

COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
Central European Studies	VIEU3126

Lecturer(s)	Department(s) where the course unit (module) is delivered
Coordinators: assoc. Prof. Vladas Sirutavičius	Institute of International Relations and Political Science

Study cycle	Type of the course unit (module)
First cycle	Elective

Mode of delivery	Period when the course unit (module) is delivered	Language(s) of instruction
Lectures, seminars, self study	7 semester	Lithuanian

Requirements for students	
Prerequisites: None	Additional requirements (if any): None

Course (module) volume in credits	Total student's workload	Contact hours	Self-study hours
5	130	32	98

Purpose of the course unit (module): programme competences to be developed		
<p>The purpose of this course is to provide knowledge about Central European countries and to provide students with skills needed for independent analysis of socio-economic and political situation in the region drawing on theoretical knowledge and empirical data.</p> <p>This course aims to develop subject specific competences, such as the ability to evaluate the development of the region in the context of the modernization process, ability to interpret Central European countries political, economic and social situation; also generic competences: ability to select appropriate information, ability to analyze and present findings in a coherent form, ability to apply theoretical knowledge in practice.</p>		
Learning outcomes of the course unit (module)	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
Will be able to share insights and discuss with colleagues about the problematic issues of Central European region in XX century	Face-to-face lectures, discussions	Assessment of work during seminars
Will be able to interpret Central European countries political, economic and social situation	Independent reading , exam	Assessment of exam
Will be able to evaluate evolution of the region in the context of the modernization process	Research methods (texts analysis, preparation of essay)	Assessment of essay

Content: breakdown of the topics	Contact hours				Self-study work: time and assignments	
	Lectures	Tutorials	Seminars	Contact hours	Self-study hours	Assignments
1. Main theories, definitions and paradigms of the Central Europe region	4			4		No assignments
2. In the “traps” of modernization: straggle or the “Other Europe”?	1		1	2	6	Compulsory reading and analysis of: I.T. Berend, Decades of Crisis. Central and Eastern Europe Before World War II, University Of California Press, 1998, p. 1-47.
3. The first wave of modernization:	1		1	2	6	Compulsory reading and analysis of:

interwar challenges and the formation of nation states in Western Europe after World War I						J. Rothschild, Return to Diversity. A Political History of East Central Europe Since World War II, N. Y., Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1989, p. 42-76
4. Interwar Europe: the specifics of social structure and the economic development of European states	1		1	2	6	Compulsory reading and analysis of: A.C. Janos, East Central Europe in the Modern World. The Politics of the Borderlands from pre - to Postcommunism, Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2000, p. 54 – 87.
5. Interwar Europe: the difficulties of the formation of parliamentary democracy and reasons for political regimes instability	1		1	2	6	Compulsory reading and analysis of: I.T. Berend, Decades of Crisis. Central and Eastern Europe Before World War II, University Of California Press, 1998, p. 48-100.
6. Soviet modernization: from Stalinism to “goulashes” socialism. The beginning of sovietisation and the reasons behind communists success in consolidating their political regime	1		1	2	6	Compulsory reading and analysis of: J. Rothschild, Return to Diversity. A Political History of East Central Europe Since World War II, N. Y., Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1989, p.76 – 104.
7. Economic and social reforms, their development. Features of Stalinism in Central Europe	1		1	2	6	Compulsory reading and analysis of: G. Schöpflin, Politics in Eastern Europe. 1945 - 1992, Oxford, Cambridge: Blackwell, 1993, p.75 – 103. J. L. Gaddis, We Now Know. Rethinking Cold War History, Oxford University Press, 1998, p. 44-71.
8. Desalinization and its contradictions. Nation communism: the first crisis’ signs and the 1956 events in Poland and Hungary	1		1	2	6	Compulsory reading and analysis of: M. Kramer, The Soviet Union and the 1956 Crises in Hungary and Poland: Reassessments and New Findings // Journal of Contemporary History, Vol. 33, No. 2., 1998, p. 163-214. Granville, Hungary, 1956: The Yugoslav Connection // Europe-Asia Studies, Vol. 50, No. 3, 1998, p. 493-517.
9. The third wave: collapse of socialism. Are the 1989-1990 events “revolutions” or “refolutions”?	1		1	2	6	Compulsory reading and analysis of: J. Batt, East Central Europe from Reform to Transformation, London: Pinter Publishers, 1991, p.72 - 102. D. S. Mason, Revolution in East - Central Europe. The Rise and Fall of Communism and the Cold War, Oxford, San Francisco: Westview Press, 1992, p.69 – 104.
10. Post-communist transformation: dangers and perspectives. The formation of democratic political system	1		1	2	6	Compulsory reading and analysis of: J. J. Linz and A. Stepan, Problems of Democratic Transition and Consolidation. Baltimore and London: The John’s Hopkins University Press, 1996, p.255 – 292 G. Schöpflin, Politics in Eastern Europe. 1945 - 1992, Oxford, Cambridge: Blackwell, 1993, p. 152 – 255
11. Economic transformation: do all paths lead to capitalism?	1		1	2	6	Compulsory reading and analysis of: J. R. Wedel, Collision and Collusion. The Strange Case of Western Aid to Eastern Europe, N.Y.: St. Martin’s Press, 1998, p. 15-120, 183-197. L. Balcerowicz, Socializmas, kapitalizmas, transformacija [Socialism, Capitalism, Transformation]. Vilnius: Algarvè, 1998, p.119 - 226.
12. The mode of privatization and the contradictions of the privatization process	1		1	2	6	Compulsory reading and analysis of: S. Berglund and J. Å. Dellenbrant (eds.) The New Democracies in Eastern Europe. Party systems and Political Cleavages, 1994, p. 36 - 70
13. Central Europe after EU and NATO enlargement: is it the end of modernization?	1		1	2	6	Compulsory reading and analysis of: J. Elster (et. al.), Institutional Design in Post - communist Societies. Rebuilding the Ship at the Sea, Cambridge university Press, 1998, p. 3 - 62.

						S. White, Communist and Postcommunist Political System. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1991, p. 54 - 69
14. Central Europe after Cold War: new regional structures	1		1	2	6	Compulsory reading and analysis of: D. S. Mason, The Postcommunist Era in International Politics in Revolution in East - Central Europe. The Rise and Fall of Communism and the Cold War, Oxford, San Francisco: Westview Press, 1992, p. 145 - 175. J. F Brown, Hopes and Shadows. Eastern Europe After Communism, London: Longman, 1994, p. 50 - 92
Essay		2		2	20	Preparation of essay
Total	17	2	13	32	98	

Assessment strategy	Weight, %	Deadline	Assessment criteria
Evaluation of work during the seminars	20%	Throughout the semester	Active participation in seminars (5%), Essential and relevant comments (5%), Ability to refer to assigned academic literature (5%), Critical thinking and ponderable argumentation (5%)
Exam	50%	During session time	Comprehensiveness of the answers (20 %); Ability to base the answers on the academic literature that was provided throughout the course (10%); Critical analytical thinking (15%); Style: clearness, consistency, academic vocabulary (5%)
Essay	30%	End of semester	Ability to employ theories and methods discussed throughout the course (10%); Depth of analysis (10%); Ability to present results in an appropriate coherent form and to respond to colleagues comments efficiently (10%)

Author	Year of publication	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing place and house or web link
Compulsory reading				
Balcerowicz, L.	1998	Socializmas, kapitalizmas, transformacija [Socialism, Capitalism, Transformation]		Vilnius: Algarvė
Batt, J.	1991	East Central Europe from Reform to Transformation		London: Pinter Publishers
Berend, I.T.	1998	Decades of Crisis. Central and Eastern Europe Before World War II		University Of California Press
Berglund, S. and J. Å. Dellenbrant (eds.)	1994	The New Democracies in Eastern Europe. Party systems and Political Cleavages		
Brown, J. F.	1994	Hopes and Shadows. Eastern Europe After Communism		London: Longman
Elster, J. (et. al.)	1998	Institutional Design in Post - communist Societies. Rebuilding the Ship at the Sea		Cambridge University Press
Gaddis, J. L.	1998	We Now Know. Rethinking Cold War History		Oxford University Press
Granville	1998	Hungary, 1956: The Yugoslav Connection	Vol. 50, No. 3	Europe-Asia Studies
Janos, A. C.	2000	East Central Europe in the Modern World. The Politics of the Borderlands from pre - to Postcommunism		Stanford: Stanford University Press
Kramer, M.	1998	The Soviet Union and the 1956 Crises in Hungary and Poland: Reassessments and New Findings	Vol. 33, No. 2.	Journal of Contemporary History
Linz, J. J. and A. Stepan	1996	Problems of Democratic Transition and Consolidation		London: The John's Hopkins University

				Press
Mason, D. S.	1992	Revolution in East - Central Europe. The Rise and Fall of Communism and the Cold War		Oxford, San Francisco: Westview Press
Mason, D. S.	1992	Postcommunist Era in International Politics in Revolution in East - Central Europe. The Rise and Fall of Communism and the Cold War		Oxford, San Francisco: Westview Press
Rothschild, J.	1989	Return to Diversity. A Political History of East Central Europe Since World War II		N. Y., Oxford: Oxford University Press
Schöpflin, G.	1993	Politics in Eastern Europe. 1945 - 1992		Oxford, Cambridge: Blackwell
Schöpflin, G.	1993	Politics in Eastern Europe. 1945 - 1992		Oxford, Cambridge: Blackwell
Wedel, J. R.	1998	Collision and Collusion. The Strange Case of Western Aid to Eastern Europe		N.Y.: St. Martin's Press
White, S.	1991	Communist and Postcommunist Political System		New York: St. Martin's Press
Optional reading				
Bugajski J.	1993	Nations in Turmoil. Conflict and Cooperation in Eastern Europe		San Francisco: Westview Press
Dahrendorf R.	1990	Apmąstymai apie revoliuciją Europoje [Reflection on Revolution in Europe]		Vilnius
Frydman R., A. Rapaczynski	1994	Privatization in Eastern Europe: is the State Withering Away?		London: CEU Press
Laqueur W.	1995	Europa mūsų laikais [Europe in Our Times]		Vilnius: Amžius
White S.	1993	After Gorbachev		Cambridge University Press