemia*. University of Michigan Press, 1980. Print.

Stankova, J. et. al. *Prague Eleven Centuries of Architecture: Historical Guide*, Prague: PAV Publisher, 1992, 360 pp.

Švácha, R. ed. *Kubistická Praha – Cubist Prague*. Central Europe Gallery, Prague, 2004. Print

Svacha, R., Buechler, A. *The Architecture of New Prague 1895-1945*, Cambridge: MIT Press, 1995, 544 pp.

Wittlich, P. *Sculpture of the Czech Art-Nouveau*, Prague: Karolinum Press, 2001, 420 pp.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

In order to ensure your success abroad, CEA has provided the academic resources listed below. In addition to these resources, each CEA Study Center provides students with a physical library and study areas for group work. The Academic Affairs Office at each CEA Study Center also compiles a bank of detailed information regarding libraries, documentation centers, research institutes, and archival materials located in the host city.

- **UNH Online Library:** As a CEA student, you will be given access to the online library of CEA’s School of Record, the University of New Haven (UNH). You can use this online library to access databases and additional resources while performing research abroad. You may access the UNH online library [here](#) or through your MyCEA Account. You must comply with UNH Policies regarding library usage.
- **CEAClassroom – Moodle:** CEA instructors use Moodle, an interactive virtual learning environment. This web-based platform provides you with constant and direct access to the course syllabus, daily schedule of class lectures and assignments, non-textbook required readings, and additional resources.

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Moodle includes the normal array of forums, up-loadable and downloadable databases, wikis, and related academic support designed for helping you achieve the learning objectives listed in this syllabus.

During the first week of class, CEA academic staff and/or faculty will help you navigate through the many functions and resources Moodle provides. While you may print a hard copy version of the syllabus, you should always check Moodle for the most up-to-date information regarding this course. The instructor will use Moodle to make announcements and updates to the course and/or syllabus. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have access to all Moodle materials and that you monitor Moodle on a daily basis in case there are any changes made to course assignments or scheduling.

To access Moodle: Please log-in to your MyCEA account using your normal username and password. Click on the “While You’re Abroad Tab” and make sure you are under the “Academics” sub-menu. There you will see a link above your schedule that says “View Online Courses” select this link to be taken to your Moodle environment.

- **Online Reference & Research Tools:** The course instructor has identified the resources below to assist you with understanding course topics. You are encouraged to explore these and other avenues of research including the databases available via the UNH online library.

artmap.cz

<http://artycok.tv/en/>

artlist.cz

archiweb.cz/adolf-loos

davidcerny.cz

<http://en.kaplickycentre.org>

artcyclopedia.com

<https://monoskop.org/Monoskop>

COURSE CALENDAR
The Golden City of Prague: Past & Present

| SESSION | TOPICS | ACTIVITY | READINGS & ASSIGNMENTS |
|---------|--|---|---|
| 1 | Course Introduction: Review Syllabus, Classroom Policies | Course Overview Lecture & Discussion <i>Field Study: Jewish Prague</i> | Reading: Short Introduction to Czech History Prague: Jewish 2017, pp. 3-11 |
| 2 | Medieval Prague | Lecture & Discussion <i>Field Study: St. Agnes Convent</i> | Reading: Petrasova, Švácha 2017, pp. 38–41, 48–55, 54-59 |
| 3 | The Age of Charles IV | <i>Field Study: Prague Castle, St. Vitus Cathedral</i> | Reading: Petrasova, Švácha 2017, pp. 59–68 |
| 4 | Renaissance Prague | Lecture & Discussion <i>Field Study: Royal Summerhouse, Wallenstein Garden</i> | Reading: Gombrich 1995, pp. 223 – 245 [Chapter 12] *Submit Field Study Assignment 1 |
| 5 | Prague of Rudolf II | <i>Field Study: National Gallery – Schwarzenberg Palace, Malá Strana</i> | Reading: Kaufmann 1995, pp. 184 – 191 |
| 6 | Baroque Prague Revision for Midterm Exam | Lecture & Discussion <i>Field Study: Baroque Churches</i> | Reading: Gombrich 1995, pp. 435-45 [Chapter 21] Prepare for Midterm Exam |
| 7 | MIDTERM EXAM | <i>Field Study: Art and Architecture Styles in the Old Town, Charles Bridge</i> | |

| | | | |
|----|--|---|--|
| 8 | Czech National Revival Art Nouveau Prague | Lecture & Discussion <i>Field Study: National Museum</i> | Read: Tietz 1998, pp. 6 – 10 Watch: History of Ideas: Romanticism |
| 9 | Birth of Modern City and Modern Art | Lecture & Discussion <i>Field Study: Trade Fair Palace</i> | Reading: Rubin 1999, pp. 24 – 34 Mansbach 199, pp. 16-26 [Expressionism] *Submit Field Study Assignment 2 |
| 10 | First Czechoslovak Republic Art and Technology | Lecture & Discussion <i>Field Study: Trade Fair Palace</i> | Reading: Benson 2002, pp. 109 –114 [Srp] |
| 11 | Art under Communism | Lecture & Discussion <i>Field Study: Museum of Communism, Gardens of St. Agnes Convent</i> | Reading: Hoptman, Pospiszyl 2002, pp. 29 - 37 [Chalupecký] |
| 12 | Towards Postmodernism Class Presentation 2 | Lecture & Discussion <i>Field Study: T.B.A.</i> | Reading: Butler 2002, pp. 13 – 16, pp. 92 – 100 *Submit Field Study Assignment 3 |

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SECTION III: CEA Academic Policies

The policies listed in this section outline general expectations for CEA students. You should carefully review these policies to ensure success in your courses and during your time abroad. Furthermore, as a participant in the CEA program, you are expected to review and understand all CEA Student Policies, including the academic policies outlined on our website. CEA reserves the right to change, update, revise, or amend existing policies and/or procedures at any time. For the most up to date policies, please review the policies on our website.

Class & Instructor Policies can be found [here](#)

General Academic Policies can be found [here](#)