Title and Code of Course: ERP BAN 9118 Totalitarianism in Postwar Hungary: History, Art and Culture

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Credit Point Value: 6  Number of Lessons per Week: 2  Type of Course: Seminar ☒  Lecture ☐  Method of Evaluation: Oral Examination ☐  In-Class Presentation ☐  Other ☒

Course Description:
The course is highly recommended to visiting international students as well as to Hungarians and its aim is to elaborate on the most significant aspects of postwar totalitarianism in a Hungarian/Central-European context. It provides an overview of the origins and the main characteristics of the totalitarian state, will discuss postwar Hungarian history, as well as representations of totalitarianism in Hungarian art, film and literature. The classes on Christianity survey various attitudes (collaboration, compromise, resistance etc) by church leaders and Communist leader’s tactics to undermine the life of the churches. The two guest lecturers will elaborate on the forced labor camps and the atrocities committed by the liberating/occupying Red Army.
Finally, the course will highlight the main events during the collapse of communism in Hungary and the complexity of lustration and restitution.

Bibliography:
Kivimaki, Ville-Karonen, Petri: Continued Violence and Troublesome Pasts: Post-war Europe between the Victors after the Second World War
Bessel, Richard-Schuman, Dirk (eds.): Life after Death: Approaches to a Cultural and Social History During the 1940s and 1950s (Publications of the German Historical Institute).
Ellis, Mark S. ”Purging the Past: The Current State of Lustration Laws in the Former Communist Bloc”. In: 59 Law and Contemporary Problems 181-196 (Fall 1996)