

<b><i>Study Course Title</i></b>	<b><i>History of the Baltic states (1918-1940)</i></b>
<b><i>Study Course Code</i></b>	Vēst2012
<b><i>Credits</i></b>	2
<b><i>European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System Credits</i></b>	3
<b><i>Total Number of Contact Hours</i></b>	<b>32</b>
<b><i>Number of Lecture Hours</i></b>	22
<b><i>Number of hours for seminars</i></b>	10

***Course lecturer(-s)***

Mg.hist., lekt. Dmitrijs Oļehnovičs

***Study Course Abstract***

The aim of the course is to provide basic knowledge of main research issues in the history of the Baltic States, as well as to form comprehension of the most significant basic statements in historiography of the issue. Within the course chronology and logic of events of history of the Baltic States is disclosed, as well as role of powers in fate the Baltic States, at the same time special attention is paid to "controversial historical issues". Within the course ability to analyse course of historical events independently and on proper scientific level will be developed. In the study course the following problematic issues are studied: occupation, annexation, incorporation, dictatorships, independence fights, Baltic Entente. Alongside the lectures, course studies involve also tasks, which should be accomplished independently - preparation of a discussion and independent report.

Tasks of the course:

- to promote improvement students' knowledge in history of the Baltic States;
- to foster formation of comprehension of most significant problematic issues of history of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia in inter-war period;
- to develop students' skills to independently search, analyse and apply information; to compare information from various sources. - to develop concept of basic principles of selection and application of study materials.

***Course Plan***

Course plan:

Course structure: lectures - 22 h., seminars - 10 h.

Themes of lectures:

1. Acquaintance with course structure, requirements for passing the test. Chronological and spatial borders of the course of lectures. Notion "the Baltic States".
2. Russian Empire in World War I: Baltic (Pribaltijskije; Ostseen) provinces. Fugitive movement. Lithuanian, Latvian and Estonian military formations in World War I. Policy of Imperial Germany in the occupied territories.
3. Revolution in Russia. Lithuanian, Latvian and Estonian nationally patriotic movements. Political parties and movements: their ideological base and future visions.
4. Proclamation of independence of Lithuania. Monarchist and republican tendencies. Formation and activities of the Council of Lithuania. Position of German army, Catholic church and Polish nobility.
5. Proclamation of independence of Estonia. Activities of Constitutional Council, Constitutional Assembly and Council of the Land. Activity of K.Pets.
6. Struggle of the Baltic States for independence. Policy of Bolsheviks and formation of

marionette states. Venture of Bermond - Avalov in the Baltic. Acknowledgement of states de iure and de facto. Development of relations with the USA, Great Britain, France and Germany, as well as Soviet Russia. Tartu peace treaty.

7. The first years of independence: formation of institutions of public administration (elections in national parliaments, adoption of Constitution, political parties); economic reforms (land reforms, attitude of noblemen and settlers towards it);

The first years of independence: revival of national culture. Policy of education and culture. School policy. Minorities in the Baltic States.

9. Anti-constitutional overturns and dictators coming to power. Authoritarianism in Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia: comparative analysis. A.Smetona, K.Päts, K.Ulmanis - historical persons and fathers of nations or power usurpers and state traitors.

10. Foreign policy of the Baltic States. Dimensions of relation. Idea of the Baltic Entente, its developmental stages. Territorial quarrels.

11. Plans of the USSR and Germany regarding the Baltic States. Stalin - Hitler pact. USSR notes of October 1939: reaction of foreign policy departments and statesmen. Division of Poland and alignment of Vilnius region to Lithuania. Position of the Baltic States towards war of Soviet Union - Finland. Events of summer 1940. Loss of state independence.

Themes of seminars:

1. Baltic provinces (Vidzeme and Kurzeme) in World War I.
2. Lithuanian, Latvian and Estonian nationally patriotic movements (1917 - 1920).
3. Comparative analysis of formation of independent states.
4. Anti-constitutional overturns and dictators coming to power. Authoritarianism in Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia: comparative analysis.
5. Stalin - Hitler pact and events of summer 1940. Loss of state independence.

Themes of independent works are edited every year.

1. Lithuania in 1917 - 1920.
2. Estonia in 1917 - 1920.
3. Finland in 1917.-1920. Common and diverse in the Baltic States.
4. Formation of "Baltic Entente".
5. Relations of Latvia and Estonia in inter-war period.
6. Relations of Latvia and Lithuania in inter-war period.
7. Relations of Latvia and Poland in inter-war period.
8. The USSR (Soviet Russia) and the Baltic States.
9. Germany and the Baltic States: relation strategies till 1933 and after A.Hitler's coming to power.
10. France, the USA and Great Britain.
11. Policy of minorities in the Baltic States in inter-war period.
12. A.Smetona.
13. K.Päts.
14. Dictatorships in the Baltic: common and diverse.
15. The Baltic States in Molotov - Ribbentrop Pact. Reemigration of Baltic Germans.
16. Reaction of the Baltic States on Finnish - USSR war.
17. Estonia in 1939-1940. Reaction of Western states and the USA.
18. Lithuania in 1939-1940. Reaction of Western states and the USA. Annexation of Vilnius.

### ***Learning Outcomes***

Students will improve academic competence:

- they will be aware of periodization of modern history of Eastern Europe and will be able to explain significance and most important events of the period;

- will be able to discuss regularities and political ideologies of socio-political processes;
- will be able to make conclusions on significance of socio-political processes in ethnogenesis of Latvian people and formation of political nation;
- will possess skills to study common and diverse features in formation and development of the Baltic States;
- will be able to discuss possible alternatives of history of the Baltic States before and after Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact.

Students improve skill to express academic competence in practical activity:

- demonstrate skills in searching, selection, analysis, comparison of information and its application in analysis, substantiated discussion of particular situation;
- they demonstrate skills in selection of study material in history of the Baltic States and understand basic principles of its use.

Students improve skills to use academic competence in values orientated action:

- they demonstrate critical comprehension of transformations of interpretation of history of the Baltic States under the impact of political regimes and are able to consider controversial issues of Latvian history in conceptual and substantiated manner.

During realization of the study course students:

- confirm their knowledge during fulfilment of seminars and independent works; •are able to independently find information, needed for analysis of particular situation, especially emphasizing possibilities and limitations of information analysis and use.

#### ***Requirements for Awarding Credits***

Requirements for acquisition of the study course - regular attendance of classes and active work in them - 70%, fulfilling of independent works - 30%.

#### ***Course content***

Russian Empire in World War I. Revolution in Russia. Lithuanian, Latvian and Estonian nationally patriotic movements. Proclamation of independence of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. Struggle of the Baltic States for independence. Policy of Bolsheviks and formation of marionette states. The first years of independence: formation of institutions of public administration (elections in national parliaments, adoption of Constitution, political parties). Anti-constitutional overturns and dictators coming to power. Authoritarianism in Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia. Foreign policy of the Baltic States. Plans of the USSR and Germany regarding the Baltic States. Loss of state independence.

#### ***Compulsory Reading List***

1. Alfonsas Eidintas, Alfredas Bumblauskas, Antanas Kulakauskas, Mindaugas Tamošaitis. The History of Lithuania (2013)
2. Ališauskiene, Milda, and Ingo W. Schröder, eds. Religious Diversity in Post-Soviet Society: Ethnographies of Catholic Hegemony & the New Pluralism in Lithuania (2011)
3. Budreckis, Algirdas M. An introduction to the history of Lithuania (1985)
4. Jones, Prudence; Pennick, Nigel (1995). A history of pagan Europe. London: Routledge.
5. Kiaupa, Zigmantas. The History of Lithuania (2005)
6. Kirby David G. The Baltic World 1772-1993 (Longman, 1995).
7. Krapauskas, Virgil. "Recent Trends in Lithuanian Historiography" *Lituanus* (2010) 56#4 pp 5–28.
8. Kuncevicus, Albinas et al. The History of Lithuania Before 1795 (2000)
9. Lane, Thomas. Lithuania: Stepping Westward (2001); 20th century history esp. post 1991
10. Liekis, Sarunas. 1939: The Year that Changed Everything in Lithuania's History (2009)

- 11.Lieven Anatol. The Baltic Revolution (2nd ed. 1994). against the USSR
- 12.Lieven, Anatol. The Baltic Revolution: Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and the Path to Independence (Yale University Press, 1993),
- 13.Mäesalu, Ain; Lukas, Tõnis; Laur, Mati; Tannberg, Tõnu; Pajur, Ago (2004). History of Estonia. Tallinn, Estonia: Avita. ISBN 9985-2-0606-1.
- 14.Misiunas Romuald J. The Baltic States: Years of Dependence, 1940-1990 (2nd ed. 1993).
- 15.O'Connor; Kevin The History of the Baltic States (Greenwood Press, 2003)
- 16.Parming, Toenu. The Collapse of Liberal Democracy and the Rise of Authoritarianism in Estonia (Sage, 1975),
- 17.Rauch, Georg von. The Baltic States: The Years of Independence. Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, 1917–1940 (University of California Press, 1974)
- 18.Raun, Toivo U. "The Estonians" in Edward C. Thaden, ed., Russification in the Baltic Provinces & Finland, 1855-1914 (1981), pp 287-354.
- 19.Raun, Toivo U. Estonia and the Estonians (2nd ed. Hoover Institution Press, 2002), long the standard work
- 20.Ruutsoo, Rein. "The Cultural Profile of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania Between the Two World Wars," Acta Bibliothecae Nationalis Estoniae (2004), Vol. 10, p13-59. Compares national culture, state formation, civil society, and elite social groups in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.
- 21.Smith, David James; Pabriks, Artis; Purs, Aldis; Lane, Thomas (2002). The Baltic states: Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. London: Routledge. p. 24. ISBN 0-415-28580-1.
- 22.Snyder, Timothy. The Reconstruction of Nations: Poland, Ukraine, Lithuania, Belarus, 1569-1999 (2004)
- 23.Stone, Daniel. The Polish–Lithuanian state: 1386–1795 (University of Washington Press, 2001)
- 24.Subrenat, Jean-Jacques (2004). Estonia: identity and independence. Rodopi. Taagepera, Rein. Estonia: Return to Independence (Westview Press, 1993)
- 25.Suziedelis, Saulius. The Sword and the Cross: A History of the Church in Lithuania (1988)
- 26.Thaden Edward C. Russia's Western Borderlands, 1710-1870 (Princeton University Press, 1984).

### ***Further Reading List***

1. Ahmann, R. Die Nichtangriffspakte – Entwicklung und operative Nutzung 1922 – 1939 – Baden-Baden, 1988
2. Senn A.E. The Great Powers.Lithuania and Vilna question. – New-York, 1966.
3. Feldmanis I, Stranga A, VirsisM. Latvijas ārpolitika un starptautiskais stāvoklis.-Rīga,1993.
4. Lopata R. Authoritarian regime in Interwar Lithuania. – Vilnius, 1998.
5. Jēkabsons Ē. Latvijas-Lietuvas attiecības 1919.-21.// Latvijas vēsture. – 1997., Nr.1.-2.
6. Jēkabsons Ē. Klaipēdas jautājums un Latvija // LVIŽ – 2002., Nr. 4.
7. Jēkabsons Ē. Viļņas jautājums un Latvija // Polija-Latvija. – Rīga, 1995.
8. Stranga A. Krievijas un Polijas politika Baltijā 1933 – 1935 gadā // Baltijas valstis likteņgriežos – Rīga, 1998
9. Stranga A. Ebreji un diktatūras Baltijā.- Rīga, 1998.
10. Stranga A. Latvijas un Padomju Krievijas miera līgums 1920.gada 11.augustā – Rīga, 2000
11. Senn A.E. The Emergence of Modern Lithuania.- New-York, 1959.
12. Rodgers. Search for security – Hamden, 1975
13. Andersons, E. Latvijas ārpolitika – 1.sēj. – Stokholma, 1982.
14. Baltijas valstu vēsture.- Rīga, 1998.
15. Stranga A. Ebreji un diktatūras Baltijas valstīs. – Rīga, 2002. 16. Lithuania 700 Years. – New-York, 1969.

### ***Periodicals and Other Sources***

1. Latvijas Vēsture
2. Latvijas Vēstures institūta žurnāls.
3. Slavic Review.
4. American Historical Review
5. Journal of Baltic Studies
6. Новая и Новейшая история.
7. Lithuanian Historical Studies. 1997.-2014. Year book.
8. Lithuanian Foreign Policy Review. 1998.-2011.
9. Regional Report.
10. www.genocid.lt
11. <http://www.s-keskus.arhiiv.ee/eng/next.htm>
12. <http://vip.latnet.lv/LPRA/> u.c. 13. <http://www.okupatsioon.ee/english/index.htm>

**Notes**

ABSP "History" Part B.