**Syllabus**

**Viktor E. Frankl**

**From Death Camp to Existentialism:**

**“Man’s Search for Meaning”**

(Prague Humanities Institute)

This is a foundation course in Existential Psychology and Psychiatry. In this course we attempt to study the life and work of Viennese psychiatrist Viktor E. Frankl, the founder of the school of “Logotherapy” who set-forth the basic principles of “Existential Psychiatry” in his work: “Man’s Search for Meaning,”(1946-1947). In Part One of this course, we attempt to focus attention upon Frankl’s personal account of being a “prisoner” in a “Nazi death camp” in Auschwitz as well as at other Nazi concentration camps. Moreover, after discussing the “Jewish holocaust” (1939-1945), as well as considering the “psychological life” of prisoners living inside a Nazi concentration camp, students will then proceed to analyze and discuss, (in “Part Two” of Frankl’s work): “Logotherapy in a Nutshell,” which introduces us to such basic “Existential themes” in his psychology as: Despair, Freedom, Love, Suffering, Death, Anxiety, and the “Will to Meaning”. This course is designed to help students acquire a basic knowledge and understanding of Viktor Frankl’s life and work. Students will also be required to read Frankl’s autobiographical work “Recollections” as background material for the course.

**Required Texts:**

**TO BE ANNOUNCED**