

PHILOSOPHY STUDY TOUR

THE STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM & DIGNITY 21 May—5 June 2012

PRAGUE & KRAKOW/OSWIECIM (AUSCHWITZ)

A tour designed and led by
Jeffrey JOHNSON, Ph.D.
Senior Lecturer in Philosophy
Suffolk University



Prague: Prague Castle & Suffolk Students

You can visit Europe and receive academic credits at the same time. The Philosophy Department at Suffolk University is organizing a course and study tour to Central Europe.

For more information please contact Professor JOHNSON at:

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Telephone: 617.973.5318

TOUR / COURSE DESCRIPTION

Freedom and dignity are at the heart of our humanity. These qualities enable us to develop and realize the fullness of our humanity. Yet these qualities are very difficult to acquire and sustain. It seems that what is most essential to our humanity is also the most elusive for so many of us. The purpose of this study tour is to study and seek some level of understanding of this enigma. The totalitarianism, wars, and genocide of our time are clear indications of the difficulties we face in achieving, acclaiming, and maintaining our humanity. These three phenomena undermine and destroy the social and spiritual conditions that foster the freedom and dignity critical to our humanity. We will be visiting places very closely associated with this scenario: Prague, Auschwitz, and Krakow. By understanding the tragedies and struggles associated with these places we hope to gain a knowledge that will aid us in our contemporary struggles for human freedom and dignity.

We will study and hear lectures on such topics as:

- Totalitarianism: Fascist and Communist
- The Roots of Violence and Genocide
- The Challenges of Transition: From Totalitarianism to Democracy
- The Struggle to Build a Civil Society

Aside from organized tours in these locations, there will also be ample opportunities for the students to independently explore them. This will give students a chance to visit an area of the world that has been at the heart of the greatest conflicts in recent times. By being “there” the students will be able to connect what happened with some of the reasons related to how and why certain things happened. They will be able to see how concrete events and places relate to philosophical understanding.

The title of the course is Philosophy of Freedom: PHIL 309 TC (4 semester hours, undergraduate credit); graduate level PHIL 609 TC. The course will be taught during the Winter/Spring semester of 2012 with the tour taking place during the summer break at the end of May and the beginning of June (21 May—5 June).

CALENDAR / ITINERARY

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| 21 May: | Flight from Boston to Prague |
| 22 May: | Free day in Prague |
| 23 May: | Morning Lecture; Visit to Prague Castle, Saint Vitus's Cathedral, and Charles Bridge |
| 24 May: | Morning Lecture; Visit to Pinkas Synagogue Holocaust Memorial and Old Jewish Cemetery |

25 May: Morning Lecture; Visit to Terezin

26 May: Free Day

27 May: Free Day

28 May: Morning Lecture; Visit to Museum of Communism and Saints Cyril and Methodius Cathedral

29 May: Morning Lecture; Velvet Revolution walk

30 May: Travel from Prague to Krakow

31 May: Morning Lecture; Visit to Jewish Quarter and Ghetto

1 June: Visit to Auschwitz/Birkenau

2 June: Free Day

3 June: Free Day

4 June: Morning Lecture; Visit to Wawel Castle and Cathedral

5 June: Travel from Krakow to Boston

COSTS

Suffolk University Travel Fee	\$1,185.00*
Field Trips & Misc. Travel (estimate)	150.00
Books (from University bookstore)	60.00
Airfare & Train (estimate)	1,750.00
Food Cost (estimate)	300.00
International Student ID Card	25.00
Travel Insurance (from STA Travel)	100.00
TOTAL	\$ 3,570.00 **

* Covers housing and breakfast, administrative processing, the tour leader, and SOS emergency evacuation insurance.

** Some financial aid may be available. Contact Ms. Youmna Hinnawi at the Center for International Education.



Krakow: Saint Mary's Church & Market Square

Contact:

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