

Maeva Chargros: History of Czech Nationalism [KHI/KD20B]

This course is an introduction to Czech nationalism, encompassing the most important stages of its development from the early 19th century until the middle of the 20th century. One of its main highlights focuses on the First World War and the Czech & Slovak efforts to become independent and build the First Czechoslovak Republic. Throughout the semester, students will be invited to reflect on archival sources such as newspaper articles or handwritten drafts, for instance, and to bring their own perspective into discussions addressing the various topics covered.

While offering a “first step into Czech history” approach, this course also engages in more complex interdisciplinary approaches to the study of nationalism(s), with the aim of familiarising students with the different concepts revolving around the construction of national identities. Political sciences, international relations, and victimology are for instance included in a way making them approachable for undergraduate students from various disciplines.

This course is designed mainly for international students in history, nationalism studies, political sciences, international relations, cultural studies, media studies, and literature. It is also meant for students of the Department of History (KHI) as well as any other student from Palacký University. The course will be taught entirely in English. All readings will be either in English or will come with an English translation when necessary.

Students will be required to take part in the regular discussions, introduce one archival source (from the syllabus) to the group, write a short final essay, and pass a final exam.

No previous knowledge of Czech history is required to attend, though general knowledge of European history is recommended.