



COURSE UNIT DESCRIPTION

Course unit title	Code
State and society in Eastern Europe and Russia: from autocracy to democracy	

Lecturer(s)	Department, Faculty
Coordinating: Assoc. prof. Vladas Sirutavičius	Institute of International Relations and Political Science

Study cycle	Type of the course unit
Second	Compulsory

Mode of delivery	Semester or period when it is delivered	Language of instruction
Face to face	1	English

Requisites	
Prerequisites: English language skills (B2)	Co-requisites (if relevant): None

Number of ECTS credits allocated	Student's workload (total)	Contact hours	Individual work
5	120	24	106

Purpose of the course unit: programme competences to be developed

The purpose of this course is to provide students in depth knowledge and skills to analyse the historic development of Eastern European states and societies, evaluate the change of the relationship between state and society during the most important historic eras from the end of 19th to the beginning of 21st centuries, provide skills to analyse and critically evaluate the influence historic state and society development had to the contemporary regional politics.

This course aims to develop a set of generic competences such as ability to study independently, seek for quality in results, ability to combine different insights from various disciplines, ability to overcome complex theoretical problems. This course also aims to develop a set of subject specific competences such as in depth knowledge and understanding of the historic development of the state and society in Eastern Europe and Russia, ability to evaluate the influence historic state and society development has to the contemporary regional politics.

Learning outcomes of the course unit	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
Will be able to understand and explain the assumptions for historic development of state and society in different states in the region.	Lectures, seminars, groups discussions, independent studying, written assignment.	Assessment of the quality and level of participation in seminars, written assignment, exam.
Will be able to combine insights on the development of different states and come up with conclusions on the development of the whole region.	Lectures, seminars, group discussions, independent studying, written assignment.	Assessment of the quality and level of participation in seminars, written assignment, exam.
Will be able to analyse and critically evaluate the influence historic state and society development had to the contemporary regional politics.	Lectures, seminars, group discussions, independent studying, written assignment.	Assessment of the quality and level of participation in seminars, written assignment, exam.
Will be able to work independently and seek for quality in results.	Independent reading, written assignment.	Assessment of the written assignment.

Content: breakdown of the topics	Lectures	Seminars	Contact hours	Self-study hours	Assignments
1. Empires in the region. From Russian to Soviet.	2		2	10	<i>Compulsory readings and analysis of the texts:</i> Dominic Lieven, "The Russian Empire and the Soviet Union as Imperial Polities", <i>Journal of Contemporary History</i> , 1995, vol.30, p.607-636 Lieven, Dominic (ed) <i>The Cambridge History of Russia</i> . "Imperial Russia 1689 – 1917", Cambridge Un. Press, 2006, vol.2, p.9-26, 45-63
2. Ethnic policy in Russian empire. Belarusians, Jews, Lithuanians, Polish and Ukrainians near the western borders.	2	4	6	12	<i>Compulsory readings and analysis of the texts:</i> Andreas Kappeler, <i>The Russian Empire: A Multiethnic History</i> , Longman, 2001, p.247-261, p. 267-273, p.273-279; Serhy Yekelchuk, Ukraine. Birth of a modern nation , Ox fo r d Un. Press, 2007, p.33-52. Theodore R. Weeks, <i>The Policy of Russification. Nation and State in the Late Imperial Russia</i> .
3. Nation and state: national movements in the empire.	2	4	6	12	<i>Compulsory readings and analysis of the texts:</i> Richard Pipes, <i>Russia under the Old Regime</i> , London, 1995, p.249-280. Andreas Kappeler, <i>The Russian Empire: A Multiethnic History</i> , Longman, 2001, p.213-230, p.283- 323, p. 328-341.
4. February to October. Fall of the Russian empire	2	2	4	12	<i>Compulsory readings and analysis of the texts:</i> Richard Pipes, <i>The Russian Revolution</i> ,

						London: The Harvill Press, 1997, p. 272-338, 341-566. Richard Pipes, <i>The Formation of the Soviet Union, Communism and Nationalism</i> , 1917-1923, Harvard Un. Press, 1997, p.7-49, p. 242-293
5. First written assignment.					36	Preparation of the first written assignment.
6. Ethnic policy in the Soviet Union. Empire of positive discrimination.	2		4	6	12	<i>Compulsory readings and analysis of the texts:</i> Francine Hirsch, <i>Empire of Nations. Ethnographic Knowledge and the Making of Soviet Union</i> , Ithaca and London: Cornell Un. Press, 2005, p.145-160. Serhy Yekelchyyk, <i>Ukraine. Birth of a modern nation</i> , Oxford Un. Press, 2007, p.85-101; p. 103-120 Geoffrey Hosking, <i>Rulers and Victims. The Russians in the Soviet Union</i> , Harvard Un. Press, 2006, p.70-89
7. National states and ethnic minorities during the interwar period.	2		4	6	10	<i>Compulsory readings and analysis of the texts:</i> J. Zaprudnik, <i>Belarus at a Crossroads in History</i> , West view Press, 1993, p.81-106 Timothy Snyder, <i>The Reconstruction of Nations. Poland Ukraine, Lithuania, Belarus</i> . London, Yale Un. Press: 2003, p. 154-178, p. 84-89.
8. Cold War. Creating the soviet patriotism.	2		4	6	12	<i>Compulsory readings and analysis of the texts:</i> Geoffrey Hosking, <i>Rulers and Victims. The Russians in the Soviet Union</i> , Harvard Un. Press, 2006, p 269-303. Romualdas Misiūnas, Rein Taagapera, <i>The Baltic States Years of Dependence, 1940 –1990</i> , London: Hurst, 1993, p.76-130. Peter J.S. Duncan, <i>Russian Messianism. Third Rome, Revolution, Communism and After</i> , London-New York, Routledge: 2000, p. 62-109.
9. Gorbachev, perestroika and fall of the Soviet federalism.	2		4	6	10	<i>Compulsory readings and analysis of the texts:</i> Mark Beissinger, <i>Nationalist Mobilization and the Collapse of the Soviet State</i> , 2002, p.147-178.
10. Second written assignment.					48	Preparation of the second written assignment.
11. After the Soviet Union. Formation of new ethnic states and democracies.	2		4	6	14	<i>Compulsory readings and analysis of the texts:</i> James H. Billington, <i>Russia in Search of Itself</i> , Washington, 2004, p.47-66 Serhy Yekelchyyk, <i>Ukraine. Birth of a modern nation</i> , Oxford Un. Press, 2007, p.193-216 Andrew Wilson, <i>Belarus. The last European Dictatorship</i> , Yale Un. Press, 2011, p.168-236 David J. Smith, A. Pabriks, Aldis Purs, Thomas Lane, <i>The Baltic States</i> , London Routledge, 2002, p. 87-130, 131-161.
12. Exam					24	Revision of notes and readings.
Total	18		30	48	212	

Assessment strategy	Weight %	Deadline	Assessment criteria
Performance during seminars	25	During semester	Active participation in seminars (5%) Quality of comments, insights and relevant remarks (20%)
First written assignment	25	During semester	Ability to form a problem (10%) Structure, logic, proper references (5%) Knowledge of academic literature on the chosen topic (10%)
Second written assignment	35	During semester	Ability to form a problem (10%) Structure, logic, proper references (5%) Knowledge of academic literature of the chosen topic (10%) Ability to react and refer to given comments and critique, the ability to improve (10%)
Written exam	15	During session	Ability to apply theories and models taught throughout the course; (10%) Direct answer to the question (5%)

Author	Publishing year	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication; pages	Publishing house or internet site
Required reading				
Dominic Lieven	1995	The Russian Empire and the Soviet Union as Imperial Polities	Vol. 30	Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
Dominic Lieven	2006	The Cambridge History of Russia. Imperial Russia, 1689 – 1917	Vol. 2	Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
Andreas Kappeler	2001	The Russian Empire: A Multiethnic History		New York: Longman
Serhy Yekelchuk	2007	Ukraine. Birth of a modern nation		Oxford: Oxford University Press
Theodore R. Weeks	1996	Nation and State in the Late Imperial Russia. Nationalism and Russification on the Western Frontier, 1863 – 1914		Northern Illinois University Press
Richard Pipes	1995	Russia under the Old Regime		London: Penguin Books
Richard Pipes	1997	The Russian Revolution		London: The Harvill Press
Richard Pipes	1997	The Formation of the Soviet Union. Communism and Nationalism, 1917 – 1923		Harvard: Harvard University Press
V. Sirutavičius	2000	Lithuanian Historical Studies	Vol. 5	Vilnius: Lithuanian Institute of History
Francine Hirsch	2005	Empire of Nations. Ethnographic Knowledge and the Making of Soviet Union		Ithaca and London: Cornell Un. Press
Geoffrey Hosking	2006	Rulers and Victims. The Russians in the Soviet Union		Harvard: Harvard University Press

Timothy Snyder	2003	The Reconstruction of Nations. Poland Ukraine, Lithuania, Belarus		London: Yale University Press
J. Zaprudnik	1993	Belarus at a Crossroads in History		West view Press
Romualdas Misiūnas, Rein	1993	The Baltic States Years of Dependence, 1940 – 1990		London: Hurst
Peter J.S. Duncan	2000	Russian Messianism. Third Rome, Revolution, Communism and After		London-New York: Routledge.
Mark Beissinger	2002	Nationalist Mobilization and the Collapse of the Soviet State		Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
James H. Billington	2004	Russia in Search of Itself		Washington: Woodrow Wilson Center Press
Andrew Wilson	2011	Belarus. The last European Dictatorship		London: Yale
David J. Smith, A. Pabriks, Aldis Purs, Thomas Lane	2002	The Baltic States		London: Routledge
Recommended reading				
Ronald Grigor	2001	Empire and Nation Making in the Age of Lenin and Stalin		Oxford: Oxford University Press
P. R. Magocsi	1996	A History of Ukraine		Toronto: University of Toronto Press
Andrew Savchenko	2009	Belarus During the Soviets		Leiden-Boston: Brill
Richard Sakwa	2008	Russian Politics and Society		London/N. Y: Taylor & Francis
V. Daniels	2007	The Rise and Fall of Communism in Russia		Yale: Yale University Press