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HIST W3201.001

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Pupin 414

Society and Culture in the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy 1867-1918

Lecture Course

Course Syllabus

Course Description: This course offers a critical examination of the history of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, once one of Europe's largest military powers which disappeared from the map after World War I. A restructured version of the Habsburg Empire, the Monarchy was a lasting, authoritarian framework of Central European ethnic groups which, however, gave rise to modernism in the field of arts and sciences. The juxtaposition of authority and modernity provides the focus of this survey which includes the study of the Monarchy as the birthplace of both Zionism and modern anti-Semitism. Nurturing a pioneering culture and a pre-modern society, Austria-Hungary is an exciting case of pioneering spirit and decadence, experimentation and dissolution, novelty and decay. The "disintegration of Austrian political culture" is particularly relevant today when presented as the "seedtime for fascism" (George V. Strong).

Prerequisite: Background in 19th and early 20th century European history.

Method of presentation: lectures, with organized discussions

Course requirements and grading: Class participation (10%), midterm exam (Monday, October 25, 2010, 30%), 12-15 page term paper (Wednesday, December 1, 2010, 30%); final exam (Monday, December 20, 2010, 30%). Attendance is mandatory.

Attendance: required

Contents:

Week I: Geography and Geopolitics of Central Europe

The nature of Central Europe – The "Lands Between": East vs West – The Danube Valley, the Alps and Carpathians – Borders, frontiers – Powers, great and small

Reading: Johnson 3-12

Week II: The Habsburgs and Their Empire

The origins of the Habsburg family – Transformations of the Habsburg Empire – “Tu felix Austria” – The Habsburgs and the Holy Roman Empire – The Habsburgs and Hungary, the Habsburgs and the Czechs – The nature of Habsburg domination

Reading: Kann 3-47, Johnson 85-102

Week III: The German Question in 19th Century Europe

The struggle for mastery in Central Europe – The Parliament of Frankfurt – Prussia vs Austria: “Kleindeutsch” (Smaller German) or “Grossdeutsch” (Greater German)? The rise of the second Reich: Count Otto von Bismarck and King William I of Prussia – The impact of the Austro-Prussian War, 1866

Reading: Johnson 149-170

Week IV: From Empire to Monarchy: 1848 to 1867

The revolutions of 1848 in France, Italy, Austria, Hungary, and Germany – The War of Independence in Hungary – Lajos Kossuth and Hungarian independence – The political program of 1848-49: the abolition of serfdom and national sovereignty – Retribution and reconciliation

Reading: Sked 8-136, Deák (Kossuth) 311-351

Week V: The Austro-Hungarian Compromise and the Dualist System

Makers of the Compromise: Ferenc Deák, Count Gyula Andrassy, Baron Friedrich Ferdinand von Beust – Two parliaments, two governments, two capital cities – “K. u. K.,” Imperial and Royal – “Kakania” – The K.u.K. Army

Reading: Sked 191- 239, Deák (Army) 43-77

Week VI: Austria-Hungary and its Multicultural Empire

The national problem – German-Hungarian domination – National minorities – The languages of the Monarchy – Multiculturalism – Imperial unity vs nationalism – The Austrian idea

Reading: Kann 333-341, Pauley 1-31, Strong 68-85

Week VII: Review and Mid-Term Exam (Monday, October 25, 2010)

Week VIII: Fin-de-Siècle Vienna, Budapest and Prague

The city as a work of art: architecture, layout, design – The Ringstrasse: model from Paris, impact on Budapest – Urban splendor, urban misery – High culture and low culture – The politics of urban vs rural – Working class and middle class – New forms of communications: journalism, salons, coffeehouses, theaters – Womanhood, sexuality, prostitution

Reading: Janik-Toulmin 33-66, 67-91, Schorske 24-115, Hofmann 101-198, Lukacs 29-107

Week IX: The Birth of Modernism I:

(1) New approaches to the human mind: Sigmund Freud and psychoanalysis, Ernst Mach and his critique of science, Ludwig Wittgenstein and the critique of language – The birth of modern personality and theory

Reading: Janik-Toulmin 120-166, 202-238, Schorske 181-207

(2) New approaches to the human body: Gustav Klimt, Oscar Kokoschka, Adolf Loos – Innovation in visual representation, form, and color – Function as ornamentation – Struggle against ornament – The cult of death

Week X: The Birth of Modernism II:

(1) New approaches to sound: towards atonality – Gustav Mahler, Arnold Schönberg, Béla Bartók – The origins of the twelve-tone system – The use of ethnic heritage in classical music – The operetta: Johann Strauss, Franz Lehár, Emerich Kálmán

Reading: Janik-Toulmin 92-119, Schorske 208-278, [Waissenberger (ed.), 109-240]

(2) New approaches to language and the human psyche: Robert Musil, Franz Kafka, Rainer Maria Rilke, Endre Ady – New literary techniques, forms and ambitions – Symbolism and decadence – The writer and social responsibility – *The Man Without Qualities* – Bridges between art forms: *Duke Blue Beard's Castle*

Reading : [Waissenberger (ed.), 241-262], Lukacs 137-208

Week XI: Crime, Suicide, Emigration

The loss of the village, the growth and solitude of urban centers – The rich and the poor – The rise of violence – Reasons of high suicide rates – Mass emigration to the United States 1880-1914

Reading: Janik-Toulmin 33-66, Puskás 18-54

Week XII: Jews and the Rise of Antisemitism

“Old” Jews and “New” Jews in the Monarchy -- The migration of Jews towards Vienna and Budapest – Theodor Herzl and the birth of Zionism – The Emperor Franz Joseph and Vienna mayor Karl Lueger – Young Hitler in Vienna

Reading: Berkley 1-58, 101-131, Beller 1-70, McCagg 161-229, Patai 403-428

Week XIII: World War I and the Paris Peace Treaties

Critics of the Monarchy: R. W. Seton-Watson, Henry Wickham Steed, H.W.V. Temperley – The foreign policy of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy – Central Powers vs Entente Powers – Archduke Franz Ferdinand and Sarajevo – The Austro-Hungarian conduct of the Great War – The Paris Peace Conference 1919-20 – The Treaties of St. Germain and Trianon

Reading: Sked 244-323, Pauley 32-99

Week XIV: Review and Final Exam (Monday, December 20, 2010)

Required Reading (excerpts):

- Beller, Steven. *Vienna and the Jews 1867-1938. A cultural history*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1989, repr. 2000.
- Berkley, George E. *Vienna and its Jews. The Tragedy of Success, 1880s-1980s*. Cambridge, MA: Abt Books; Lanham, MD: Madison Books, 1988.
- Deak, Istvan. *The Lawful Revolution: Louis Kossuth and the Hungarians 1848-1849*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1979.
- Deák, István. *Beyond Nationalism: A Social and Political History of the Habsburg Officer Corps, 1848-1918*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1990.
- Frank, Tibor. "Hungary and the Dual Monarchy, 1867-1890." In: Peter F. Sugar, Péter Hanák, Tibor Frank, eds. *A History of Hungary*. Bloomington—Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 1990, pb. 1994. pp. 252-266.
- Frank, Tibor. „The Austro-Hungarian Compromise of 1867 and Its Contemporary Critics.” *Hungarian Studies* 14:(2) pp. 193-200 (2000).
- Frank, Tibor. “Conflicting Sovereignties: The Habsburg Monarchy in Hungarian Historiography.” In: Tibor Frank and Frank Hadler, eds., *Disputed Territories and Shared Pasts: Overlapping National Histories in Modern Europe*. Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010 [to be published].
- Gerő, András, ed. *The Austro-Hungarian Monarchy Revisited*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2009.
- Hofmann, Paul. *The Viennese: Splendor, Twilight and Exile*. New York: Doubleday, 1988.
- Janik, Allan and Stephen Toulmin. *Wittgenstein's Vienna*. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1973.
- Johnson, Lonnie R. *Central Europe: Enemies, Neighbors, Friends*. New York—Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1996.
- Kann, Robert A. *A History of the Habsburg Empire 1526-1918*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1974, repr. 1977.
- Lukacs, John. *Budapest 1900. A Historical Portrait of a City and Its Culture*. New York: Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 1988.
- McCagg, William O. *The History of Habsburg Jews 1670-1918*. Bloomington—Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 1989.
- Patai, Raphael. *The Jews of Hungary: History, Culture, Psychology*. Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1996.
- Pauley, Bruce F. *The Habsburg Legacy 1867-1939*. Malabar, FL: Robert E. Krieger, 1972, repr. 1987.
- Puskás, Julianna. *Ties That Bind, Ties That Divide. One Hundred Years of Hungarian Experience in the United States*. New York—London: Holmes & Meier, 2000.
- Schorske, Carl E. *Fin-de-Siècle Vienna: Politics and Culture*. New York: Vintage Books, 1981.
- Sked, Alan. *The Decline and Fall of the Habsburg Empire 1815-1918*. 2nd ed. London—New York: Longman, 2001.

- Strong, George V. *Seedtime for Fascism. The Disintegration of Austrian Political Culture, 1867/1918*. Armonk, NY—London: M. E. Sharpe, 1998.
- Suppanz, Werner. “Supranationality and National Overlaps: The Habsburg Monarchy in Austrian Historiography after 1918.” In: Tibor Frank and Frank Hadler, eds., *Disputed Territories and Shared Pasts: Overlapping National Histories in Modern Europe*. Houndmills, Basingstoke, Hampshire: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010 [to be published].
- Taylor, A.J.P. *The Habsburg Monarchy, 1809-1918. A History of the Austrian Empire and Austria-Hungary*. Chicago—London: University of Chicago Press, 1948, repr. 1976.
- [Waissenberger, Robert (ed.). *Vienna 1890-1920*. Secaucus, NJ: Wellfleet Press, 1984.]
- Wistrich, Robert S. *The Jews of Vienna in the Age of Franz Joseph*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1989, repr. 1990.