COURSE DETAIL

TRIBAL MYTHS AND TRADITIONS OF THE CZECHS
Country Czech Republic
Host Institution CIEE, Prague
Program(s) Central European Studies
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) History
UCEAP Course Number 117
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title TRIBAL MYTHS AND TRADITIONS OF THE CZECHS
UCEAP Transcript Title TRIBAL MYTHS/CZECHS
UCEAP Quarter Units 4.50
UCEAP Semester Units 3.00

Course Description

Many historical figures and phenomena that Czechs know well may remain a mystery to foreigners because of the lack of context. These omnipresent fragments of history are shared by members of the society and are usually modified by various ideological and political intentions, which eventually results in the creation of a national myth/myths. This course focuses on various forms of myths: pre-Christian (arrival of Czechs), Christian legends (St. Wenceslas), folk tales, the “national” myth of the Czech National Revival, modern state-forming myths (Czechoslovak legionnaires) and urban legend (the Springman), and connects them also to various traditions, such as folk traditions throughout the year, as well as traditional skills like beer brewing, fish farming, etc. Students engage in a historiographical and partially also anthropological analysis and interpretation of selected past events. To decipher how they came into existence, it is necessary to understand their historical context and the way they were understood and explained by contemporaries, the way they were interpreted by their followers, the way they were used, misused, and imposed by politicians. Moreover, the course discusses the role paradigm shifts played in these processes and closely examines and critique some of the relatively well-defined pillars of public knowledge and collective identity.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
HIST 3003 PRAG

Host Institution Course Title
TRIBAL MYTHS AND TRADITIONS OF THE CZECHS

Host Institution Course Details

Host Institution Campus
CIEE Prague

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree
Host Institution Department History, Philosophy, Religion
Course Last Reviewed 2024-2025

Print