

# Central European Culture



## *From Berlin to Budapest: The Literature, Film, and Culture of Central Europe*

Throughout the twentieth century, Central Europe has been at the center of dramatic historical changes: the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, the rise and fall of the Nazi regime, the spread of communism, the fall of the Berlin Wall, and finally, incorporation into the European Union.



These tumultuous historical events have culturally shaped the region in unexpected, even contradictory ways, and have ironically produced some of Europe's most creative and relevant cultural voices, that have relevance far beyond the region.



We will concentrate on the work of writers and filmmakers who depict the turbulent events of this region, specifically as played out in the four capital cities of Berlin, Budapest, Prague, and Warsaw. Through their work we will understand how these cities changed with each political upheaval, what type of atmosphere they provided for artists, what fears they awoke among their populous, and how imagination and creativity flourished in these cities' cafes and pubs.

TTH 3:30 - 4:45 PM

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