Course Description and Objectives: The course will give students a chance to gain a better understanding of the economics, business environment and culture of Eastern Europe (Czech Republic and Hungary in particular). The course will require that students complete pre-trip readings and other assignments on Eastern Europe. The visit to Prague and Budapest (and Vienna) will provide an opportunity to learn first-hand about these topics. Upon return, students will complete a post-trip paper assignment. Our expectations are that this program will enhance the student’s ability to communicate at a professional level (LG1) and to identify how globalization affects organizations and their environment (LG3).

Required Meeting Dates:
1) Friday, January 23 (11am-1pm) in Miller 2201. This will be a meeting for all students participating in the Prague-Budapest Study Abroad Program. Please contact me if you can’t make this meeting.
2) Friday, February 27 (1:30 pm) for an examination on the reading materials. Please contact me if you need to arrange an alternative date/time for this exam.
3) Friday, March 6 (9-11am) or Monday, March 9 (7-9 pm) for an oral presentation (see Presentation section for details). Email D. Boldt your presentation topic and the date you would prefer to make the presentation.
4) Trip to Prague/Vienna/Budapest (March 12-22)

Readings (Czech Republic):
2) 2014 Index of Economic Freedom-Czech Republic, Heritage Foundation (http://www.heritage.org/index/country/czechrepublic)
5) Doing Business 2015--Czech Republic. Available on the ISP Student Zone Site (www.studyprograms.com). Use the “student zone button.” The identifier for our program is PHSOIY.
6) Other articles on the current Czech economy will be posted in CourseDen.

Readings (Hungary):
2) 2014 Index of Economic Freedom-Hungary, Heritage Foundation (http://www.heritage.org/index/country/hungary)
5) Doing Business 2015--Hungary. Available on the ISP Student Zone Site (www.studyprograms.com). Use the “student zone” button. The identifier for our program is PHSOIY.
6) Other articles on the current Hungarian economy will be posted in CourseDen.
Readings (European Union):

4) European Union Explained https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O37yJBFRrfg
5) Other articles on the European Union will be posted in CourseDen.

Other Resources (Videos):


Presentation: Each student in the class will make a powerpoint presentation on a topic related to the Czech Republic or Hungary. The topic must be approved by one of the instructors of the class. The presentation should be about 10 minutes. Grading will be based on content, the presentation, and the quality of the power point slides. Include no more than 10 slides in your presentation.

Grading:

1) 50 percent based on trip participation and post-trip paper. Details about the post-trip paper will be provided at a later date. The post trip paper assignment must be turned in by April 18.
2) 24 percent based on completion of 3 online modules. To complete the modules, you will be required to answer questions based on the assigned readings. Module 1 on the Czech Republic must be completed by Monday, February 9. Module 2 on Hungary must be completed by Monday, February 23 and Module 3 on the European Union must be completed by Monday, March 9.
3) 13 percent based on your presentation (see above for details). These presentations will be on Friday, March 6 (9-11 am) or on Monday, March 9 from 7-9 pm.
4) 13 percent based on an in-class test on the assigned readings on the Czech Republic and Hungary (not the European Union readings). This test will be given on Friday, February 27 at 1:30 pm. No notes will be allowed for this test. Please contact me if you can’t take the test at that time due to work or other constraints.

Note: Late assignments will result in a grade reduction

Attendance, Participation and Professionalism: Unless a specific exception is made, students are expected to participate in all on-campus and well as all the required components of the program in Prague, Vienna, and Budapest. Students will be treated as professionals and are expected to act accordingly. This includes respecting your fellow students and our hosts in Eastern Europe. On the trip, we expect that you will not put yourself in a situation which may cause problems for yourself, your classmates, our host, or for any of the instructors.