Course title | Country Studies (Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, Belarus)
Course code | Vēst1132
Branch of science | History
Credits | 3
ECTS | 4.50
The total audience hours | 48
Number of lectures | 16
Seminars and practical work hours | 32
Course developer(s) | Dr.philol. doc. Inna Dvorecka

Course summary
The course is designed for bachelor's program "Eastern culture and business communication" students. The course aims to introduce students to the Eastern European countries and their development regularities with Eastern cultures and their mutual relations specifics.

Results
Students
- are able to practically use the acquired knowledge of intercultural communication process:
- understand the role on the Eastern European countries' development regularities;
- understand the logic of intercultural relations.

Course plan
Course structure: 24 hours. - Lectures, 24 h. - Workshops

Lecture topics:
9. The most important historic events in Eastern Europe and the attitude towards each country. History of the national versions: victories, tragedies, folk heroes, friend and enemy characters. 10. Political system. State: the legislative system, the executive and the courts. Parliamentary or presidential republic. Foreign policy priorities and orientation. Mutual cooperation. Internal policies the most important directions.
International projects.
   Distraction.

Seminar topics:
1. L. Vulf’s book "Inventing Eastern Europe" analysis.
2. Eastern Europe the most important geographical objects: mountains, plains, lakes, rivers - the meaning and use.
3. The issues of ecology and nature protection in Eastern Europe: reserves and national parks.
4. The city as a cultural phenomenon. Eastern European Capitals.
5. Tourism development in Eastern Europe. Tourism opportunities and types.
7. Latgale phenomenon: essays (a collection of articles "Latgale as a cultural border" materials) 8/
   States and bounds from the Middle Ages to the XX century, 90 years.
9. days of celebration and festive calendars: key trends.
10. Internal policies underlying trends: the main political parties.
11. The tradition of higher education in Eastern European countries. The most famous universities.
12 Sports Development in Eastern Europe.

Individual work:
- Eastern Europe reserves and national parks reports
- Eastern capital reports
- Latgale as a cultural border: reports after the collection of articles
"Latgale as a cultural border" materials
- Eastern European countries main political parties reports
- University of Eastern European countries reports
- Eastern Europe Favorite sports reports

Requirements for credits
Regular attendance and active work in seminars 30%, independent work execution of 30%, final examination 40%.

Basic Training

**Further reading**

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22. В поисках своего пути: Россия между Европой и Азиеи: Хрестоматия по истории российской
23. Влюнов Ю.А. (Юрий Андреевич). Русский культурный архетип. Становление России :
характер, склад мышления, духовные ориентации : учеб. пособие для вузов. Москва, 2005
24. Гершуович С.Е. История государства и права стран Балтии : курс-конспект лекций для
студентов 1 курса (студийная программа "Правоведение"). Рига, 2008.
26. Живописна Россия : отечество наше в его земельном, историческом, племенном,
28. Культурные связи народов Восточной Европы : проблемы взаимоотношений Польши, России,
Украины, Белоруссии и Литвы в эпоху Возрождения / Под ред. Б.А.Рыбалкина. Москва, 1976.
29. Никифорова Э.И. Становление : Россия. Липецк, 2002
30. Поспеловский Л.В. Русская Православная церковь в истории Руси, России и СССР: Учеб.
пособие. Москва, 1996.
31. Русский мир и Латвия : Проблемы истории Прибалтики : альманах гуманитарного семинара / 
32. Старые и новые образы в современных учебниках истории (материалы конференции) // Мир
33. Страны Балтии и Россия:общества и государства / Ред.-сост. Д.Е.Фурман, Е.Г.Задорожнюк.
34. Страны Япония, Латвия - земля и страна : краткий обзор истории; пер. с латыш. Ольги
Салдоне.Рига, 2007
36. Ширяев Евгений Евгеньевич. Беларусь : Русь Белая, Русь Черная и Литва в картах. Минск,

Periodicals and other sources of information
4.lpp.
2.Liepa Valentīna. Pierobežas kultūra: kāda tā ir? : [par Daugavpils Universitētes Humanitārības fakultātes,
Šaulu Universitētes (Lietuva). Vitebskas Universitētes un Grodņas Universitētes (Baltkrievija) zinātnieku
projektu "Starpkultūru studiju sadarbinas tīkla izveide pierobežā"] // Latgales Laiks. Nr.65 (2007,
24.aug.), 8.lpp.
3. Борисенок Ю.А. Белорусско-русское пограничье в условиях Российской империи (вторая
4. Валламова С.Н. Семья и дети в жизненных установках россиян // Социологические
5. DéBardeleben Đh. Отношение к власти в регионах России // Социологические исследования.
6. Журавлева Н.А. Динамика ценностных ориентаций молодежи в условиях социально-
7. Кирилкина И.Л. Состояние и основные тенденции развития белорусской партийной системы //
Lecture topics:

1. Ievads. Valsts studies as humanities sector. Course subject matter and purpose. National studies as interdisciplinary research sphere.


Seminar topics:
1. L.Vulf’s book "Inventing Eastern Europe" analysis.  
2. Eastern Europe the most important geographical objects: mountains, plains, lakes, rivers - the meaning and use.  
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