

INVISIBLE UNIVERSITY FOR UKRAINE

2022/2023, Fall Semester

History Track:

History of the Public Sphere in Ukraine and East Central Europe

Course coordinator: Ostep Sereda (Ukrainian Catholic University, Lviv, Department of History, currently at Imre Kertész Kolleg Jena)

This course aims at introducing and exploring the applicability of the concept of public sphere for the analysis of intellectual and social life in Ukraine and its East European neighbours in both comparative and transnational perspective since the end of the eighteenth century. We plan to analyse the transformation of urban social space and of imperial institutions that made the emergence of public sphere possible, and the increasing „nationalization” of the public sphere through the long nineteenth century, with special attention to those milieus that continued to exist „beyond nationalism”. Turning to the 20th century, we will re-examine the main concepts of social and ethnic conflicts and the mass violence in the region in an attempt to identify how the public sphere survived under the totalitarian and authoritarian regimes and to situate these themes in a European comparative context. The final part of the course will be devoted to re-evaluation of the concept of intelligentsia and public intellectuals in the region after 1991.

The course will consist of the following components:

1. Theoretical origin and debates around the concept of the public sphere
2. Imperial reforms, “urban revolution”, formation of public sphere and institutionalization of nationality in the long nineteenth century
3. Transformation of East European public sphere under totalitarian and authoritarian regimes in the twentieth century
4. Post-industrial and global challenges to public sphere after 1991

The course is planned to be co-taught by the international team of scholars. Invited scholars include:

Joachim von Puttkamer (Imre Kertész Kolleg Jena, Director)

Immo Rebitschek (Imre Kertész Kolleg Jena, Research Associate)

Veronika Wendland (Herder-Institut für historische Ostmitteleuropaforschung)

Natalia Kovalchuk (Ukrainian Catholic University, Department of History, currently at the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich)

(Ivan Franko National University of Lviv, Department of Journalism)

Volodymyr Sklokin (Ukrainian Catholic University, Department of History)

Maciej Janowski (Institute of History of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw, Director)