

## COURSE DETAIL

### FRANZ KAFKA: A PRAGUE WRITER

**Country**

Czech Republic

**Host Institution**

CIEE, Prague

**Program(s)**

Central European Studies

**UCEAP Course Level**

Upper Division

**UCEAP Subject Area(s)**

Comparative Literature

**UCEAP Course Number**

110

**UCEAP Course Suffix****UCEAP Official Title**

FRANZ KAFKA: A PRAGUE WRITER

**UCEAP Transcript Title**

FRANZ KAFKA

**UCEAP Quarter Units**

4.50

**UCEAP Semester Units**

3.00

## Course Description

Franz Kafka (1883–1924) has become recognized as one of the leading figures in world literature. Perhaps more than any other major author, Kafka is associated with one geographical location: the city of Prague. Kafka's works themselves are not explicitly about Prague, nor are they set in Prague. But we cannot say that Prague is irrelevant to Kafka's works, for Kafka spent almost all of his life in the city. Therefore, we cannot “read” Prague through or into Kafka's works, but comparing the two is surely fruitful. The most obvious connection between Kafka's works and the city of Prague is Franz Kafka the historical person. While one always wants to be cautious about biographizing creative work, this course will take into consideration Kafka's life and times in reading and analyzing his fiction. Such an adventure is best undertaken in the city of Prague itself. Kafka's fiction that will be read in the course are organized in a chronological manner, along with relevant critical material for each work. However, less time-bound thematic issues will also be addressed in a less linear fashion, such as the cultural and historical interaction with the fiction, Kafka's development as a writer, the impact of Kafka's biographical story on his stories, Kafka's use of animal characters, and the narrative innovations that Kafka implemented. The course will focus on a selection from Kafka's many well-known short stories and one of his three novels. Kafka's works will be studied in English translation; they were originally written in German.

### Language(s) of Instruction

English

### Host Institution Course Number

LITT 3004 PRAG

### Host Institution Course Title

FRANZ KAFKA: A PRAGUE WRITER

### Host Institution Campus

CIEE Prague

### Host Institution Faculty

**Host Institution Degree**

**Host Institution Department**

CIEE STUDY CENTER

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