

# **Summer University Course on Cultural Heritage for Students of Koç University**

**Central European University, Budapest**

**August 2018**

**Course structure and syllabus**

**Course director: Prof. J. Laszlovszky**

**Academic coordinator: Ágnes Drosztmér**

The course has been designed to offer an introduction and overview on Central Europe with three particular aspects: history, art and cultural heritage. Three selected themes will be presented in the form of lectures, seminars and site visits. The program is a combination of lectures on the most important issues and themes; seminars with case studies as well as discussion topics for the students; and site visits (museums, historical monuments, archaeological sites, etc.). The three selected main topics cover different historical periods (from antiquity to present day) and they represent a great variety of monuments (castles, churches, mosques, baths, urban settlements, etc.).

## **Faculty members and contributors of the course:**

The listed faculty members and teaching assistants are all contributing to the concept of the course and most of them to the actual teaching process. Some of the program elements are designed in the form of team teaching, faculty members contribute to different aspects of the site visits as well as to the topic discussions in the seminars. Their work is helped by graduate teaching assistants.

## **Fields of expertise of contributing faculty members:**

**József Laszlovszky** (Professor, CEU): Medieval archaeology and heritage, post-medieval archaeology and material culture, heritage studies, built heritage

**Alice Choyke** (Professor, CEU): Roman heritage, museum studies, research methodology in heritage studies

**Béla Zsolt Szakács** (Associate Professor, CEU), Art history of Central Europe, medieval manuscripts, history of monument protection

**Gunhan Borekci** (Visiting professor, CEU): early modern Ottoman political, dynastic and social history, military history

**Tijana Krstić** (Associate professor, CEU): Ottoman history, history of South-Eastern Europe

**Alexandra Kowalski** (Associate Professor, CEU): Social aspects of cultural heritage, urban heritage, anthropological approaches

**Marcell Sebők** (Assistant Professor, CEU): Cultural policy, present-day culture and heritage, historical anthropology

**Gábor Soós** (Visiting professor, CEU): UNESCO World Heritage, monument protection, legal framework of cultural heritage

**Zsuzsa Szálka** (Visiting professor, CEU): Music and heritage, heritage project management

**Dóra Mérai** (Postdoctoral Fellow): Heritage studies, memory studies, art history and material culture of the Early Modern Period, heritage project management

**Ágnes Drosztmér** (Academic Coordinator): Ottoman Period history in Hungary, literary history

### **Teaching assistants:**

Teaching assistants of the course are PhD students of CEU's Doctoral School of History with different fields of interest (History, art history and archaeology of Central Europe, Ottoman history and studies, etc.). Their main contribution to the course is to help the students to develop their own course topic, to find the relevant secondary literature and to create their presentation materials for the discussion seminars.

**E-learning site:** CEU's E-learning system (Moodle system) allows course participants to work with all functions of the system. It provides more detailed descriptions of the lectures and seminars with the relevant bibliography. Forums and other functions offer a possibility to comment on individual assignments and distribute further materials for the discussion seminars. Final written assignments can also be uploaded with the help of this site.

### **Course requirements and evaluation:**

#### **Credit number:**

The whole program of the course is sufficient for the students to transfer 6 ECTS to Koç on their return. General requirements for the course contain three different elements:

1. Mandatory participation in the lectures, seminars and site visits of the course. Mandatory participation in the individual discussion meetings with the teaching assistants, and optional participation in the discussion meetings with the faculty members (based on individual planning).
2. Preparation for the classes by reading the materials circulated beforehand. The readings will be available at CEU's e-learning site. There will be approx. 100 pages reading per Theme, while the students will be required to read and cite at least 5 academic sources for their research papers (making up to around 20-25 pages of reading per day, plus the readings for the paper, with possible overlaps with the mandatory readings).
3. Oral presentation of a selected topic in one of the three main themes of the course. The short presentation (max. 10 minutes) should be combined with a powerpoint or prezi visual presentation. Students will select individual topics related to the three main themes of the course. With the help of secondary literature, lectures, site visits and individual work, they will prepare short oral presentations for the group. This will be discussed with faculty members of the course and with fellow students. The presentations are related to the course assignments for the students' work evaluation.

4. Submission of a research paper. Students will select individual topics related to the three main themes of the course. The topic of the paper should be different from the topic of the oral presentation. Thus, each student will be familiar with at least two topics of the offered three course elements. With the help of secondary literature, lectures, site visits and individual work course participants will prepare a short research paper during and after the course.

The research papers are due a week after the Summer Course is over, on 23 June 26 by 17:00. The paper should be 3000 words long (9-10 pages double-spaced), not including the bibliography and images (such as maps, plans, photos). The paper should use at least 5 academic sources, using MLA style for the citations and bibliography.

### **Course evaluation**

The final grade will be the result of class participation (30%), the oral presentation (20%), assisted work with MA and PhD teaching assistants and senior faculty members (20%), and the research paper (30%).

### **Program elements of the course**

#### **General introduction: Introduction to Cultural Heritage Studies (lecture)**

The aim of this first general lecture to introduce students to the basic concept of cultural heritage as it is understood in this course. Particular emphasis will be given to the emergence of this concept and to the particular issues relevant for Central Europe.

Main points of discussion:

From monument protection to cultural heritage

- Theories and practices in heritage management
- Academic research fields and their impact on cultural heritage studies
- Central European Heritage: discussions and debates connected to the geographical and conceptual framework of this particular heritage

#### **Course introduction, discussion of individual student work (seminar)**

Students of this course will present their study interest in this first introductory seminar. A short oral presentation of their current studies, research interest offers the basis for selecting the presentations topics of this course, as well as for the written assignments. The informal discussion will lead to small teams, which will focus on the three different topics of the course. Students have free choice for these topics and for the teams, and their individual topics will be developed with the help of teaching assistants. Individual consultations will also be offered by faculty members of the course based on individual request.

## **Theme I. Central European Cultural Heritage**

The aim of this course element to introduce students to the particular character and aspects of Central Europe. Historical and cultural studies have argued that Central Europe represents a particular region in Europe, where influences from the Western and Southern parts of the continent and from Eastern Europe as well as from Central Asia have created a particular historical milieu with the interaction of different cultures and artistic centres. Selected periods will be presented to the students to understand these aspects of Central Europe and the discussion of the selected historical periods will serve also as the basis for the understanding of historical processes connected to the emergence of various heritage layers.

### **1. Site visit: the building complex of CEU**

The building complex of the Central European University is situated in the centre of present day Budapest. It consists of a number of buildings originating from different periods and representing various architectural styles. The Monument Building was originally the urban palace of an aristocratic family and it is a listed historical monument of neoclassicism. Another building of the university is a fine example for the new architectural styles emerging in the early twentieth century. The new building complex of the university, at the same time, represents an attempt to create a modern building in a historical urban setting, which is characterized by important historical buildings (St Stephen's Basilica, Hungarian Academy, Chain Bridge, etc.) The guided site visit will focus on the historical aspects of these buildings and on the particular Central European character.

Main points of discussion:

- From a medieval town to a modern city
- Geographical conditions and their impact of the urban history of the site
- National reform movements and the transformation of the area
- Built heritage of the city center: aristocratic palaces, bank and public buildings
- Modern urban development and cultural heritage issues

### **2. Field trip to the Danube Bend: Royal Centers and their Historical Landscape - Visegrád and Esztergom**

The Danube Bend is one of the most important historical regions of Hungary. The natural setting of the area within a National Park represents a historical landscape in which the antique and medieval monuments play a crucial role. The area was the border zone between Roman Pannonia and the Barbaricum, thus, major Roman sites (fortifications, towns, amphitheatres, etc.) survived from this period. The excavated remains of these sites (Aquincum, Visegrád) will be in the focus of the presentations of this aspect of the heritage. The same area was part of the so-called „Medium Regni”, which was the central region of the medieval Kingdom of Hungary. Major royal centers, residences and castles are situated in this area, such as Óbuda, Visegrád and Esztergom. The visit will focus on the artistic production of the royal court and the different influences (Gothic, Renaissance, etc.) that are present in these monuments.

Main points of discussion:

- The Roman limes of Pannonia and the antique heritage in Hungary

- The emergence of the medieval royal power and its archaeological and built heritage
- Castles and royal palaces: the history and concepts of monument protection
- National memorial places and their impact on present-day heritage
- Heritage tourism and its challenges

### **3. Royal centers and their heritage in Central Europe – lecture**

The lecture will focus on the medieval period and offers a summary of the royal residences in Central Europe. The Hungarian centers (Buda, Esztergom, Visegrád) will be compared to other centers of the region (Prague, Cracow). The main emphasis will be given to two particular heritage aspects. One of them is how medieval archaeology and the archaeological heritage of these sites contribute to our understanding of the cultural heritage of Central Europe. The other key point will be the role of royal centers as art centers in the late medieval period, particularly in the diffusion of Gothic and Renaissance art in the region.

Main points of discussion:

- Medieval states and their heritage in Central Europe
- Archaeology of royal centers and the related heritage issues
- From power centers to art centers
- Modern nation building and memorial places

### **4. Site visit: Buda Castle**

Buda Castle is one of the most important monuments of Central Europe, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The guided site visit will focus on the main monuments of the castle area including the royal town and of the royal palace. It will be demonstrated, how the medieval royal and urban complex has been transformed in the 18th-19th centuries, as well as the heritage aspects of reconstructions and restorations will be discussed. During World War II the area was heavily destroyed, therefore major excavations and restoration projects took place in the area. Present day heritage discussions also focus on the Castle Area, some of these issues will also be discussed with the students.

Main points of discussion:

- The emergence of medieval Buda: royal residence, capital, cultural center
- The Ottoman period of Buda
- Modernisation and the industrial development of Hungary and its impact on Buda
- Modern heritage site or governmental district

### **5. Central European Cultural Heritage – seminar**

The seminar will discuss key issues presented in the lectures and the site visits.

Main emphasis will be given to the following questions:

- The role of main historical periods in the emergence of Central European cultural heritage
- Characteristic features of cultural heritage in the region
- Challenges to heritage sites in modern development projects

## **Theme II. The Ottoman Cultural Heritage in Central and South-Eastern Europe**

The aim of this course element is to demonstrate how the Ottoman-Turkish Period has contributed to the heritage of Central Europe. The Ottoman Empire has conquered the Balkans and in the early 16th century, also the central part of medieval Hungary. Thus, a certain region of Central Europe was also under the influence of Ottoman power and culture. Significant monuments (mosques, baths, fortifications), elements of material culture and every-day life belong to this period and influence different aspects of culture until the present day. Students will learn about the historical processes related to the Ottoman conquest of the area as well as they will discuss various aspects of interactions between the Ottoman Empire, the Habsburg Empire and various other European states.

### **1. The Ottoman Cultural Heritage in Central and South-Eastern Europe - lecture**

The lecture will focus on the main historical processes leading to the Ottoman conquest of the Balkans and of Central Europe. It will offer a particular Central European perspective on the sequence of events and will also discuss different historiographic approaches for the historical studies of the period. It will also discuss how other disciplines (archaeology, ethnography, language studies) contribute to our understanding of Ottoman culture and how can these disciplines help us to interpret the interactions between Ottoman and Central European cultures.

Main points of discussion:

- The Ottoman conquest of South-Eastern Europe
- The Ottoman conquest of Central-Europe
- Religious aspects of the Ottoman heritage
- Monument protection of the Ottoman historical monuments

### **2. Site visit: Ottoman-Turkish Baths of Budapest**

The bath culture of the Ottoman Empire had been a significant aspect of the era's culture and a number of Turkish baths have survived from the 16th-17th centuries in Budapest. They had been in the center of scholarly interest since a long time, as Turkish baths belonged to the first monuments recognized by monument protection in the region. These historical buildings have influenced the modern bath culture of Budapest and they also play an important role in present-day tourist programs in Budapest. The site visit, therefore, will focus on three main aspects: Ottoman-Turkish baths as historical monuments, as key factors in the modern bath culture and as tourist attractions.

Main points of discussion:

- Ancient and Ottoman bath culture in Central-Europe
- Ottoman architecture and its monuments in present-day Budapest
- From Ottoman heritage to wellness tourism
- Monuments of the Ottoman bath culture

### **3. Ottoman Cultural Heritage in Central and South-Eastern Europe - seminar**

The seminar will discuss the key concepts connected to the cultural heritage of the Ottoman period. It will use historical historical concepts (cultural interactions, frontier studies, power

and representation, etc.) and ideas related to heritage studies (social impact of heritage, identity and heritage, religious heritage, etc.). Students will be confronted with case studies related to the contraversional character of some heritage sites (historical memory and political agenda, modern management issues versus historical monuments, etc.)

Main points of discussion:

- Conceptual framework: interactions and confrontation
- The Ottoman Empire in Central-Europe: conquest and defence ideologies
- Case studies: faces and uses of heritage sites
- Memory and the creation of local and national identities

#### **4. Site visit: Budapest Historical Museum**

This museum is one of the most important institutions for the research of Ottoman heritage in Budapest. Its collection is rich in this respect, as the major archaeological excavations produced a significant amount of archaeological finds from the Ottoman-Turkish period. At the same time, the museum also has a significant number of historical documents (images, maps) and objects connected to the period and to the historical monuments of the period. The permanent exhibition of the museum offers an excellent basis for studying these documents and objects. The guided site visit will discuss the main architectural elements of Ottoman heritage (religious buildings, fortifications, baths) and the characteristic features of material culture.

Main points of discussion:

- From collecting antiquities to a modern museum in the area of Budapest
- Urban development in the 20th century and its impact on the archaeology of the city
- and the interpretation of heritage in a modern city
- Permanent and temporary exhibitions presenting cultural heritage

#### **5. Field trip to Eger**

Eger is one of the most important sites of the Ottoman heritage in Hungary. The siege of Eger in 1552 is a symbolic event in Hungarian history, and the Ottoman period of the fortification and the town from the late 16th century is also crucial for the history of the whole region. Eger is also important in the memory culture of the Ottoman period, both for the Hungarian and for the Ottoman side. One of the most important historical novels has been created here on the historical heritage of the town, and extant monuments (minaret, castle) as well as the collection of the local museum is crucial for the understanding of the Ottoman period in Hungary. Students will visit the castle area and the exhibition on the Ottoman period. The visit also offers an opportunity to discuss historical sources (Evliya Celebi) and historical memory („The Stars of Eger”), including modern representations of the era’s heritage (movies, historical reenactments, historical festivals, etc.). The historical city center of Eger also offers a number of monuments to discuss Central European cultural heritage.

Main points of discussion:

- The ecclesiastical center of Eger and its impact on urban development
- The castle in the medieval and post-medieval period
- The Ottoman fortification
- The image of the Ottoman period in Hungarian literature and films

### **Theme III. Art Nouveau**

Art Nouveau represents an important period for the monuments and artistic production in Hungary. It is also crucial for the understanding of historical processes of the late 19th and early 20th century. This art movement and style has emerged in France, however, a very significant part of Art Nouveau art production is connected to Central Europe. Major centers of the region (Vienna, Prague, Budapest) have played a significant role in this process, thus, Art Nouveau can also be seen as a characteristic element of the cultural heritage of Central Europe. This element of the course will focus on the general trends in this process as well as on the main Hungarian aspects of Art Nouveau.

#### **1. Site visit – Art Nouveau buildings in the center of Budapest**

The large scale development of Budapest at the end of the 19th century has created a big number of new buildings (public buildings, blocks of flats, private residences, etc.). They represent different architectural and art styles. One of them is Art Nouveau, which is a characteristic element and significant part of the built heritage of present-day Budapest. The guided tour will visit various parts of the center of Budapest showing the various artistic and architectural concepts from the late 19th and early 20th century. Art Nouveau buildings will be discussed in their historical context (social aspects, transformation of the political and economic life, etc.).

Main points of discussion:

- The transformation of a modern city – artistic influences
- Art centers in Europe and in Central Europe
- Architectural style and social dynamics
- The mergence of the city center and its prestige display

#### **2. Art Nouveau – lecture**

The lecture will focus on the historical processes of the late 19th and early 20th century in Europe. Special emphasis will be given to the history of Central Europe in this period, particularly on the „Golden period” of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. The lecture will not simply list the main historical events, but rather focus on the international contacts, cultural influences, and also on new developments in technology, communication and art. The role of art centers will be taken into consideration in an European and also in a regional context.

Main points of discussion:

- Hungary in the Habsburg Empire
- Modern industrialization and cultural processes
- Art influences: cosmopolitan versus local
- The style of Hungarian Art Nouveau

#### **3. Site visit – The Museum of Applied Arts**

The Museum of Applied Arts is and outstanding monument of Art Nouveau. The building itself, as well as its collection is crucial for the understanding of the main characteristic features of this style and art movement. The guided site visit will present the main architectural features of

the building and its international aspects. The exhibitions of the museum will be used to demonstrate the French Art Nouveau style with the help of crucial objects in the collection. Another key aspect of the presentation will be the role of new production technologies (for example in ceramic production) in the Art Nouveau process. Special emphasis will be given to the main production centers (Zsolnay factory) and to the new fora of this artistic production (world exhibitions).

Main points of discussion:

- Paris and Central Europe
- Applied art and style
- New industrial technologies of ceramic production
- Museum collections and Art Nouveau heritage

#### **4. Site visit and concert – the Art Nouveau building of the Budapest Music Academy**

The Music Academy of Budapest is one of the most important concert halls, educational centers and cultural institutions of present day Budapest. The emergence of this institution is directly connected to the activity of the great Hungarian composer, Ferenc Liszt. His initiative combined with the various efforts of the late 19th century cultural life in Hungary led to a creation of a main music center and later to the building of a unique historical monument. The recently restored building of the Music Academy offers an excellent opportunity to understand music, performing arts and artistic production in general in the discussed period, and the impact of these factors on later periods and art processes. The students can experience this very special building not only as a monument, but as a site for performance and composition of music and a site of higher education as well.

Main points of discussion:

- Liszt, Kodály, Bartók – Hungarian music in the 19th and 20th centuries
- Architecture, applied art, music
- Public buildings in Budapest and their style
- Reconstruction and restoration of an Art Nouveau building in the 21st century