

Code: FLMD-322E:03

Course title: Everyday Life in Socialist Hungary

Course convenors: Ferenc Hammer

Class time and place: Wednesday 14:15-15:45 40

Course type: Seminar

Course content: Culture is a key concept in this course - that is, collectively created meanings people associate with their life. Artefacts, rituals and images of everyday life, and their qualitative-anthropological interpretations have occupied a central position in this approach to understand the region's present and recent past. The basic premise of the course is that the cultural embeddedness of the East Central European region's political changes has turned out to be crucial, in terms of the nature and direction of those changes, let them be Stalinist takeovers, socialist reforms, democratic transitions, democratic consolidations or nationalist upheavals. Students will be exposed to comparative (regional) empirical research results focusing on various cultural studies topics, as well as to key concepts regarding the roots of the region's paradoxical cultural-historical-political development. Classes will cover issues, such as everyday strategies of power exercise in communism, changes in cultural politics, media history of the period, popular culture, consumption, a critical history of jeans, nonconformist subcultures, etc.

Requirements:

Indicative Reading:

Learning outcomes:
