

Central Europe

Summer 2010



Bran Castle, Romania



The Danube near Budapest

Program Dates

This is a 3-week program running from June 6th through June 25th, 2010.

Application Deadline Thursday, October 8, 2009 at 5:00pm.

Faculty Director

The course will be taught by Professor Charles Temple, a faculty member in the HWS Education Department. Professor Temple was a founder of the HWS semester-long Central Europe program and led it in 2005. He has lived and worked extensively in the region, and in 2005, held a Fulbright fellowship and taught in the Faculty of Political Science and the School of Education and Psychology at Babes Bolyai University in Cluj.

Course Title

Ethnic Relations in Central Europe: Past to Present

Teaching Format

Professor Temple will be the instructor of record, but each three-hour session will have up to two hours of presentations by guest experts, with the third hour devoted to processing the information and formulating more questions.

Course Description

Ethnic groups and their relationship to each other will be used as the focus for tracing the histories of the peoples of both Hungary and Romania (specifically Transylvania). The coverage will begin 2000 years ago by examining Dacian and Roman ruins in Transylvania, and tracing the history of the Huns in Romania and Hungary before the first Millennium. Then we will look at contemporary relationships between the groups, focusing on Hungarian-Romanian relations in Transylvania, and the recent experience of the Roma, the Jews, and the Germans. We will look at the response of the European Community to the movement westward of the Roma from Romania, and response of the Romanians to that response.

Studying ethnic relations in this region presents a challenge because the realities and aspirations of different groups there often differ markedly from such relations in the United States. Understanding these relations is important, not just for the perspective they shed on multicultural issues in the U.S., but in their own right. This course and this program should appeal to students of sociology, of multicultural studies, of international relations, and of European Studies.

The course will draw extensively on the expertise of guest lecturers on history and ethnic relations while in Hungary and in Transylvania. We will also take field trips to historic sites and communities of different ethnic groups.

Itinerary

In Budapest, Hungary, where we will begin the program and stay one week, we will get to know the city, and explore nearby villages along the Danube. We will visit the Jewish Quarter, the castle at Buda, the Parliament, the Baths, the Museum of Terror, the home of Theodore Herzl and the arts community of Szentendre.

During the week in Budapest, the course will focus in part on Hungary's past from the migration from Central Asia to the accession to NATO and to the European Community. We will also undertake a study of modern Hungary's relations with the Hungarian Diaspora, and also the situation of the Roma in Hungary and the history of the Jews in Budapest, where one of the largest Jewish populations in Eastern Europe still resides. This part of the program will be hosted by Central European University (CEU), with classroom facilities located near the Chain Bridge over the Danube, and an air conditioned international student dormitory on Kerepesi Avenue.

During the second and third weeks of the program we will study and explore the Transylvanian region of Romania, where we will be hosted by Babes Bolyai University in Cluj. Visits will be made to an archeological excavation site of a Dacian community, Roman ruins, a Roma community, and several Hungarian towns. We will take a longer 4-day excursion to the south of Transylvania, through the German towns of Sighisoara and Sibiu (Cultural Capital of Europe in 2007). We will also visit the Carpathian Mountains at Sinaia and Poiana Brasov, and the salt mine at Prayd.

The Romanian portion of the program will trace the history of Romania from the Dacians through the Romans, the Middle Ages, the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and the accession to the European Community and to NATO. The part of the course devoted to ethnic issues will examine relations among the various ethnic groups in Romania: mainly the Romanians,

Hungarians and Roma, but also the Jews. The course will be taught by faculty from Babes Bolyai University.

We will fly in and out of Budapest. The city is served by many international flights daily, and also has discount air connections to other European destinations for those who wish to do more traveling before or after the program.

Housing and Meals

In Budapest, students will be housed in CEU's residence hall at Kerepesi. In Cluj, students will stay in a hotel close to the university. Breakfast will be provided every day. Lunch and dinner are not included and can be taken at any of the downtown restaurants in Budapest and Cluj. Students should budget an extra \$300 above and beyond program costs to cover extra meals. Three meals a day will be provided on the multi-trip from Cluj.

Medical Insurance

All HWS students will be covered by their HWS Excellus/Blue Cross-Blue Shield medical policy, which is valid overseas. Students will need to pay any medical costs up front, save their receipts and send in a claim form for reimbursement upon their return. All students are required to purchase an ISIC card, which provides required supplemental insurance that their HWS medical policy does not. This card costs approximately \$22 and is available from the HWS Registrar's office or online at <http://www.myisic.com/MyISIC/> You will need an I.D. (a driver's license or passport) plus a passport-sized photo to get the ISIC card. You can get a passport photo at Walgreen's or Rite-Aid in Geneva.

GPA Requirement

Students applying for this program should have a minimum of a 2.5 cumulative GPA for courses taken at HWS. In the case of first-year students, a high school transcript should be provided, since the application will be due before the release of grades from their first semester. *First years should also submit a note of endorsement from their advisor.*

Credits

This course will be worth one HWS course credit in Education, International Relations or European Studies. Advisors in related fields may choose to count the course for major/minor credit, as well, but students should discuss this with their advisors in advance.

Eligibility

Qualified first-years, sophomores and juniors will have priority. Seniors will be admitted on a space-available basis.

Pre-requisites

All accepted students will take a Readers' College in the spring semester, worth ½ a credit, which will meet weekly and will include readings on Hungary and Romania as well as language training.

Costs

Program fees will be approximately \$2200 – 2500* for the 3-week program (depending on the number of students who are accepted), which will cover tuition, accommodation, breakfast daily, entrance fees, day trips and excursions (three meals a day will be provided

on the 4-day excursion) and local travel within Central Europe. Students will need to plan an extra \$300 above and beyond the program costs for the lunches and dinners not included. Students will also need to budget for roundtrip airfare at approximately \$1,200, books at \$100, ISIC card at \$22 (required for all students due to the extra insurance it provides), optional immunizations at approximately \$170 (see section on immunizations below) and a non-refundable administrative fee of \$100 charged for all faculty-led short-term programs.

*Costs are subject to change based on currency fluctuations and changes in costs of services provided.

Flights

Group flights will be arranged by the CGE and accepted students will be notified of the cost and booking info for the flight once it's available.

Funding

In an effort to assist students in financial hardship wishing to participate in a short-term program, there is a limited pool of HWS grant funding available. If you are accepted to this program, we will invite you to submit a grant application. Grants will be allocated on a need basis and we will contact the financial aid office to verify your need status. We will also contact the Student Affairs office and the Dean's office to access your social/disciplinary records as part of determining your eligibility for a grant. We will let you know whether you have been awarded a grant *before* the deadline by which you are required to put down a deposit for your place on the program.

Immunizations

Neither Hungary nor Romania presents noteworthy health risks. Nonetheless, Hepatitis A and typhoid immunizations are recommended for travelers to both countries. Hepatitis B is also recommended although many students will have had this when they came to college but you should check on this. Please check the CDC website

<http://www.cdc.gov/travel/default.aspx> to read more about the recommendations. If you choose to get immunizations, you can do this at a local medical clinic near your home (use this link to find travel medicine clinics:

<http://www.cdc.gov/travel/content/TravelClinics.aspx>), possibly with your home doctor or you can contact one of the Passport Health offices in Canandaigua, Rochester or Syracuse who provide travel immunizations. Their contact number is: (585) 275-8884.

For questions about application procedures, please contact Sharon Walsh in the Center for Global Education at 315 781-3663 or walsh@hws.edu. For specific questions about the program itself, please contact Professor Temple at 315 781-3444 or temple@hws.edu.