



### COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
The History and Culture of Central and Eastern Europe / Vidurio ir Rytų Europos regiono istorija ir kultūra	

Academic staff	Core academic unit(s)
<b>Coordinating:</b> Assoc. prof. Anna Daugavet <b>Other:</b>	Faculty of Philology, Department for Slavic Studies

Study cycle	Type of the course unit
First-cycle, BA	Philology group, compulsory

Mode of delivery	Semester or period when it is delivered	Language of instruction
Lectures and seminars	Autumn (1)	English

Requisites	
<b>Prerequisites:</b> no	<b>Co-requisites (if relevant):</b> Basic knowledge of European geography and history

Number of ECTS credits allocated	Student's workload (total)	Contact hours	Individual work
5	130	48	82

#### Purpose of the course unit

The aim of the course is to provide students with an understanding of the place occupied by Slavic languages and cultures in the context of Central and Eastern Europe. Students will acquire the ability to analyse facts of Slavic history, languages and cultures against the common European background and in connection to the history and culture of Lithuania. Students will also learn to appreciate differences and similarities between Slavic and other cultures of Central and Eastern Europe, to understand their origins, as well as causes and circumstances behind their origins. The course develops analytical thinking and intercultural competence and encourages students to self-study.

Learning outcomes of the course unit	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
Students will  - acquire the knowledge of the different groups of Slavs in Central and Eastern Europe, their geography, demography, confessional differences and their origins in the context of European history, as well as essential stages in the development of Slavic nations and their connections to the general development of European countries;	Interactive lectures, discussions, reading and discussing assigned literature, presentation of individual projects	Cumulative assessment:  1. Test  2. Participation in discussions during lectures and seminars  3. Presentation of an individual project
- know the most important events in the history and culture of Slavic nations and countries in connection to different stages in the development of other European nations and countries;	Lectures. Reading, summarising and discussing assigned literature. Preparing and presenting individual projects.	Discussing educational and academic texts, participation in discussion during lectures and seminars. Assessment of individual projects according to their contents, data, and presentation.
- be able to name the differentiating features of individual Slavic languages and explain their origins and development	Reading assigned literature, discussions, practical tasks.	Discussing educational and academic texts, participation in discussion during lectures and seminars. Performing practical tasks.
- be able to critically evaluate statements on Slavic history, the development of Slavic culture, origins of Slavic languages and their relations with other languages;	Reading assigned literature, discussions, practical tasks.	Discussing educational and academic texts, participation in discussion during lectures and seminars. Performing practical tasks.
- be able to prepare an oral presentation on a humanities topic, select and analyse information and give a presentation before an audience, to deliver one's data consistently and logically in a written form adequately based on academic literature.	Discussing information searching principles. Preparing and giving a presentation.	Giving presentations (talks) followed by their discussion.

Content	Contact hours							Individual work: time and assignments	
	Lectures	Tutorials	Seminars	Workshops	Laboratory work	Internship	Contact hours, total	Individual work	Tasks for individual work
1. Slavic population of modern Central and Eastern Europe. Slavic countries and nations. Demographics. Slavic countries in the European Union. The main types of writing systems (alphabets) used in Slavic languages.							2	4	Reading and discussing relevant literature
2. Confessional differences between Slavs ( <i>Slavia Latina</i> , <i>Slavia Orthodoxa</i> ). The geneological division of Slavic languages into three groups: East, West and South Slavic languages and peoples.	2		2				4	6	Reading and discussing relevant literature. Practical tasks.
3. Sources on Slavic history and culture: legal documents, chronicles, archeology, comparative linguistics. The oldest relationship between Slavic and other Indo-European languages and cultures (lexicon).	2		2				4	6	Reading and summarizing relevant literature. Discussions. Practical tasks.
4. Slavic tribes and their geographic distribution in medieval Europe, relations with neighbours. The problem of Slavic ethnogenesis. Slavic protolanguage.	2						2	6	Reading and summarizing relevant literature. Discussions.
5. Slavic mythology and its relationship to mythologies of other European peoples. The historic relations between Slavs and Balts (as interpreted by Meillet, Toporov and Rozwadowski).	4		2				6	6	Reading and summarizing relevant literature. Practical tasks.
6. Christianization and Christian culture in Slavic territories (8–13 c.) as part of the Christianization of Europe. The development of writing in Slavic languages. The mission of Constantine-Cyril and Methodios in Slavic territories (Moravia). The Slavic alphabets: Cyrillic and Glagolitic. The first Slavic texts in Cyrillic, Glagolitic and Latin scripts.	4		2				6	8	Reading and discussing relevant literature. Short presentations on Slavic alphabets and writing.
7. The main stages in the history of separate Slavic groups. The first West and South Slavic states: Samo's state (6 c.), Carantania (7 c.), Great Moravia (9 c.) etc. The first Bulgarian Empire (7 c.). Kyivan Rus' (8–9 c.).	4		2				6	10	Reading and discussing relevant literature. Presenting and discussing individual projects.
8. The Renaissance in Central and Eastern European countries. Protestantism in West Slavic territories 15–16 c. (Czechia, Slovakia, Poland, Slovenia). The emergence of printing and universities in West and East Slavic territories in the wake of the general tendency of European culture in 15–16 c. The beginnings of Slavic standard literary languages (16–17 c.). Counter-Reformation in South and West Slavic territories and its impact on culture.	4		2				6	10	Reading and discussing relevant literature. Presenting and discussing individual projects.
9. The Slavic national revival in West and South Slavic territories (18–19 c.) and its impact on culture: the development of national languages and literatures. European (Italian, Austrian, German, French) influence on Slavic history and culture.	4		2				6	10	Reading and discussing relevant literature. Presenting and discussing individual projects.
10. The modern history of Slavic territories. The rise of independent Slavic nations after World War I. Central and Eastern European political and national processes in Slavic territories and their results.	2						2	4	Reading and discussing relevant literature.
11. The current situation of Slavic nations and cultures in Central and Eastern Europe: cultural myths and reality. The contribution of Slavic cultural	2		2				4	12	Reading and discussing relevant literature. Presenting and discussing individual projects.

figures to contemporary international art. Presentations of individual Slavic countries.									
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>		<b>16</b>				<b>48</b>	<b>82</b>	

Assessment strategy	Weight %	Deadline	Assessment criteria
<b>Cumulative assessment:</b>			
Participation in discussions during lectures and seminars	30	during the semester (from week 2)	Students are evaluated on the basis on their preparation for class and ability to take an active part in discussions and supply meaningful observations. Students are required to answer questions, show critical thinking and provide motivated interpretations of facts.  3 points for fully meeting the above-mentioned criteria; 2 points for partially meeting the criteria; 1 point for minimal fulfilment of the requirements (if a student fails to complete some of the tasks or participate in discussions during seminars, also if a student is absent during 1/3 of lectures and seminars); 0 points for failing to meet any of the requirements.
Individual projects (presentations)	20	during the semester (from week 6)	Students are expected to be able to find, relevant information without assistance, as well as to analyse and arrange it for presentation. The presentation is expected to be logical and consistent. Students should be able to divide data into different classes and draw conclusions on the basis of observations, as well as to give an adequate presentation. Assessment: 2 points for corresponding the above-mentioned criteria; 1 point for incorrect facts and inconsistencies.
Exam: closed and open questions (test).	50	during the session	Students should be able to demonstrate the knowledge of the course by choosing correct statements and reasons, presenting them in a logical and consistent manner, giving correct and complete answers to questions and illustrate statements with examples. Assessment: 5 points scale

Author (-s)	Publishing year	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing house or web link
<b>Required reading</b>				
Keith Brown, Sarah Ogilvie	2009	<i>Concise Encyclopedia of Languages of the World</i> (relevant articles)		Elsevier
Georg Thomas Kurian	2007	<i>Encyclopedia of the World's Nations and Cultures</i> (relevant articles)		Facts On File
Eric Roman	2003	<i>Austria-Hungary and the Successor States. A Reference Guide from the Renaissance to the Present</i> (relevant articles)		Facts On File
Gábor Ágoston, Bruce Masters	2008	<i>Encyclopedia of the Ottoman Empire</i> (relevant articles)		Facts On File
		<i>Encyclopedia Britannica</i> (relevant articles)		<a href="https://www.britannica.com">https://www.britannica.com</a>
<b>Recommended reading</b>				
Paul M. Barford	2001	<i>The Early Slavs. Culture and Society in Early Medieval Eastern Europe</i>		Cornell University Press
Serhii Plochy	2006	<i>The Origins of the Slavic Nations: Premodern Identities in Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus</i>		Cambridge University Press
Timothy Snyder	2003	<i>The Reconstruction of Nations: Poland, Ukraine, Lithuania, Belarus 1569–1999</i>		Yale University Press
Gábor Ágoston	2021	<i>The Last Muslim Conquest. The Ottoman Empire and Its Wars in Europe</i>		Princeton University Press

R. J. W. Evans	2006	<i>Austria, Hungary and the Habsburgs. Essays on Central Europe, c. 1683–1867</i>		Oxford University Press
Robert D. Greenberg	2004	<i>Language and Identity in the Balkans. Serbo-Croatian and Its Desintegration</i>		Oxford University Press
Edward Mühle	2023	<i>Slavs in the Middle Ages between Idea and Reality</i>		Brill
Florin Curta (ed.)	2022	<i>The Routledge Handbook of East Central and Eastern Europe in the Middle Ages, 500–1300</i>		Routledge
Florin Curta	2019	<i>Eastern Europe in the Middle Ages, 500–1300</i>		Brill
Anna Procyk	2019	<i>Giuseppe Mazzini's Young Europe and the Birth of Modern Nationalism in the Slavic World</i>		University of Toronto Press
Maria Todorova	2019	<i>Scaling the Balkans. Essays on Eastern European Entanglements</i>		Brill

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