**Syllabus**

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| TOPICS | RESOURCE PERSON | NO. OF HOURS | TEACHING MODE | DISCUSSION POINTS |
| **I. Identity concepts** in history, literature, philosophy (feminist theory), psychoanalysis, sociology.Case examples of cross-border identities* Jewish Identities
* Migration identities
 | M. Peterson M. MiroiuJ. VajdaE. KovácsR. BrecknerA. Melegh | 18 | Lecture and participant discussions, presentations of case examples | Basic concepts of individual and collective identity, how they changed in long term history, and presently discussed new concepts with a focus on the relations to ‘others’. Discussion and comparison of concrete experiences of cross-border and changing identities |
| **II. A theoretical basis of understanding and interpretation: hermeneutics**Introduction into the philosophy of hermeneutics. | M. Vajda | 2 | Lecture with discussion | The possibilities of understanding of different phenomena, especially “the other” |
| **III. East – West before and after 1989**Borders: Contingent closureHow did the characteristics of and differences between Eastern and Western European societies develop after 1945? | J. BöröczA. MeleghM. PetersonM. Miroiu | 214 | LectureLectures, participant presentations of case studies, and discussion | East-West discourses – a basis for collective identities? Post-colonialism, Orientalism, Balkanism and Eastern Europe.The re-structuration of societies in Eastern and Western Europe after WW II.Living transition after 1989: survival and emancipation; the „Feminized East” and Patriarchal Global Politics |
| **III.a. The use of interpretive methods** Understanding a narrative – a hermeneutical approach. | R. BrecknerJ. Vajda | 2 |  | Theoretical possibilities of interpretation. |
| **III.b. The use of interpretive methods – exploring east-west experiences** Developing a research design as basis for the course practicesPrinciples and practice of* Narrative Interviewing
* Hermeneutic Text analysis
* Discourse analysis
* Picture analysis
 | R. BrecknerJ. VajdaA. Melegh | 18 | Workshop with short introductory lectures | Investigating East-West and West-East experiences in migration processes by narrative interviews during the course. Practice based introduction in the use of narrative interviewing, discourse analysis, and picture analysis (photographs) |
| **IV.** Identity questions revisited in the light of East-West relations | M. PetersonM. Miroiu | 2 | Summarizing discussions | How do specific identity models structure east-west relations and discourses? |

**Teaching methods:**

In addition to traditional reading and discussions, the course is based on interactive course teaching. This includes role plays to practice specific elements of the proposed methods, work in trios and subgroups, thus providing the participants with practice based didactic teaching methods. During the course all participants shall have the possibility to conduct an individual interview to be discussed by the participants and the instructors. Results of the workshop-based practice will be presented by the participants at the end of the course based on a written analysis of his/her interview. Additional modules can be introduced according to the developing interest and work of participants.