



University of
New Haven

Art and Architecture of Prague

SECTION I: Course Overview

Course Code: ARH110PRG

Subject Area(s): Art, Art History

Prerequisites: None

Language of Instruction: English

Total Contact Hours: 45

Recommended Credits: 3

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course surveys the art and architecture of Prague from early medieval times until the present day. The subjects treated in this course are organized chronologically and thematically in order to provide historical continuity and discuss the development of the art and architecture in Prague against the backdrop of European history. The course explores art and architecture of the Romanesque, Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque, Neoclassical periods as well as Modernism and contemporary art. Through first-hand exposure to the architectural and artistic gems in Prague's historical sites, museums, and galleries, students explore the details of individual monuments and works of art and, more importantly, learn about their function and historical meaning.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Identify major art-historical periods from early medieval to modern
- Distinguish the different styles, techniques, and methodologies of artistic production
- Recognize the prime examples of art and architecture in Prague
- Describe artworks and their role in a wider social, cultural and historical context using adequate terminology

SECTION II: Instructor & Course Details

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

Name:	TBA
Contact Information:	TBA
Term:	SEMESTER

ATTENDANCE POLICY

This class will meet once weekly for 150 minutes each session. All students are expected to arrive on time and be prepared for the day's class session.

CEA enforces a mandatory attendance policy. You are therefore expected to attend all regularly scheduled class sessions, including any field trips, site visits, guest lectures, etc. that are assigned by the instructor. The table below shows the number of class sessions you may miss before receiving a grade penalty.

ALLOWED ABSENCES – SEMESTER		
Courses Meeting X day(s) Per Week	Allowed Absence(s)	Automatic Failing Grade at X th absence
Courses meeting 1 day(s) per week	1 Absence	4 th Absence

For every additional absence beyond the allowed number, your final course grade will drop down to the subsequent letter grade (ex: A+ to A). As a student, you should understand that the grade penalties will apply if you are marked absent due to tardiness or leaving class early. In the table below, you will find the grade penalty associated with each excessive absence up to and including automatic course failure.

ATTENDANCE DOCKING PENALTIES				
Absence	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th
Penalty	No Penalty	0.5 Grade Docked	1 Grade Docked	Automatic Failure
HIGHEST POSSIBLE GRADE AFTER ATTENDANCE PENALTIES				
Grade	A+	A	A-	F

CEA does not distinguish between excused and unexcused absences. As such, no documentation is required for missing class. Similarly, excessive absences, and the grade penalty associated with each, will not be excused even if you are able to provide documentation that shows the absence was beyond your control. You should therefore only miss class when truly needed as illness or other unavoidable factors may force you to miss a class session later on in the term.

GRADING & ASSESSMENT

The instructor will assess your progress towards the above-listed learning objectives by using the forms of assessment below. Each of these assessments is weighted and will count towards your final grade. The following section (Assessment Overview) will provide further details for each.

Class Participation	10%
Field Study Reflections	20%
Oral Presentation	20%
Midterm Exam	25%
Final Exam	25%

The instructor reserves the right to make changes or modifications to this syllabus as needed

The instructor will calculate your course grades using the CEA Grading Scale shown below. As a CEA student, you should understand that credit transfer decisions—including earned grades for courses taken abroad—are ultimately made by your home institution.

CEA GRADING SCALE			
Letter Grade	Numerical Grade	Percentage Range	Quality Points
A+	9.70 – 10.0	97.0 – 100%	4.00
A	9.40 – 9.69	94.0 – 96.9%	4.00
A-	9.00 – 9.39	90.0 – 93.9%	3.70
B+	8.70 – 8.99	87.0 – 89.9%	3.30
B	8.40 – 8.69	84.0 – 86.9%	3.00
B-	8.00 – 8.39	80.0 – 83.9%	2.70
C+	7.70 – 7.99	77.0 – 79.9%	2.30
C	7.40 – 7.69	74.0 – 76.9%	2.00
C-	7.00 – 7.39	70.0 – 73.9%	1.70
D	6.00 – 6.99	60.0 – 69.9%	1.00
F	0.00 – 5.99	0.00 – 59.9%	0.00
W	Withdrawal	N/A	0.00
INC	Incomplete	N/A	0.00

ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW

This section provides a brief description of each form of assessment listed above. Your course instructor will provide further details and instructions during class time.

Class Participation (10%): Student participation is mandatory for all courses taken at a CEA Study Center. The instructor will use the rubric below when determining your participation grade. All students should understand that attendance and punctuality are expected and will not count positively toward the participation grade.

CLASS PARTICIPATION GRADING RUBRIC	
Student Participation Level	Grade
You make major & original contributions that spark discussion, offering critical comments clearly based on readings, research, & theoretical course topics.	A+ (10.0 – 9.70)
You make significant contributions that demonstrate insight as well as knowledge of required readings & independent research.	A/A- (9.69 – 9.00)
You participate voluntarily and make useful contributions that are usually based upon some reflection and familiarity with required readings.	B+/B (8.99 – 8.40)
You make voluntary but infrequent comments that generally reiterate the basic points of the required readings.	B-/C+ (8.39 – 7.70)

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You make limited comments only when prompted and do not initiate debate or show a clear awareness of the importance of the readings.	C/C- (7.69 – 7.00)
You very rarely make comments and resist engagement with the subject. You are not prepared for class and/or discussion of course readings.	D (6.99 – 6.00)
You make irrelevant and tangential comments disruptive to class discussion. You are consistently unprepared for class and/or discussion of the course readings.	F (5.99 – 0.00)

Field Study Reflections (20%): You will have the opportunity to explore at first-hand the most important historical monuments, sites, art museums and galleries in Prague. The purpose of the field study reflections is to document your observations and revelations that arise during and after these field visits. Your entries can include written word as well as sketches by hand. You are encouraged to reflect on the style, form, meaning, and function of the architectural or artistic example studied, its author, as well as the relevant art-historical and socio-cultural context within which the observed example was created. The reflection journal will be an on-going assignment with entries due weekly. You are encouraged to write detailed entries as the field study reflections can serve as a useful resource in preparation for the oral presentation and midterm and final exams.

Oral Presentation (20%): You will individually research the distinct example of art or architecture in Prague (beyond the examples we will directly study in the course) on which you will deliver an oral presentation to class. As part of your research, you should be able to explain your choice, assign the selected piece to a specific art-historical era. Using the proper terminology, you will describe the main architectural and/or artistic features of your selected example to demonstrate how it is representative of that art-historical period. You will also present on the artist or architect and explore how your selected example connects with historical and socio-cultural contexts of the examined time period. Your oral presentation should be accompanied by suitable visuals and you should come prepared with questions to stimulate conversation as well as resources and aids that can be used during the discussion. Further details on the presentation and the rubric will be provided in class.

Midterm Exam (25%): The midterm exam is designed to establish and communicate to you the progress you are making towards meeting the course learning objectives listed above. It is comprised of questions and exercises that test your abilities in three important areas of competency: the amount of information you master; the accuracy of the information you present; and the significance you ascribe to the facts and ideas you have integrated across your study in this course. The midterm exam will cover all concepts from the first half of the term and will have multiple choice questions, short-answer questions, and an essay-response question.

Final Exam (25%): The final exam is designed to establish and communicate to you the progress you are making towards meeting the course learning objectives listed above. It is comprised of questions and exercises that test your abilities in three important areas of competency: the amount of information you master; the accuracy of the information you present; and the significance you ascribe to the facts and ideas you have integrated across your study in this course. The final exam will cover all concepts from the second half of the term and will have multiple choice questions, short-answer questions, and an essay-response question.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING ACTIVITIES (AICAP)

CEA courses are designed to include a variety of experiential learning activities that will take you out of the classroom and allow you to explore your local, host city. These activities may include field studies, guest lectures and/or activities offered through our Academically Integrated Cultural Activities Program (AICAP). Please check the Forms of Assessment section to find out if AICAP activities are related to any specific form of assessment. The following experiential learning activities are recommended for this course:

- St. George Basilica, Prague Castle; St. Martin's Rotunda
- St. Vitus Cathedral, Charles Bridge, Old Town, Convent of St. Agnes

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- Belvedere, Schwarzenberg Palace, House at the Minute
- Strahov, Loreta, St. John of Nepomuk & St. Nicholas Church, Waldstein & Goltz-Kinsky Palace
- Estates Theater & National Theater
- Municipal House, Grandhotel Evropa, Hotel Pariz
- House at the Black Madonna, Congress Center, Bata Palace, Manes
- National Gallery- Trade Fair Palace
- Vitkov, Hotel Intercontinental
- The Dancing House, DOX Center for Contemporary Art

REQUIRED READINGS

Reading assignments for this course will come from the required text(s) and/or the selected reading(s) listed below. All required readings—whether assigned from the text or assigned as a selected reading—must be completed according to the due date assigned by the course instructor.

- I. SELECTED READING(S):** The selected readings for this course are listed below. You will not need to purchase these readings; the instructor will provide these selected readings to you in class (either in paper or electronic format).

Bazant, J. “The Classical Tradition and Nationalism: the Art and Architecture of Prague” in *A Handbook to Classical Reception to Eastern and Central Europe*, ed. by Martirosova Torlone et. al., New Jersey: John Wiley & Sons, 2017, pp. 133-145.

Da Costa Kaufmann, T. “Remarks on Collections of Rudolf II: the Kunstkammer as a Form of Representatio” in *Art Journal*, Vol. 38, No. 1, 1978, pp. 22-28.

Demetz, P. “Libussa or Versions of Origin” in *Prague in Black and Gold: the History of a City*, London: Penguin, 1997, pp. 3-30.

Dragoun, Z. “Romanesque Prague and New Archeological Discoveries” in *Prague and Bohemia: Medieval Art, Architecture and Cultural Exchange on Central Europe*, ed. by Opacic, Z. (1st Edition). London: Routledge, 2009, pp. 34-47.

Garver, B. Czech Cubism and Fin-de-Siecle Prague in *Austrian History Yearbook*, Vol. 19, Issue 1, 1983, pp. 91-104.

Feierabend, J. “Art in Communist Czechoslovakia” in *Czechoslovakia Past and Present*, ed. by Reicheigel, M., Berlin: De Gruyter Mouton, 1968, pp. 615-624.

Fucikova, E. *Renaissance Prague*, Prague: Karolinum Press, 2018, 184 pp.

Krivy, M. “Grayness and colour desires: the chromatic politics of the panelak in late-socialist and post-socialist Czechoslovakia” in *Journal of Architecture*, Vol. 20, Issue 5, 2015, pp. 765-802.

Lindaurova, L. “DOX: A Grand Narrative with an Unfinished Ending” in *The New Presence*, Issue 1, 2009, pp. 47-49.

Louthan, H. “Religious Art and the Formation of Catholic Identity in Prague” in *Embodiments of Power: Building Baroque Cities in Europe*, ed. by Cohen G. & Szabo F., New York: Berghahn Books, 2008, pp. 53-79.

Ort, T. “Prague 1911: The Cubist City” in *Art and Life and Modernist Prague*. Palgrave Studies in Cultural and Intellectual History. New York: Palgrave Macmillan., 2013 pp. 31-59.

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Riza, M., et. al. "City Branding and Identity" in *Procedia- Social and Behavioural Sciences*, Vol. 35, 2012, pp. 293-300.

Royt, J. *The Prague of Charles IV.*, Prague: Karolinum Press, 2016, 200 pp.

Sayer, D. Modernism, Seen from Prague, March 1937. *Art@s Bulletin*, Vol. 3, No. 1, 2014, pp. 18-29.

Vybiral, J. "Modernism or the National Movement in Prague" in *Art Around 1900 in Central Europe. Art Centres and Provinces* ed. by Krakowski, P., Purchla, J. Krakow: Internatioal Cultural Center, 1999, pp. 203-209.

Vybiral, J. "Nation, Identity and Style. Constructing National Identity on the Example of Czech Architecture of the 19th Century" in Hnidkova, V. *National Style. Arts and Politics*. Prague: VSUP, 2013, pp. 148-162.

Wittlich, Petr. *Art-Nouveau Prague*, Prague: Karolinum Press, 2009, pp. 135.

RECOMMENDED READINGS

The recommended reading(s) and/or text(s) for this course are below. These recommended readings are not mandatory, but they will assist you with research and understanding course content.

Boehm, B. and Fajt, J. eds. *Prague, The Crown of Bohemia, 1347-1437*, New York: MetPublications, 2005, 384 pp.

Hejduk et. al. *Prague 20th Century Architecture*, Vienna: Springer, 1999, 220 pp.

Harrod, O. "Villa Traub in Prague (1928): Bruno Paul and Pragmatic Functionalism", *Umeni*, Vol. 49, No. 2, 2001, pp. 137-150.

Miljacki, A. *The Optimum Imperative: Czech Architecture for the Socialist Lifestyle, 1938-1968*, London: Routledge, 2020, 326 pp.

Opacic, Z. *Prague and Bohemia: Medieval Art, Architecture and Cultural Exchange in Central Europe*, London: Routledge, 2009, 264 pp.

Stankova, J. et. al. *Prague Eleven Centuries of Architecture: Historical Guide*, Prague: PAV Publisher, 1992, 360 pp.

Svacha, R. and Buechler, A. *The Architecture of New Prague 1895-1945*, Cambridge: MIT Press, 1995, 544 pp.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

In order to ensure your success abroad, CEA has provided the academic resources listed below. In addition to these resources, each CEA Study Center provides students with a physical library and study areas for group work. The Academic Affairs Office at each CEA Study Center also compiles a bank of detailed information regarding libraries, documentation centers, research institutes, and archival materials located in the host city.

- **UNH Online Library:** As a CEA student, you will be given access to the online library of CEA's School of Record, the University of New Haven (UNH). You can use this online library to access databases and additional resources while performing research abroad. You may access the UNH online library [here](#) or through your MyCEA Account. You must comply with UNH Policies regarding library usage.
- **CEAClassroom – Moodle:** CEA instructors use Moodle, an interactive virtual learning environment. This web-based platform provides you with constant and direct access to the course syllabus, daily

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schedule of class lectures and assignments, non-textbook required readings, and additional resources. Moodle includes the normal array of forums, up-loadable and downloadable databases, wikis, and related academic support designed for helping you achieve the learning objectives listed in this syllabus.

During the first week of class, CEA academic staff and/or faculty will help you navigate through the many functions and resources Moodle provides. While you may print a hard copy version of the syllabus, you should always check Moodle for the most up-to-date information regarding this course. The instructor will use Moodle to make announcements and updates to the course and/or syllabus. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have access to all Moodle materials and that you monitor Moodle on a daily basis in case there are any changes made to course assignments or scheduling.

To access Moodle: Please log-in to your MyCEA account using your normal username and password. Click on the “While You’re Abroad Tab” and make sure you are under the “Academics” sub-menu. There you will see a link above your schedule that says “View Online Courses” select this link to be taken to your Moodle environment.

COURSE CALENDAR
Art and Architecture of Prague

SESSION	TOPICS	ACTIVITY	READINGS & ASSIGNMENTS
1	Course Introduction: Review Syllabus, Classroom Policies The Origins of Prague	Course Overview Lecture & Discussion	Reading: Demetz, pp. 3-30
2	Romanesque	Lecture & Discussion <i>Field Study: St. George Basilica, Prague Castle; St. Martin's Rotunda</i>	Reading: Dragoun, pp. 34-47
3	Gothic	Lecture & Discussion <i>Field Study: St. Vitus Cathedral, Charles Bridge, Old Town, Convent of St. Agnes</i>	Reading: Royt, selected reading *Submit Journal Entry 1
4	Renaissance	Lecture & Discussion <i>Field Study: Belvedere, Schwarzenberg Palace, House at the Minute</i>	Reading: Fucikova, selected reading DaCosta Kaufmann, pp. 22-28 *Submit Journal Entry 2
5	Baroque	Lecture & Discussion <i>Field Study: Strahov, Loreta, St. John of Nepomuk & St. Nicholas Church, Waldstein & Goltz, Kinsky Palace</i>	Reading: Louthan, pp. 53-79 *Submit Journal Entry 3
6	Neoclassicism & the Czech National Movement	Lecture & Discussion <i>Field Study: Estates & National Theater, Vysehrad</i>	Reading: Bazant, pp. 133-145 Vybiral, pp. 148-162 *Submit Journal Entry 4
7	Prague Art Gallery /Museum	<i>Field Study TBD: Picture Gallery Prague Castle, Rudolfinum or National Gallery</i>	Reading: TBD based on activity *Submit Journal Entry 5 Prepare for Midterm Exam

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8	MIDTERM EXAM		
9	Art Nouveau	Lecture & Discussion <i>Field Study: Municipal House, Grandhotel Evropa, Hotel Pariz</i>	Reading: Wittlich, selected reading *Submit Journal Entry 6
10	Cubism & Functionalism	Lecture & Discussion <i>Field Study: House at the Black Madonna, Congress Center, Bata Palace, Manes</i>	Reading: Ort, pp. 31-59 Garver, pp. 91-104 *Submit Journal Entry 7
11	Avant-garde	Lecture & Discussion <i>Field Study: National Gallery-Trade Fair Palace</i>	Reading: Vybiral, pp. 203-209 Sayer, pp. 18-29 *Submit Journal Entry 8
12	Socialist-Realism	Lecture & Discussion <i>Field Study: Vitkov, Hotel Intercontinental</i>	Reading: Krivy, pp. 765-802 Feierabend, pp. 615-624 *Submit Journal Entry 9
13	Contemporary Art & Architecture	Lecture & Discussion <i>Field Study: The Dancing House, DOX Center for Contemporary Art</i>	Reading: Riza, pp. 293-300 Lindaurova, pp. 47-49 *Submit Journal Entry 10
14	ORAL PRESENTATIONS	Student presentations & discussion	*Submit Journal Entry 11 Prepare for Final Exam
15	FINAL EXAM		

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SECTION III: CEA Academic Policies

The policies listed in this section outline general expectations for CEA students. You should carefully review these policies to ensure success in your courses and during your time abroad. Furthermore, as a participant in the CEA program, you are expected to review and understand all CEA Student Policies, including the academic policies outlined on our website. CEA reserves the right to change, update, revise, or amend existing policies and/or procedures at any time. For the most up to date policies, please review the policies on our website.

Class & Instructor Policies can be found [here](#)

General Academic Policies can be found [here](#)