

Secret Police Under Communism

EUS 3220 – Section 26983 (Fall 2022)

Time: Tuesday P4 (10.40-11.30am) and Thursday P4-5 (10.40-12.20pm)

Location: Tuesday – TUR 2346 and Thursday – TUR 1105

Instructor

Edit Nagy edit@ufl.edu

352-294-7149 (voice)

Office Hours:

Office Hours in person: Wednesday P6 (12.50pm-1.40pm)
(or by appointment) Thursday P2 (8.30am-9.30am)

Office Hours via Zoom: Wednesday P5 (11.45am-12.35am)
(or by appointment) Thursday P2 (8.30am-9.30am)

<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/95008800322>

<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/98858593490>

Office Location: Turlington Hall (TUR) 2326-A

Course Description

The Secret Police under Communism is an observational and analytical course of the secret police and secret service organizations in communist states and societies in the twentieth century. The course content will include the overview the functions and methods of the secret police forces and the development of the organization.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

In this course student will examine the history of the secret police forces along with history of espionage. We will put these topics in the context of some major events and eras of the Soviet Union and its satellite counties (East-Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Albania, and Yugoslavia).

The class will be divided in two segments: (1) the relationship of the secret police with the communist party and the communist governments in Central-Eastern Europe (2) the operations of the communist secret service in the international environment during the Cold War.

Students will learn about the meaning and techniques of the secret police in the early years of the Cold War period and understand the processes and products of intelligence in the later year of the era.

To examine these periods, we will discuss variety of primary and secondary sources (secret police reports, court documents, memoirs, films, and documentaries). We will also talk about industrial and military espionage, secret codes and code breaking methods, recruitment and training of secret police officers and secret service agents.

Students are expected to evaluate and analyze the significance of an organization that holds a political force or an ideology in power, in all circumstances.

At the end of this course, students will be expected to have achieved the following learning outcomes in content, communication, and critical thinking:

Content: Students will demonstrate knowledge of the chronology, narrative, major events and turning points of the history of Central Eastern European countries after WWII.

They will become familiar with the secret police and the secret service roles, language, and operations during the Cold War; and to be able to interpret them in historical context. Learning outcome will be assessed through a course project (paper and presentation with class discussion), and a midterm and a final assessment.

Communication: Students will prove the ability to communicate effectively in groups and with audiences at different levels as well as present material individually and in group using audio-visual aids where appropriate. Students will participate in small group discussions (Zoom breakout rooms) during class time as well as during presentations of arguments on specified topics. Participation grades will also reflect how well a student communicates during these tasks.

Critical Thinking: In researching and writing the Eastern European experience, this course will ask students to sift through many differing types of data and interpretations and to form from this morass a well-articulated and defensible understanding of the past. Broadly speaking this course is intended to foster a greater facility in organizing, prioritizing, synthesizing, and reporting information. Students will define a problem for historical study; how to find relevant evidence upon which to base your findings; how to write up this research into informed, judicious, and convincing representations of the past. This will culminate in course project (with written and oral portion) in the second half of the semester.

Textbooks, other required materials

Instructor’s packet – all classroom materials (readings, visual materials, worksheets) will be uploaded on Canvas. The virtual or physical location of the materials will be mark in this syllabus, under *Course Schedule*

Required text is available for borrowing from the professor and online. All other recommended materials will be posted on the canvas website. There are no additional fees for the course. Additional databases will also be consulted throughout the semester.

Required Technology:

- the technologies students will need to complete course work include Zoom, Adobe Reader (Adobe Flash Player: Update [Adobe Flash Player \(Links to an external site\)](http://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/) at <http://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/> and Office-word (or other tools for reading pdf files and writing doc files; both Adobe and Office supplied to students by UF software helpdesk or <https://software.ufl.edu/>)
- High-speed internet connection
- Webcam
- Headset with a microphone

Evaluation of Grades

Assignment	Total Points	Percent of Grade
Class Participation - Attendance	15	10%
Class Participation - Discussion	20	10%
Midterm	30	30%
Course Project – Presentation and Discussion	25	20%
Semester End Review	10	30%
TOTAL	100	100%

Class Participation (10%): A good class participation grade depends on regular attendance and active

participation in discussions and mini projects. Please come to class prepared! This means that you have read all the assigned materials and are prepared to answer the relevant study questions posted on the course website.

Class Discussion (10%) How to earn a high mark? Ask informed questions and make informed, substantive comment that demonstrate your understanding of the required readings. Your weekly performance in class discussion will be evaluated/self-evaluated in the following way:

0 = absent, did not speak in class that day or comments showed that you did not prepared for the class (did not watch movie, did not read the required reading)

1 = participated in discussion in a meaningful way (understood the readings and ask informed questions)

2 = excellent performance (sophisticated analysis of readings, made connections between readings, added information/theory from outside of readings)

Students are also required to visit one office hour during the semester (preferably between week 4 and week 10) and talk to the course instructor about his/her progress.

Course Project, Class Presentation with Discussion (20%)

- **Week 4-6** Schedule a Zoom meeting with me to discuss your possible course project topic and the direction/focus of it before you start it (**required**)
The topic needs to be a secret service (and not secret police) related story based on a book or a movie/documentary (a story about a spy or a secret service which were not discussed in the classroom), but your topic also needs to relate to the Soviet/Central-Eastern European history during the Cold War – (Titles will be provided, see topics below)
- **Week 6-9** you are required to write a paper (3-page long, approximately 1600-1800 words) and create a 10-15 minutes ppt presentation about the project.
- **Week 10** - You need to submit **your midterm project** (the paper and the ppt) under the Canvas Assignment
- **Week 11-14** you will present your project. The presentation will be discussed in the classroom. The audience needs to be prepared and ask questions (as the part of the class participation)

Possible Topics for Course Project&Presentation:

- Human intelligence (famous cases and agents during the Cold War)
- Signals intelligence (equipment and their use)
- Military intelligence (traitors or heroes)
- Technology intelligence (development)
- Cryptanalysis (codes and ciphers)

*Literature for the topic will be discussed in the required Zoom meeting (Week 4-6)

Midterm and Semester End Take home exams: (2x30%)

The exam will be based on reading/viewing assignments, lectures, and handouts. Since lectures and handouts will complement rather than repeat the reading material, attendance will be important factor in doing well on these exams.

The exam will be take-home test. You will receive the questions for **Midterm Take home exam** on week 8 (Thursday)* and **Semester End Take home exam** on week 15 (Tuesday)* on Canvas.

Details of the Take home exams (due date, submission etc.) will be discussed later.

Grading Scale

A = 93.4-100%	B+ = 86.7-89.9%	C+ = 76.7-79.9%	D+ = 66.7-69.9%	E = 59% and below
A- = 90-93.3%	B = 83.4-86.6%	C = 73.4-76.6%	D = 63.4-66.6%	
	B- = 80-83.3%	C- = 70-73.3%	D- = 60-63.3%	

More information on grades and grading policies is here:
<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Class Attendance and Make-Up Policy

Class attendance is expected. If you miss class for medical reasons, religious holiday or for any other reason you consider valid, notify your instructor in advance (minimum 24 hours before the scheduled meeting)

Unexcused absence (each) will be lowered your final grade with one “notch” (ie. from an A to an A-)
Excused absences are consistent with university policies in the undergraduate catalog and require appropriate documentation.

(<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>)

Make-up Exam Policy: Students who have been granted an excused absence and miss a scheduled examination (because of illness, mandatory religious obligations, or other unavoidable circumstances), must reschedule the make-up examination and take it within 72 hours of the original date. Failure to provide adequate notice may result in an unexcused absence.

Auditors are requested to complete assignments and prepare for class as if they were registered as regular students. If an auditor does not fulfill these requirements, he/she will be asked to withdraw from the course

Use of Canvas and Netiquette

Canvas Guide <https://elearning.ufl.edu/keep-learning/quickstart-guide-for-students/>

Netiquette <http://teach.ufl.edu/wpcontent/uploads/2012/08/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf>

E-mail Policy

University of Florida requires that you use your UF Gatorlink account for university (and class) related email communication. Please see <http://www.it.ufl.edu/policies/#email> to read more on this policy.

Students Requiring Accommodations

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center by visiting

<https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>

It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/>.

Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/>.

Class Demeanor

Students are expected to arrive to class on time and behave in a manner that is respectful to the instructor and to fellow students. Please avoid the use of cell phones and restrict eating to outside of the classroom. Opinions held by other students should be respected in discussion, and conversations that do not contribute to the discussion should be held at minimum, if at all.

Materials and Supplies Fees

There are no additional fees for this course.

University Honesty Policy

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Counseling and Wellness Center

Contact information for the Counseling and Wellness Center:

<http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Recording

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third-party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

Covid-19 and other infections

In response to COVID-19 (and other infections), the following practices are in place to maintain your learning environment, to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions, and to further the health and safety of ourselves, our neighbors, and our loved ones.

- If you are not vaccinated, get vaccinated. Vaccines are readily available at no cost and have been demonstrated to be safe and effective against the COVID-19 virus. Visit this ONE.UF for screening/testing and vaccination opportunities.
- Please continue to follow healthy habits, including best practices like frequent hand washing. Following these practices is our responsibility as Gators.
 - Sanitizing supplies are available in the classroom if you wish to wipe down your desks prior to sitting down and at the end of the class.
 - Hand sanitizing stations will be located in every classroom.
- If you sick, stay home. Please call your primary care provider if you are ill and need immediate care or the UF Student Health Care Center at 352-392-1161 (or email covid@shcc.ufl.edu) to be evaluated.
- Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work.

Course Schedule (Tentative)

Week 1: Introduction to course

- UF Library and VPN setup
<https://it.clas.ufl.edu/kb/category/vpn/>
- Review the Course Syllabus
- Course Project Topics-Sources-Deadlines
- Brief History of the secret police as an organization in Europe
- Brief History of the secret police methods
Read: Amnesty International – Report on Torture – Historical Aspect of Torture pp.23-29
<https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/204000/act400011973eng.pdf>

Week 2: Secret Police in the Russian Empire and in the Soviet Union

- Brief History of the Russian/Soviet Secret Police organizations
Read: Rupert Butler – Stalin’s Secret Police: A history of the Cheka, OGPU, NKVD, SMERSH&KGB: 1917-1991 (2015) selected pages
https://www.google.com/books/edition/Stalin_s_Secret_Police/RkfODgAAQBAJ?hl=en&gbpv=1&printsec=frontcover
- Stalin’s Great Terror
Read: Paul Flowers – Stalin and the Great Terror: Politics and Personality in Soviet History pp. 1-23
https://www.academia.edu/8348264/Stalin_and_the_Great_Terror_Politics_and_Personality_in_Soviet_History

Week 3: Fictions and reality – Secret Police

- George Orwell: 1984 (1949)
Movie: George Orwell: 1984 - Directed by Michael Radford (1984) on Amazon Prime or ask Instructor’s copy
Read: George Orwell: 1984 (1949) selected pages-
Read: James Smith - British Writers and MI5 Surveillance 1930-1960 (2012) Chapter 4
https://books.google.com/books?id=X8cgAwAAQBAJ&pg=PA110&source=gbs_toc_r&cad=4#v=onepage&q&f=false
- Arthur Koestler: Darkness at Noon (1941)
Paper Book - UF Lib: PR6021.O4 D3 1941b

Adobe Digital Edition and PDF - Libcom.org
<https://libcom.org/library/darkness-noon-arthur-koestler>
Read: Arthur Koestler: Darkness at Noon (1941) selected pages (TBA)

Week 4: Evolution of the Secret Police in Central Eastern Europe

- Definition of Central Eastern Europe
- Mapping Central Eastern Europe
- Communist takeover in Eastern Europe after WWII
Read: Ben Fowkes - Eastern Europe 1945-1969 (2000) pp 17-32.
https://books.google.com/books?id=QrqOAwAAQBAJ&pg=PT7&source=gsb_toc_r&cad=4#v=onepage&q&f=false
UF Lib: DJK50. F69 2000
- Establishment of Communist Regimes and Secret Police – Case studies
Read: Johnatan Adelman (ed.) - Terror and Communist Politics (1984) pp 17-41, 155-173
UF Lib: HV7961 .T47 1984

Week 5: Techniques of Terror

- Psychology and Interrogation
Movie: Interrogation – Directed by Ryszard Bugajski (1982) [selected: until 1:01:55] UF Lib: DVD 4202 or ask Instructor's copy
Read: Hernan Reyes – The worst scars in my mind – the psychological torture In: International Review of Red Cross (2007) pp. 591-616
<https://www.icrc.org/en/doc/assets/files/other/irrc-867-reyes.pdf>
- Training of the Interrogator
Read: L. Hinkle and H. Wolff: The Methods of Interrogation and Indoctrination used by the Communist State Police. In: Bulletin NY Academy of Medicine September 1957. Vol.33, No 9. (pp. 600-615)
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1806200/>

Week 6: Communist Justice and Legal System

- Socialist Law – Criminal codex
Read: George V. Starosolsky - Basic Principles of Soviet Criminal Law in: 28 N.C. L. Rev. 359 (1950).
<https://core.ac.uk/download/pdf/151513355.pdf>
- Show Trials
Read: George Hodos - Stalinist Purges in Eastern Europe (1948-1954) Chapter 8-9 pp.73-91
https://books.google.com/books?id=kXj3SpPlyX0C&pg=PR3&source=gsb_selected_pages&cad=3#v=onepage&q&f=false
Read: "The Slansky Trial-Events of 1949-52 (Report Written in 1968)." In: From Stalinism to Pluralism: A Documentary History of Eastern Europe since 1945 (1991) [Chapter 4, Stokes] pp.71-77.
UF Lib: DJK50. F76 1991
Documentary: A Trial in Prague – Directed by Zuzana Justman (2000)
UF Lib: DVD 1603 or ask Instructor's copy
- *Course Project Title and Synopsis due by end of Week*

Week 7: Law Enforcement

- The Gulag – Labor Camps and Prisons
Read: Anna Applebaum – Gulag: A History (2003) pp. 18-41
UF Lib: HV8964.865 A67 30023
Documentary: Beyond torture: the gulag of Pitesti, Romania – Directed by Alan Hartwick (2007)
UF Lib: DVD 3495 or ask Instructor’s copy

Read: Richard Carlton (ed.) – Forced Labor in the “People’s Democracies” (1955) pp.6-21
<https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=mdp.39015065440904&view=1up&seq=7>
Documentary: Recsk 1950-1953 – Directed by Geza Boszormenyi-Livia Gyarmati (1988) ask
Instructor’s copy

Week 8: REVIEW (week2-7)

- Secret Police in Eastern Europe between 1948-1953
- Midterm exam – information will be posted on Canvas

Week 9: Secret Police vs Secret Service

- Case Study: Stasi – The East German Secret Police/Secret Service
Read: David Childs – The Stasi (1996) pp.33-55
UF Lib: DD287.4 C45 1996 https://www.google.com/books/edition/The_Stasi/k-O-DAAAQBAJ?hl=en&gbpv=1&printsec=frontcover
Documentary: Stasi – Directed by Christian Gierke (2016)
Amazon Prime or ask Instructor’s copy

Movie: The Lives of Others – Directed by F.H von Donnersmarck (2006) selected clips
UF Lib: DVD 4148 or ask Instructor’s copy

Week 10: Spying and Espionage

- Brief history of spying and espionage
- Intelligence gathering disciplines
Read: Matthew M. Aid-Wiebes Cees - Introduction: The Importance of Signals Intelligence in the Cold War In: Intelligence and National Security (2001) pp. 1-26
- The language of spying – handout
Read: Rodney Carlisle (ed.) - Encyclopedia of Intelligence and Counterintelligence (2004) selected terms and pages
<https://bookshelf.vitalsource.com/>
Read: John Laffin- Brassey’s book of Espionage (1996) selected terms and pages
- *Course Project Submission (outline and ppt)*

Week 11: Early Cold War Intelligence (1940-1960)

- Espionage and International Law
Read: Geoffrey Demarest - Espionage in International Law (Source: American Intelligence Journal , Autumn/Winter 1992/1993, Vol. 14, No. 1, Human Source Intelligence HUMINT (Autumn/Winter 1992/1993), pp. 75-80
<https://www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/44326862>

- Atomic Age – US and Communist Intelligence War
Read: Jeffrey Richelson: A Century of Spies: Intelligence in the Twentieth Century (1997) – pp. 224-231
 UF Lib: JF1525.I6 R52 1995
Read: David E. Murphy- Spies in Berlin: A Hidden Key to the Cold War. In: Foreign Affairs (1998) (pp.171-178.) <https://www.jstor.org/stable/20049039>

Documentary: NOVA Online: Secrets, Lies and Atomic Spies
<https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/venona/>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GzoxYGFrLS0>

- *Course Project Presentation Group 1*

Week 12: Spies and Spy Rings – Motivations and damages

- Cambridge Spies
Read: Jeffrey Richelson: A Century of Spies: Intelligence in the Twentieth Century (1997) – pp. 87-100
 UF Lib: JF1525.I6 R52 1995
Read: Erwin Flaxman - The Cambridge Spies: Treason and Transformed Ego Ideals In: Psychoanalytic Review, 97(4), August 2010 (pp.607-631)
<https://guilfordjournals.com/doi/pdf/10.1521/prev.2010.97.4.607>
Read: Select one report part from the FBI Vault, read it and report on it in class:
<http://vault.fbi.gov/Cambridge%20Five%20Spy%20Ring>
 (Link on Cambridge Five Spy Ring. Primary documents.)
 For a quick overview of the five see:
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/special_report/1999/09/99/britain_betrayed/444058.stm
- Real agents and spies - Other Spy Rings and “Illegals” Program
 U2 and Gary Powers and The Cuban Missile Crisis & Oleg Penkovsky
Read: Jeffrey Richelson: A Century of Spies: Intelligence in the Twentieth Century (1997) – pp. 274-79, 299,310-319.
 UF Lib: JF1525.I6 R52 1995
Read: Len Scott - Espionage and the Cold War: Oleg Penkovsky and the Cuban Missile Crisis in: Intelligence and National Security Volume 14, Number 3 (1999): 23-47.
Movie: Bridge of Spies – Directed by Steven Spielberg (2015)
 UF Lib: DVD 8632 or ask Instructor’s copy
- *Course Project Presentation Group 2*

Week 13: Fictions and Reality – Superspy Image (Thanksgiving week* - no class on Thursday)

- James Bond and The Man from U.N.C.L.E
Read: Tony Bennett - The Bond Phenomenon-Theorizing a Popular Hero – A Retrospective (2017) International Journal of James Bond Studies 1
<https://jamesbondstudies.ac.uk/articles/abstract/10.24877/jbs.4/>
Read: Jeremy Black - The Politics of James Bond (2005) (pp. 3-49)
https://books.google.com/books?id=g4-sFrU8Xw0C&pg=PR5&source=gbs_selected_pages&cad=3#v=onepage&q&f=false
Movie: Selected clips of Cold War James Bond movies (variable years)
Movie: Selected clips of The Man from U.N.C.L.E – Directed by Guy Ritchie (2015)

Movie: Selected clips of The Man from U.N.C.L.E – NBC Network (1964-1968)

- *Course Project Presentation Group 3*

Week 14: Military, Corporate and Industrial Espionage

COCOM (*Possible Guest Speaker*)

Read: Tor Egil Forland: “Economic Warfare” and “Strategic Goods”: A Conceptual Framework for Analyzing Cocom. In: Journal of Peace Research, Vol. 28. No 2 (pp.191-204)

https://www.jstor.org/stable/424388?seq=1#metadata_info_tab_contents

Read: J. Wilczynski: Strategic Embargo in Perspective. In: Soviet Studies, Vol. 19 (pp.74-86)

<https://www.jstor.org/stable/149231>

Coding and Computerization

Read: Gus W. Weiss: The Farwell Dossier <https://www.cia.gov/library/center-for-the-study-of-intelligence/kent-csi/vol39no5/pdf/v39i5a14p.pdf>

Read: Soviet Bloc Computers Direct Descendants of Western Technology – selected pages

https://www.cia.gov/library/readingroom/docs/DOC_0000500644.pdf

Movie: Farwell – Directed by Chrisitan Carion (2009)

on Amazon Prime or ask Instructor’s copy

- *Course Project Presentation Group 4*

Week 15: Legacy of the Secret Agencies

- State Security Archives and Museums (*Possible Guest Speaker*)

Read: Leo van Rossum: The Former Communist Party Archives in Eastern Europe and Russia - A Provisional Assessment. In. International Institute of Social History, Amsterdam 1997 (pp.3-21)

<http://www.iisg.nl/publications/rossum.pdf>

- Virtual tours

Spy Museum: <https://www.spymuseum.org/>

KGB Museum: <https://kgbespionagemuseum.org/>

Stasi Museum: <https://www.stasimuseum.de/en/enindex.htm>

- Review (week 9-14) -Secret Services, Agents and Spies in the Cold War (1945-1990)
- Final exam – information will be posted on Canvas