

# COURSE DETAIL

## TECHNOLOGY, TOTALITARIANISM, AND THE INDIVIDUAL

**Country**

Czech Republic

**Host Institution**

CIEE, Prague

**Program(s)**

Central European Studies

**UCEAP Course Level**

Upper Division

**UCEAP Subject Area(s)**

Philosophy

**UCEAP Course Number**

101

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

TECHNOLOGY, TOTALITARIANISM, AND THE INDIVIDUAL

**UCEAP Transcript Title**

TECH & TOTALITARIAN

**UCEAP Quarter Units**

4.50

**UCEAP Semester Units**

3.00

## Course Description

This course explores the relevance of philosophy on day-to-day social, political, economic, and cultural life. It focuses on the philosophical foundations of political and economic movements, as well as major cultural movements such as science and technology, post-modern art and literature, and popular culture in general. Among the themes discussed are the ontology of objectivity and subjectivity, relativism, consumerism, capitalism and communism, scientific positivism, philosophy of language, and art. The meaning of “human being” in a metaphysical, psychological/psychoanalytical, and ontological manner is explored together with the idea of “administered reality,” a predominant characteristic of post-war industrialized societies, and the possibility of individual freedom in the face of it. All philosophical ideas are applied to and discussed in the context of the Czech society's post-war experiences. Selected writings from the Czech poet/dramatist and political activist/leader Vaclav Havel and the Czech philosopher Jan Patocka are studied alongside texts by Arendt, Fromm, Lacan, Marcuse, Foucault, Derrida, and Žižek.

## Language(s) of Instruction

English

## Host Institution Course Number

PHIL 3001 PRAG/CEAS

## Host Institution Course Title

TECHNOLOGY, TOTALITARIANISM, AND THE INDIVIDUAL

## Host Institution Campus

CIEE Prague

## Host Institution Faculty

## Host Institution Degree

## Host Institution Department

CIEE STUDY CENTER

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