



COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
Introduction to the History of Lithuania	

Academic staff	Core academic unit(s)
Coordinating: dr. Antanas Terleckas Other: dr. Antanas Petrilionis	Department of Modern History, Faculty of History Department of Ancient and Medieval History, Faculty of History

Study cycle	Type of the course unit
First cycle	Compulsory

Mode of delivery	Semester or period when it is delivered	Language of instruction
Face-to-face	Autumn	English

Requisites	
Prerequisites: Advanced English language proficiency (C1)	Co-requisites (if relevant):

Number of ECTS credits allocated	Student's workload (total)	Contact hours	Individual work
5	125	32	93

Purpose of the course unit

Aim of this course is to introduce students with main events and processes in Lithuanian history from the foundation of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania in the Middle Ages to the creation of two modern republics of Lithuania in 1918 and 1990, provide knowledge about inner and foreign and political actors and states that had enormous influence on Lithuanian history and develop their understanding of contemporary Lithuania and its geopolitical situation, critically interpret the dominant narratives of Lithuanian history.

Learning outcomes of the course unit	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
Students will be acquainted with the basic history of Lithuania from the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth to modern Lithuania.	Interactive lectures and discussions in the classroom; individual reading.	Final test.
Students will be able to understand the historical background behind cultural and political conflicts throughout the history of Lithuania, history of national minorities in Lithuanian history.		
Students will be acquainted with the process of Lithuanian integration into European cultural and political spheres, the spread of Western culture in Lithuania throughout the centuries.		
Students will be able to critically assess and evaluate the dominant historical narratives of Lithuanian history, will know the trends and causes of change in Lithuanian historiography.		

Content	Contact hours							Individual work: time and assignments	
	Lectures	Tutorials	Seminars	Workshops	Laboratory work	Internship	Contact hours, total	Individual work	Tasks for individual work
I. History of Medieval and Early Modern Lithuania. (1. Pagan Lithuania: between the East and the West 2. State formation and baptism 3. Lithuania under the Jagiellonian rule: consolidation of the state and European influence. 4. The Grand Duchy of Lithuania and the Renaissance: cultural and political changes) [dr. A. Petrilionis]	8						8	20	Individual reading [<i>The History of Lithuania</i> , p. 11–73]
II. Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. (5. Union of Lublin (1569) 6. The Commonwealth in 16 th -17 th centuries: gains, losses and cultural transformations 7. Europe and the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth 8. The ‘short’ 18 th century and the end of the Commonwealth. [dr. A. Petrilionis]	8						8	20	Individual reading [<i>The History of Lithuania</i> , p. 74–116]
III. Lithuania under the Tsarist rule in the 19 th century (9. Tsarist policies and the uprisings of 1831 and 1863; 10. Lithuanian national awakening). [dr. Antanas Terleckas]	4						4	8	Individual reading [<i>The History of Lithuania</i> , p. 117–151]
IV. The creation of Modern Lithuania (12. The First Republic of Lithuania during interwar years 13. Lithuanian, Jewish and Polish cultural and political relations in the 20 th century. 14. Lithuania during the Second World War 15. Soviet Lithuania: resistance, terror, collaborators and perpetrators 16. Resistance against the Soviet rule and the restoration of independence) [dr. Antanas Terleckas]	10						10	42	Individual reading [<i>The History of Lithuania</i> , p. 152–204; <i>Lithuania in 1940-1991: the history of Occupied Lithuania</i> , p. 43–114; 161–191; 270–307; 522–575]
5. Consultation, revision and preparation for the final exam. [dr. Antanas Terleckas]		2					2	8	Individual reading, revision for the exam
Total	30	2					32	93	

Assessment strategy	Weight %	Deadline	Assessment criteria
Final exam	100 %	At the end of the course	The final exam will cover all topics covered during the course. The exam will consist of 30 test questions (multiple choice answers) and 2 open questions. A minimum of 15 correct answers is required to pass the exam.

Author (-s)	Publishing year	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing house or web link
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Required reading				
Alfonsas Eidintas, Alfredas Bumblauskas, Antanas Kulakauskas, Mindaugas Tamošaitis	2015	<i>The History of Lithuania</i>		Eugrimas, https://urm.lt/uploads/default/documents/Traukel_Residence/history_of_lithuania_new.pdf
Arvydas Anušauskas (general editor)	2015	<i>Lithuania in 1940–1991: the History of Occupied Lithuania</i>		Lietuvos gyventojų genocido ir rezistencijos tyrimo centras
Recommended reading				
Norman Davies	1982	<i>God's Playground: a History of Poland</i>		Columbia University Press
Zigmantas Kiaupa	2002	<i>The History of Lithuania</i>		Baltos lankos
Robert Frost	2015	<i>The Oxford history of Poland-Lithuania. Volume 1: The making of the Polish-Lithuanian union, 1385–1569</i>		Oxford: Oxford University Press
Arūnas Streikus (edited by)	2022	<i>The Unknown War: anti-Soviet Armed Resistance in Lithuania and its Legacies</i>		Routledge
Timothy Snyder	2023	<i>The Reconstruction of Nations: Poland, Ukraine, Lithuania, Belarus, 1569-1999</i>		Yale University Press

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