

## **Culture and Society of Central and South Eastern Europe, 1600 – 1800**

### **The Habsburg Monarchy and its Place in Early Modern Europe**

The course sets into focus the history of the Habsburg Monarchy in the early modern era, mainly covering the period between 1556-1806. In the first half of the course, there will be a strong emphasis on the spatial manifestations of state power: the political geography of the Habsburg territories will be investigated in detail: the territorial fragmentation of the individual provinces, their urban centers, the ethnical and confessional landscape will be considered. Simultaneously, the phenomenon of the composite state and the kinds of challenges peculiar to such states will be discussed. The course will investigate how policy making could or could not ensure the efficient exercise of political authority and management of resources, and what kind of legal, institutional, bureaucratic and other devices could facilitate “good government”.

#### **Learning Outcomes:**

The course aims to develop a comprehensive and critical understanding of European state formation in a fresh perspective, by providing an up-to-date understanding of state formation processes and going beyond the stereotypical presentation of the political and institutional history of the Habsburg Monarchy.

#### **Assessment**

1. A short, 5-10-minute presentation, based on one of the mandatory or optional reading(s). The students' own suggestions for presentation themes are also welcome, but the proposed topic has to be relevant for the course and it has to be approved by the instructor in advance. The ideal presentation identifies a central theme of the text, elaborates on it with visual aids and attempts to set an agenda for discussion.

2. preparation of 2-3 discussion questions related to the weekly readings. The questions will have to be submitted on a piece of paper at the beginning of each class and they will be used for the facilitation of the class discussion.

3. a mid-term (ca. 500 words) and a final essay (ca. 1,000 words) based on the assigned readings. In the paper, the student should not provide a mere summary of the readings' contents but is expected to write an analytical paper that has a thesis and a point, compares and contrasts different approaches in an intelligible manner, and offers the student's personal opinion regarding the works compared. It is expected that the student also use the Chicago Manual of Style rules for citing authors in proper footnotes. For your convenience, here is a quick on-line reference to writing proper footnotes:

[http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools\\_citationguide.html](http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html)

#### **General Readings**

Jean Bérenger, *The History of the Habsburg Empire 1273-1700* (London and New York: Longman, 1994), 123-355, and idem., *The History of the Habsburg Empire 1700-1918* (London and New York: Longman, 1997), 1-137.

## INTRODUCTION

### 1. The Early Modern State (22 February, 1 March)

This introductory class will address basic conceptual issues in regard of the early-modern polity, including the very notion of “the state” and the relevant terminology.

Robert Okey, *Eastern Europe 1740-1985: Feudalism to Communism*, London-New-York, 1986. 13-21.

Karin J. MacHardy, *War, Religion and Court Patronage in Habsburg Austria. The Social and Political Dimensions of Political Interaction, 1521-1622* (Basingstoke: Palgrave, 2001), 21-46, 223-230 (notes)

*Further readings (optional)*

Michel Foucault, “Governmentality,” in *The Foucault Effect: Studies in Governmentality with two lectures by and an interview with Michel Foucault*, ed. Graham Burchell, Gordon Colin, and Miller Peter. (Chicago, Ill: Univ. of Chicago Press, 2009), 87–104.

## THE HABSBURGS IN THE EMPIRE AND IN CENTRAL EUROPE, 1500-1700

At these four class meetings, we shall discuss the different institutional arrangements, governmental strategies, hierarchical relations and degrees of reciprocity that marked the relationship of Habsburg rulers and their governments with the “hereditary provinces”, the territories of the German empire, and the lands of the Hungarian and the Bohemian crowns, obtained in the early 16th century.

### 2. “Austria: the Habsburg Heartland” (8 March)

R. J. W. Evans, *The Making of the Habsburg Monarchy 1550-1700. An Interpretation* (Clarendon Press: Oxford, 1979), ch. 5. 157-194.

*Further readings (optional)*

Charles W. Ingrao, “The Distinctiveness of Austrian History,” in *The Habsburg Monarchy, 1618-1815, 2nd ed, New Approaches to European History 21* (Cambridge [England]; New York, NY, USA: Cambridge University Press, 2000), 1–23.

### 3. “Bohemia: Limited Acceptance” (15 March)

R. J. W. Evans, *The Making of the Habsburg Monarchy 1550-1700. An Interpretation* (Clarendon Press: Oxford, 1979), ch. 6. 195-234.

*Further readings (optional)*

Charles W. Ingrao, “The Thirty Years War 1618-1648,” in *The Habsburg Monarchy, 1618-1815, 2nd ed, New Approaches to European History 21* (Cambridge [England]; New York, NY, USA: Cambridge University Press, 2000), 23–52.

### 4. “Hungary: Limited Rejection” (22 March)

R. J. W. Evans, *The Making of the Habsburg Monarchy 1550-1700. An Interpretation* (Clarendon Press: Oxford, 1979), ch. 7. 235-274.

*Further readings (optional)*

Charles W. Ingrao, "Facing East: Hungary and the Turks 1648-1699," in *The Habsburg Monarchy, 1618-1815*, 2nd ed, *New Approaches to European History* 21 (Cambridge [England] ; New York, NY, USA: Cambridge University Press, 2000), 53–104.

**5. "The German Empire: Limited Hegemony" (29 March)**

R. J. W. Evans, *The Making of the Habsburg Monarchy 1550-1700. An Interpretation* (Clarendon Press: Oxford, 1979), ch. 8. 275-308.

*Further readings (optional)*

Tim Blanning, *The Culture of Power and the Power of Culture. Old Regime Europe 1660-1789* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2002), 53-77.

**6. 5 April – no class, due date of the first essay**

**7. The Role of Wars in State Formation (12 April)**

Charles Tilly, "How War Made States and Vice Versa," in *Coercion, Capital, and European States, AD 990-1992*, Rev. pbk. ed, *Studies in Social Discontinuity* (Cambridge, MA: Blackwell, 1992), 67–95.

**FINANCE, GOVERNMENT, ENLIGHTENMENT IN THE HABSBURG MONARCHY IN THE 18<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY**

The following sessions will investigate the motives and means of strengthening state power in the early modern era. The class discussions will explore what did it mean to ensure internal and external security for the subjects, how governmental reforms found new ways to access the resources of the lands and how the Enlightenment pursuit of improvement did and did not coincide with the Habsburgs' state building agenda.

**8. Charles VI. (II/III) – War of the Spanish Succession and his Rule in Austria, Bohemia and Hungary (19 April)**

William O'Reilly: 'Lost chances of the House of Habsburg', *Austrian History Yearbook*, 40 (1), 2009, pp. 53-70.

*Further readings (optional)*

Charles W. Ingrao, "Facing West: the Second Habsburg Empire 1700-1740," in *The Habsburg Monarchy, 1618-1815*, 2nd ed, *New Approaches to European History* 21 (Cambridge [England] ; New York, NY, USA: Cambridge University Press, 2000), 105–49.

William O'Reilly: 'Divide et impera: Race, Ethnicity and Administration in early 18th-Century Habsburg Hungary', in Gudmundur Hálfðánarson and Anne Katherine Isaacs (eds.), *Minorities in Europe*, Florence, 2003, pp. 100-129.

**9. "Financial Pressure and Reform" during the reign of Maria Theresa 1740-1780 (26 April)**

Charles W. Ingrao, "The Prussian Challenge: War and Government Reform 1740-1763," in *The Habsburg Monarchy, 1618-1815*, 2nd ed, *New Approaches to European History* 21 (Cambridge [England] ; New York, NY, USA: Cambridge University Press, 2000), 150–77.

*Further readings (optional)*

P. G. M. Dickson, *Finance and Government under Maria Theresia, 1740-1780*, vol. 2. *Finance and Credit*, 2 vols. (Oxford [Oxfordshire] : New York: Clarendon Press ; Oxford University Press, 1987) 1-80.

Derek Edward Dawson Beales, *Joseph II.*, vol. 1. *In the shadow of Maria Theresa, 1741-1780*, 2 vols. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1987)

### **10. Joseph II. – Josephism, Enlightened Absolutism (3 May)**

Derek Edward Dawson Beales, *Joseph II.*, vol. 2. *Against the world, 1780-1790*. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1987). (page numbers to be announced)

*Further readings (optional)*

Charles W. Ingrao, "Discovering the People: The Triumph of Cameralism and Enlightened Absolutism 1765-1792," in *The Habsburg Monarchy, 1618-1815*, 2nd ed, *New Approaches to European History* 21 (Cambridge [England] ; New York, NY, USA: Cambridge University Press, 2000), 178–219.

### **11. The Enlightenment pursuit of improvement through government (10 May)**

H. M. Scott, "Reform in the Habsburg Monarchy, 1740-1790", in H. M. Scott (ed.), *Enlightened Absolutism. Reform and Reformers in Later Eighteenth-Century Europe* (London: Macmillan, 1990), 145-188.

*Further readings (optional)*

Joachim Whaley, "The transformation of the Aufklärung: from the idea of power to the power of ideas", in Hamish Scott and Brendan Simms (eds.), *Cultures of Power in Europe during the Long Eighteenth Century* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007), 158-179.

Grete Klingenstein, "Between Mercantilism and Physiocracy. Stages, Modes and Functions of Economic Theory in the Habsburg Monarchy, 1748-63", in Charles W. Ingrao (ed.), *State and Society in Early Modern Austria* (West Lafayette: Purdue University Press, 1994), 181-214.

### **12. Enlightenment and improvement: continental and regional perspectives (17 May)**

R. J. W. Evans, "The Origins of Enlightenment in the Habsburg Lands" and "Culture and Authority in Central Europe 1683-1806", in idem., *Austria, Hungary, and the Habsburgs. Essays on Central Europe, c. 1683-1867* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2006), 36-74.

*Further readings (optional)*

László Kontler, "Introduction: The Enlightenment in Central Europe?", in Balázs Trencsényi and Michal Kopeček (eds.), *Discourses of Collective Identity in Central and Southeast Europe. Vol. I: Late Enlightenment* (Budapest: Central European University Press, 2006), 33-44.

### **13. From the Realms of the Habsburgs to the Austrian Empire**

Charles W. Ingrao, “The Age of Revolution 1789-1815,” and “Decline or Disaggregation?,” in *The Habsburg Monarchy, 1618-1815*, 2nd ed, *New Approaches to European History* 21 (Cambridge [England] ; New York, NY, USA: Cambridge University Press, 2000) 220-247.

**24 May – due date of the final essay**