

**McDaniel College Europe**  
**Spring 2018**

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## **SIS-2039 – Paths of Innovation: Vienna, Prague, Budapest around 1900**

### **SYLLABUS**

This course examines how artistic and scientific innovation emerged in different forms in Central Europe at the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, and spread out to become prominent trends all over Europe and the Americas, with ideas that were to be underlying themes of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Symbolically, we have chosen three great innovators who lived in three major cities of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy: Franz Kafka in Prague, Sigmund Freud in Vienna, and Béla Bartók in Budapest. We will consider not only the oeuvre of these intellectual giants, but also how they affected contemporary society and art, including literature, music, and the visual arts. Also, we will reflect upon their lasting influence in art, society, and popular thinking, including the ‘Kafkaesque’ in literature and film; Freudian theories in psychology and art; and Bartók’s influence on later composers and ethnomusicologists, as well as visual artists. Besides analysing literary and theoretical texts and works of art, this course will give a chance to participants to visit cultural venues in Budapest, and take part in a field trip to Prague and Vienna.

As the course focuses on the works of Freud, Kafka, and Bartók, each section of the semester will give an introduction to the achievements of these thinkers. To deepen the students’ knowledge, they will be given handouts which contain some primary texts of major importance of the period under discussion, as well as secondary sources. These texts will be required to be read at home and discussed together in class.

#### **Requirements**

Participation at the sessions is mandatory. The final grade will consist of class participation, including evaluation of responses to questions pertaining to mandatory reading and in-class discussion (33%); a mid-term test (33%); and an end-term essay (34%).

**Course evaluation** will be based on the following criteria:

Preparation/ Attendance/Participation	33 %
Mid-term test	33 %
Final paper and presentation	34 %

### **Honor code**

McDaniel College operates on a code of honor with respect to exams, papers, and any other materials submitted in fulfillment of course requirements. Any submission must adhere to both the spirit and the letter of the McDaniel College Honor System.

### **Attendance policy**

**More than 3 absences will result in grade reduction** (a student's 3<sup>rd</sup> unexcused absence results in an automatic drop of the final grade -- a letter grade per additional absence), **more than 5 in failing the class**. We would appreciate being sent a notice about any absences in advance by email.

### **Course objectives and learning outcomes**

As a result of completing the course students will understand how to examine issues from an interdisciplinary-perspective (i.e., concept knowledge) and how taking an interdisciplinary approach enhances knowledge of an issue (i.e., value added), as well as will demonstrate the ability to apply an interdisciplinary approach to an issue (i.e., skill).

They will be able to apply knowledge gained regarding their own culture and place in the global community, in order to make informed comparisons of different historical and/or cultural perspectives.

Students will demonstrate skills and attitudes (e.g., heightened self-awareness, capacity for perspective shifting, acceptance of global civic responsibility) conducive to intercultural competence, as well as knowledge of a cultural group outside of the United States.

## **SEMESTER SCHEDULE/TOPICS COVERED**

### **Introduction**

- 29 January Society and Culture 1: Vienna and the Monarchy (Orz6y)
- 2 February Society and Culture 2: Budapest around 1900 (Orz6y)
- 5 February Art and Architecture: Introduction (Danyi)
- 9 February Freud's Theories (Anna Babarczy)

## **I. Sigmund Freud**

- 12 February Freud and Literature 1: Arthur Schnitzler: *Dream Story* and Stanley Kubrick: *Eyes Wide Shut* (Orzóy)
- 16 February Freud and Literature 2: Musil: *Young Törless* (Orzóy)
- 19 February Freud and Art 1: Klimt, Schiele, Kokoschka (Danyi)
- 23 February Field trip: National Gallery (Danyi)
- 26 February Freud and Art 2: Surrealism (Danyi)
- 2 March Freud and Cinema: Alfred Hitchcock and Luis Buñuel (Danyi)

## **II. Franz Kafka**

- 5 March Introduction to Franz Kafka (Orzóy)
- 9 March Franz Kafka: *The Trial* (Orzóy)  
Mandatory reading: Franz Kafka: *The Trial*
- 12 March Franz Kafka: *The Trial* by Orson Welles (Orzóy)
- 19 March Mid-term test (Danyi)

## **March 23-27 Prague-Vienna study trip**

## **III. Béla Bartók**

- 6 April Bartók's Music 1 (Orzóy)
- 9 April Music and Art: the origins of abstraction (Danyi)
- 13 April Bartók and Art (Danyi)
- 16 April Bartók's Music 2 (Orzóy)
- 20 April Bartók–Balázs: *Bluebeard's Castle* (Orzóy)

## **IV. Legacy**

- 23 April Freud's psychology today (Anna Babarczy)
- 27 April Woody Allen (Danyi)
- 4 May Francis Bacon, Lucian Freud (Danyi)
- 11 May Field trip: Art Nouveau Budapest (Danyi)
- 7 May 'Kafkaesque' (Danyi)
- 14 May Final exam (Orzóy)