<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MODULE TITLE</th>
<th>The Power of the Powerless: Czech Responses to Soviet Imperialism</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Module Code</strong></td>
<td>14-7111-00S</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Semester of Delivery</strong></td>
<td>1 and/or 2</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>State whether module is Mandatory, Elective or Option</strong></td>
<td>Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Level (4/5/6/7/8)</strong></td>
<td>7</td>
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<td><strong>Credit Points</strong></td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Assessment Components &amp; Percentage Weighting</strong></td>
<td>100% coursework:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Component 1</strong>: 2,000 word essay (40%)</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Component 2</strong>: 3,000 word essay (60%)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Pre-Requisite Modules (if applicable)</strong></td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Breakdown of Student Learning Hours by Type</strong></td>
<td>300 hours study time</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Site-based</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>24 hours class contact</td>
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<td></td>
<td>276 hours independent study</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Distance learning</td>
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<td></td>
<td>300 hours independent study</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Module Leader &amp; School</strong></td>
<td>Dr. Kevin McDermott, SCS</td>
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<td><strong>Module Banding</strong></td>
<td>A</td>
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<td><strong>Date of Original Approval</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Date of Next Review</strong></td>
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**AIMS AND RATIONALE**

These are the aims of this module ...  
This module examines the foundation, consolidation and eventual collapse of the Soviet bloc in Eastern Europe with special reference to Czechoslovakia. The key aims of the module are:

- to explore the applicability of the ‘totalitarian’ model to Czech-Soviet relations in both the political and cultural spheres;
- to assess critically the extent to which the links between Moscow and Prague were interactive and characterised by mutual adaptation, mediation and negotiation;
- to understand why Soviet-style socialism in Czechoslovakia and elsewhere in Central and Eastern Europe collapsed so rapidly in the autumn of 1989.

The reason for having this module and for having it at this level is ...  
- The module broadens students’ understanding of imperial relationships beyond the British experience by focusing on Soviet imperialism in Eastern Europe.
- It adds an essential political dimension to the understanding of modern imperialism.
- The module engages with complex theoretical issues relating to imperial power and the nature of modern imperialism appropriate to Level 7 study and applies them to the core content of the module.

By the end of the module you will be able to ...  
- demonstrate detailed empirical knowledge of the changing imperial relationships between the USSR and Czechoslovakia.
- critically assess the legacy of the ‘socialist experiment’ in post-war Eastern Europe, particularly Czechoslovakia.
• appreciate the interactive and dynamic nature of power relationships in the Soviet bloc.
• evaluate critically the role of state and civil society in post-war Czechoslovakia.
• demonstrate understanding of the revolutionary processes that re-shaped the USSR and Eastern Europe in the 1980s.

These are the main ways of learning and teaching which will help you to achieve the learning outcomes ...

Site-based mode
Tutor-led seminars
Interactive tutor-student seminars around specific topics based on directed student reading.

Student-led seminars
Based on student self-directed reading and collaborative organisation of seminar discussion.

Individual tutorial support
As required by arrangement with tutor.

Independent learning

Distance learning mode
Independent learning based on distance learning packages, guided reading, electronic sources and email and phone contact with tutors.

The module is taught by means of distance learning and is supported by a Reader of essential texts, chapters and articles. Students are provided with a 70 page module booklet, which not only provides a narrative and interpretive framework, but encourages students to reflect on key issues and debates.

ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK

This is how the learning outcomes will be assessed ...

The module is assessed by 100% coursework, comprised of 2 components:
• One 2000 word essay (40%)
• One 3000 word essay (60%).

Both are assessed by module tutors and a second marker. The first essay has a formative function, providing essential feedback on student performance.

This is how and when you will be given feedback on your performance ...

• Feedback will be provided, normally within three weeks of submission by means of ‘Assessment proforma’ customised for the specific assignment which will provide an indication of performance in relation to specified assessment criteria whilst also allowing for less structured and more substantive comment and advice.
• Verbal feedback and advice will also be provided on request from students (Site – based) and by email and phone (DL).
• Arrangements for feedback on both assessed components are given in the Student Course Guide.

To achieve a pass, you will ...

• Gain an aggregate mark of at least 40% in the 2 assessed components and a mark of at least 35% in each individual component.
• Demonstrate empirical knowledge and an understanding of the imperial relationships between the USSR and Czechoslovakia and how they changed over time.
• Show a grasp of the political dimension of Soviet imperialism and Czech resistance to it.
• Show ability to apply theoretical concepts on modern imperialism to the empirical content of the module.
• Demonstrate ability to write clearly with sound grammar and structure and use of the appropriate academic bibliographic and footnoting conventions.
These are examples of the content of the module and the main learning resources you will use...

This module will examine the political and cultural history of Czechoslovakia in the period 1945-1989. We will focus on the responses of the Czech communist elite, intellectuals and other social groupings to the imposition of Soviet-style socialism. Key themes include the nature of Soviet "imperialism" in Czechoslovakia; "national roads to socialism" versus Stalinist "totalitarianism"; the challenge to Soviet hegemony in 1968; the "normalisation" process under Husak and the emergence of the "dissident" movement; and the origins of the collapse of "real existing socialism" in 1989.

**Learning resources**

*Site-based*

Learning Centre resources and electronic sources.

Students will be expected to make full use of electronic research sources, academic texts and journals.

*Distance learning*

- Distance learning packages
- Electronic sources
- Distance Learner Support Service (DLSS). The DLSS will supply Learning centre materials by post, provide information on local library services available to students and provide support in developing information seeking skills and conducting some online information searches on their behalf.

**Indicative Reading**


The following Websites are worth visiting:

http://cwihp.si.edu The Cold War International History Project, useful for Prague Spring, 1968

www.mhhe.com/lafeber Information on Cold War

**CHECKED**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Reason</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 2015</td>
<td>Checked Against SI - correct</td>
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