

HIST. 3244 - HISTORY OF EASTERN EUROPE: Lecture Outlines, Weeks 1-4

EUROPE'S EASTERN BORDERLANDS: BACKWARDNESS AND DEPENDENCY

- I. Why East-Central Europe?
- II. Historical Memories of Nations and States: The record in stone
- III. Issues:
 - A. How did the East-Central European territories become dependent and remain so for so long?
 - B. What effect has the subordination of the East-Central European peoples to stronger outside powers had on their development--and on the dominating powers?
 - C. What have the East European peoples contributed to the relationship of dependency and subordination themselves?
 - D. Just what interests have the dominating outside powers pursued in East-Central Europe?
 - E. How have distinct national identities and memories developed and survived in East-Central Europe despite--or because of--the relationship of dependency?
- IV. Course mechanics

Next time: How much social, economic, and political development did the lands of East-Central Europe experience under the old empires in the last half century before 1918? What legacies did the imperial regimes and the pre-World War I nationalist political movements leave?

THE LANDS BETWEEN

- I. Introduction: myths of the evil old empires and a golden age between 1918 and 1938
- II. Geographical Disadvantages
- III. East-Central Europe under the Dynastic Empires
 - A. Social and economic development in the 19th century
 - B. The imperial states and popular politics
 - C. National movements and the question of the future

IV. World War I and the Winning of Independence

V. Ethnic Diversity and Ethnic Conflicts

VI. Backward Economies in the Early 20th Century

- A. Peasant agriculture
- B. Limited industrialization
- C. Disappointing development and government economic policies
- D. Dependency in international trade

Next time: How well, or how poorly, did the East-Central European nations succeed between the world wars in developing strong, stable governments, able to advance and defend their national interests? Why?

EAST-CENTRAL EUROPE'S VULNERABILITY

I. Political Weakness in the Interwar Period

- A. Popular political culture and inexperience
- B. Social inequalities and minority problems
- C. Fragmented party systems and ideological conflict
- D. Traditions of bureaucratic authority

II. The Fate of Parliamentary Democracy in East-Central Europe, 1918-1938

III. The growing tensions and pressures of the 1930s

IV. Putting their Heads in the Nazi and Soviet Nooses??

Next time: How well defined were Hitler's aspirations in East-Central Europe in the middle and late 1930s and how much of a plan did he have for his policies in that region. Did he get any help from any of the governments in East-Central Europe?

NAZI AND SOVIET GOALS

- I. Introduction: The crisis of autumn 1938 and the Munich Agreement
- II. Hitler's Goals and Tactics in Eastern Europe
 - A. *Mein Kampf* and the Nazi goals of *Lebensraum*
 - B. Timing and tactics
- III. The Response of the East European Governments to the Nazi Initiatives
- IV. The Role of the Western Powers in the Nazi Advances
- V. Soviet Aims and Calculations in 1938-1940
 - A. The dangers of hindsight
 - B. The Nazi-Soviet Pact
- VI. Soviet Goals in Eastern Europe, 1936-1939
- VII. The Advance of the Soviet Security Sphere, 1939-1941

Next time: How and why did the Nazi policies vary among the various the East and West European territories they occupied or controlled during World War II?

NAZI OCCUPATION POLICIES DURING WORLD WAR II

- I. The Impact of World War II
 - A. Casualties
 - B. Causes of the devastation
 - 1. Military tactics
 - 2. Economic tactics
 - 3. Race and ideology
- II. Nazi Occupation
 - A. The varieties of Nazi control strategies
 - B. Occupation with moderation: Bohemia and Moravia
 - C. Scorched earth: Poland and the Western Soviet lands
- III. Soviet Occupation Policies
- IV. The Impact of the War on the Peoples of the Occupied Lands