COURSE DETAIL

WORLDS OF DISSENT: DISSIDENTS AND RESISTANCE IN COMMUNIST EUROPE

Country
Ireland

Host Institution
Trinity College Dublin

Program(s)
Trinity College Dublin

UCEAP Course Level
Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)
History European Studies

UCEAP Course Number
139

UCEAP Course Suffix

UCEAP Official Title
WORLDS OF DISSENT: DISSIDENTS AND RESISTANCE IN COMMUNIST EUROPE

UCEAP Transcript Title
DISSIDNTS/COMMUNISM

UCEAP Quarter Units
8.00

UCEAP Semester Units
5.30

Course Description
East European dissidents were the most influential political and moral voices in late communist Europe. In this course, students examine the nature of resistance and dissent to communist rule from the 1960s to the 1980s. Students discuss the politics of communist dictatorship and the culture of resistance through dissidents' writings, films, plays, philosophical texts, secret police files, and prison diaries. The focus is the rise of “anti-politics” in Hungary, Charter 77 in Czechoslovakia, the human rights movement in the Soviet Union, and the Solidarity movement in Poland. The course asks what made these movements specific to each country, the interconnections between them, and the international context of détente and the Cold War in which they arose. The course ends by discussing the role of dissidents in bringing down the Berlin wall in the revolutions of 1989 and the paradoxes of power as several (Lech Walesa and Václav Havel) went from the fringes of politics to the presidencies of post-communist states.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
HI4364

Host Institution Course Title
WORLDS OF DISSENT: DISSIDENTS AND RESISTANCE IN COMMUNIST EUROPE

Host Institution Course Details
https://www.tcd.ie/history/undergraduate/modules/sophister/dissent.php

Host Institution Campus
Trinity College Dublin

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
History

Course Last Reviewed
2018-2019

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