



The "Learn Russian in the European Union" project  
 Daugavpils University  
 Academic Course "Russian as a Foreign Language"

<b>Course title</b>	Problems of National Identity in Contemporary Society
<b>Course code</b>	Vēst7015
<b>Branch of science</b>	History
<b>Sub-branch of science</b>	Ethnology
<b>Credit points</b>	2
<b>ECTS credit points</b>	3
<b>Total number of contact hours</b>	32
<i>Number of hours for lectures</i>	32
<i>Number of hours for seminars and practical tasks</i>	
<i>Number of hours for laboratory assignments</i>	
<i>Number of hours allocated to term paper</i>	
<b>Course developers:</b>	Dr. philol., doc. Rudīte Rinkeviča
<b>Preliminary knowledge (course title, part of programme, in which the course is to be acquired)</b>	
No.	
<b>Course abstract:</b>	
<p>The course „The Problems of National Identity in Contemporary Society” is provided for the second year students of the Master’s study programm „Incultural Relationship”. The course contains the interpretation of the notion of national and ethnic identity in philosophy, psihology, ethnology, sociology and culturology; the problems of national identity in the contemporary society are analysed, too. The problematic of national identity is regarded in the context of multiculturalism and integration of society.</p>	
<b>Learning outcomes:</b>	
<p>Having acquired the study course the students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ understand the concept of national identity and its interpretations in different branches of science, interdisciplinary studies and public space;</li> <li>■ are able to analyze and evaluate the issues related to national identity of modern society,</li> <li>■ independently develop their professional competence by identifying the latest research and publications on the issues of national identity and ethnic stereotypes;</li> <li>■ apply the information acquired from the study course into their professional activities for planning and implementation of intercultural relations.</li> </ul>	
<b>Course content:</b>	
1. National identity, ethnic identity, concept “ethnicity”.	

2. The concept “multiculturalism”, its perception in the contemporary society.
3. Ethnic stereotypes, their role in the intercultural conflict.
4. Issues of social integration.
5. Society and cultural identity.

***Course plan:***

Course structure: lectures - 32 acad. hours.

**Lecture topics:**

1. National identity. Theoretical conception of the notion as presented in philosophy, psychology, sociology, ethnology, Culturology.
2. National identity as ethno-psychological issue. .
3. Ethnic identity. Substantiation of the notion in interdisciplinary researches.
4. Search for national character. Mentality and ethnic stereotypes.
5. Ethnic/national self-expression in the context of intercultural communication.
6. National identity and possibilities for cultural dialogue. Concept of “national identity” and “liberal utopia”: R. Kūlis, M. Kule, D. Bula, D. Beitnere, etc..
7. Issues of preservation of national identity in 21<sup>st</sup> century.
8. Changes in the national minorities’ identity in independent Latvia.
9. Formation of ethnic/national identity in international families.
10. Cultural policy and social integration: national cultural identity and multicultural society.
11. Integration and ethnic identity in the ethnic context of the future (analysis of S. Lasmanes’s research studies).
12. Multicultural education and its problems in Europe and America.
13. Latvian culture: identity and dialogue. Search for development prospects.
14. General features and socio-cultural peculiarities of nationalism of different nations.
15. The possibilities of national cultural associations for the preservation of ethnic, national identity.
16. Ying people’s search for identity. Nacional consciousness.

**Students’ independent work:** 1. Theoretical consideration of the concept “National Identity” (analysis of 5 scientific research articles). 2. Latvian cultural/ethnic identities in the context (preparation of a report (about 10.000 symbols), using suggested literature and Internet resources). 3. Conduction of a survey “Ethnic stereotypes” and analysis of its results (resources - [www.visidati.lv](http://www.visidati.lv), personal contacts, at least 50 respondents surveyed). 4. Presentation “National identity issues in modern society” (about 10 min).

***Requirements for awarding credit points:***

The study course is tested by a graded test at the end of the semester.

Requirements for awarding credit points:

- 1) regular attendance and active participation in discussions – 40%;
- 2) independent work at seminars - 40%;
- 3) graded test – 20%.

***Compulsory reading:***

- 1.”Atmiņa un vēsture no antropoloģijas līdz psiholoģijai”. Rakstu krājums. – R.: N.I.M.S., 1998.
2. Beitnere D. „Mēs, zemnieku tauta? Pašreference latviešu kultūras paradigmā”. – R.: LU FSI, 2012.

3. Bula D. "Dziedātājtauta. Folklorā un nacionālā ideoloģija". – R.: Zinātne, 2000.
4. Ethnicity Vol. 11 Ethnic Minorities in Political Reality, Ethnicity Vol. 10 Ethnic Identities and National State (sastādītājs V. Volkovs). – Rīga/ Daugavpils: DU SPI, LU FSI, 2014., Ethnicity Vol. 9, Vol. 8 Ethnic Diversity and Ethnic Studies (sastādītājs V. Volkovs). – Rīga/ Daugavpils: DU SPI, LU FSI, 2013.
5. "Ethnic Culture. Traditions and Innovations". V. Dižā Kauņas Universitātes rakstu krājumi. – Kauņa, no 2004. gada.
6. "Integrācija un etnopolitika". LU Filozofijas un socioloģijas institūta rakstu kr.– R.: Jumava, 2000.
7. Karpova Ā. "Ievads etnopsiholoģijā". – R.: Latvijas Zinību b-ba, 1990.
8. Kidd W. „Culture and Identity”. New York: Palgrave Publishers Ltd, 2002.
9. "Personības pašizjūta un identitāte". LU Pedagoģijas un psiholoģijas institūta rakstu kr. – R.: Mācību apgāds NT, 1998.
10. Smits D. E. "Nacionālā identitāte". – R.: AGB, 1997.
11. Stradiņš J. (galv.redaktors) „Latvija un latvieši”, rakstu krājums 4 sējumos. – R.: Latvijas Zinātņu akadēmija, 2014.
12. Vēbers E. Etniskā identitāte un politiskā nācija./"Nacionālā politika Baltijas valstīs". – R.: Zinātne, 1995.
13. Vidnere M. „Etnopsiholoģija. Etniskais cilvēkā un sabiedrībā.” – R.: RaKa, 2011.

**Further reading:**

1. Banks J.A., McGee Banks C.A. "Multicultural Education". – Washington: Allyn and Bacon, 1997.
2. Brown Rupert. Social Identity Theory: Past Achievements, Current Problems and Future Challenges. „European Journal of Social Psychology”. 2000. No. 306
3. "Ceļā uz pilsonisku sabiedrību". – R.: Baltijas Sociālo zinātņu institūts, LR Naturalizācijas pārvalde, 2001.
4. Cole M. „Cultural Psychology”. Massachusetts: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1996.
5. Dreimanis P. „Latvju tautas attīstība un nacionālisms”. Rakstu krājums. Toronto: Latviešu Nacionālā Apvienība Kanādā, 1968.
6. Eriksons H. E. „Identitāte: jaunība un krīze”. R.: Jumava, 1998.
7. Ēriksens T.H. „Saknes un pēdas. Identitāte mainīgā laikā”. R.: Zvaigzne ABC, 2010.
8. Jurevičs P. Latviskā dvēsele/ „Idejas un īstenība”. Gepingema, 1946.
9. "Kultūru daudzveidība un iecietība Latvijā. Dati. Fakti. Viedokļi". – R: Īpašu uzdevumu ministra sabiedrības integrācijas lietās sekretariāts, 2003.
10. Kūle M. „Jābūtības vārdi. Etīdes par zināšanām un vērtībām mūsdienu Latvijā”. – R.: Zinātne, 2016.
11. "Latviešu nācijas izredzes. 1990.gada 28.septembra konference". – R.: Zinātne, 1990.
12. Mieriņa I. (zin. red.), Buholcs J., Goldmanis M., Hazans M., Jurkāne-Hobein I., Kaprāns M. u.c. „Latvijas emigrantu kopienas: cerību diaspora”. R. : LU Filozofijas un socioloģijas institūts, 2015.
13. Skultans V. Habitable Identities./ "The Testimony of Lives: Narrative and Memory in Post-Soviet Latvia". – Routledge, 1998.
14. Slabins U. Nationals in Cyberspace: How to Keep National Identity as Globalization Accelerates?/ "Literatūra un kultūra; process, mijiedarbība, problēmas. Globalizācija un kultūra VI". Daugavpils: Saule, 2005.
15. Tīsenkopfs T. Globalization and Reconfiguratig Identity./ „Nauda. Dzīvesstils. Identitāte”. R.: LU zinātniskie raksti, 629. sējums, 2000.
16. Uzule L., Zelče V. "Latviešu kapusvētki: identitātes rituāls". R.: Mansards, 2014.

17. Viķe-Freiberga V. „Pret straumi”. R.: Karogs, 1995.

***Periodicals and other sources:***

Žurnāli „Rīgas Laiks”, „Ir”, laikraksti „Diena”, „Latvijas Avīze”, [www.nacionalaidentitate.lv](http://www.nacionalaidentitate.lv), Valsts pētījumu programma [www.nacionalaidentitate.lv](http://www.nacionalaidentitate.lv), [www.km.gov.lv/lv/doc/nozaru/integracija](http://www.km.gov.lv/lv/doc/nozaru/integracija), [www.fsi.lu.lv](http://www.fsi.lu.lv), [www.kulturaskanons.lv](http://www.kulturaskanons.lv), [www.li.lv](http://www.li.lv), [www.bilingvals.lv](http://www.bilingvals.lv), [www.satori.lv](http://www.satori.lv) , [www.ailab.lv](http://www.ailab.lv)

***Remarks:***

None.

***To which study programmes and their parts (A, B, C, D) this course belongs:***

Professional Master study programme “Intercultural Relations”, Part B

