



COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
Human Geography of Lithuania	

Academic staff	Core academic unit(s)
Coordinating: Dr. Viktorija Baranauskienė	VU Faculty of Philology, Lithuanian Language Department

Study cycle	Type of the course unit
First	Compulsory

Mode of delivery	Semester or period when it is delivered	Language of instruction
Face-to-face	3 rd semester (Autumn)	English

Requisites	
Prerequisites: none	Co-requisites (if relevant): none

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

Purpose of the course unit		
The goal of this subject is to introduce students to the spatial organisation of Lithuanian society and its economy as well as the peculiarities of its transformation, and to develop the ability to evaluate them in a broader (intercultural) context.		
Learning outcomes of the course unit	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
Students will know Lithuanian human geography and be able to apply this knowledge while consistently assessing the differences that have emerged in the social environment in the light of theories and formulating explanations.	Problem-based teaching, demonstration of visual and audio materials, group discussions, information retrieval, and preparing a presentation for a seminar.	Formative assessment. Cumulative assessment. Presentation during the seminar, participation in discussions during seminars and lectures, examination.
Students will be able to analyse scientific publications, use databases and other sources of information, create arguments, and present research results and conclusions in writing and orally to different audiences.		
Students will be able to assess the impact of global structures (systems) on Lithuanian society, culture, economy and politics.		
Students will be able to identify, understand and explain the specificity of related phenomena	Problem-based teaching, demonstration of visual and audio materials, group discussions,	Formative assessment. Cumulative assessment.

in Lithuanian culture and society in a broader cross-cultural context using their knowledge of Lithuanian social geography.	information retrieval, preparing a presentation for a seminar.	Presentation, participation in the discussions.
Students will know the basic rules for effective group work, to complete group assignments of the taught subject and prepare presentations..	Group presentations	
Students will be able to assess the social, cultural, economic and political indicators of the life of Lithuanian society, as well as the interaction between Lithuanian society and nature.	Presentations, discussions, examination.	Examination.
Students will be able to reflect on their achievements, identify the need for deeper or broader knowledge in the field, study independently and manage their development process.	Seminars, discussions.	Formative assessment.

Content	Contact hours							Individual work: time and assignments	
	Lectures	Tutorials	Seminars	Workshops	Laboratory work	Internship	Contact hours, total	Individual work	Tasks for individual work
Introduction. The specifics of the subject, course description, teaching methods and literature related to the subject.	1						1		
1. POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PRECONDITIONS FOR THE FORMATION OF THE LITHUANIAN STATE	3		3				6	13	
1.1. Geographical and geopolitical situation of Lithuania Geographical and geopolitical situation of the country (<i>regional and global</i>). Changes in the territory of Lithuania in the 13th-20th centuries. External and internal risk factors (<i>political, social, and economic</i>) caused by the geopolitical environment.	1		1				2	4	Analysis of literature, statistical and cartographic data, presentation, discussion, and additions to the seminar topic
1.2. Integration of Lithuania into global and regional structures Political, social and economic reasons for Lithuania's integration. Lithuania in global and regional integrated systems.	1		1				2	4	
1.3. Electoral differentiation of the Lithuanian territory Lithuanian political parties and party system. Lithuanian electoral territorial systems. Electoral differentiation of the Lithuanian territory (<i>national and metropolitan levels</i>).	1		1				2	5	
2. SELF-GOVERNMENT AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE-TERRITORIAL STRUCTURE OF LITHUANIA	2		2				4	8	
2.1. Evolution of the administrative-territorial structure of Lithuania	1		1				2	4	Analysis of literature, statistical

Decentralisation and local self-government: the role of local self-government in the development of society. Legalisation of territorial self-government (<i>territorial administrative units of Lithuania and their development</i>).									and cartographic data, presentation, discussion, and additions to the seminar topic
2.2. Attitudes of society towards local self-government and residents' involvement in inter-municipal cooperation Public attitudes towards local self-government. Forms of inter-municipal cooperation and residents' involvement in inter-municipal cooperation (<i>e.g. with specific reference to residents' involvement in the organisation of service provision</i>)	1		1				2	4	
3. INHABITANTS AND SETTLEMENTS OF LITHUANIA	6		6				12	25	
3.1. Demographic structure of the Lithuanian population Demographic indicators of the population. Population size, distribution and spread (<i>population capacity and density (e.g. distribution of sparsely populated areas)</i>), composition and change.	2		2				4	8	Analysis of literature, statistical and cartographic data, presentation, discussion, and additions to the seminar topic
3.2. Migration of the population Types of migration. The main causes and directions of international migration. Impact of external migration on population change. Internal migration and metropolitan regions.	1		1				2	5	
3.3. Ethnic and religious composition of the Lithuanian population Ethnic composition and territorial differentiation of the Lithuanian population. Languages and territorial differentiation of the Lithuanian population. Religious composition and territorial differentiation of the Lithuanian population.	1		1				2	4	
3.4. System of settlements in Lithuania Typology of Lithuanian settlements. Typology of urbanisation. System of Lithuanian settlement and transformations.	2		2				4	8	
4. LITHUANIAN ECONOMIC STRUCTURES AND ECONOMIC SYSTEMS	4		5				8	23	
4.1. Economic situation in Lithuania Development of Lithuanian economic systems: from planned to market economy. Today's economic highlights in Lithuania. Key indicators highlighting the economic situation of the country.	1		1				2	5	Analysis of literature, statistical and cartographic data, presentation, discussion, and additions to the seminar topic
4.2. Lithuanian bio-production farm Agricultural development and transformation after Lithuania acceded to the EU. Agricultural branches and territorial specialisation.	1		1				2	5	
4.3. Lithuanian industry, natural resources and energetic Development of Lithuanian industry (<i>pre-independence and post-independence transformation</i>). Extractive industries, branches and territorial distribution.	1		1				2	5	

Manufacturing industry and branches. Patterns of formation of new industrial centres. Energetics.									
4.4. The service sector in the Lithuanian economy Types of service sector and infrastructure (<i>productive and social infrastructure</i>). Specific features of infrastructure layout. Domestic and foreign trade in Lithuania.	1		2				3	8	
5. PREPARATION FOR AND TAKING THE EXAMINATION								20	Review and summarisation of the studied materials
Total	16		16				21	93	

Assessment strategy	Weight %	Deadline	Assessment criteria
Presentation, participation in the discussions	40	During each seminar	The student (or a group of students (2-3 students)) chooses a topic from a list provided by the subject lecturer or independently (proposes it to the lecturer; the lecturer assesses whether the topic corresponds to the content of the subject and whether it is of an appropriate scope) and prepares a presentation on the topic. The presentation of the topic chosen shall be presented during the seminars, at a time agreed upon with the presenter(s), the lecturer and other participants in the seminars. The student shall present a 10-15 minutes presentation on the topic at the seminar using multimedia tools (20-30 minutes for a group of students), presenting the essence of the topic, highlighting the problems and formulating conclusions. After the presentation, the author leads a discussion on the topic for 5-10 minutes and answers questions from the audience. The evaluation is based on a 10-point system, multiplied by a weighting factor of 0.4 (40%). The following aspects of the presentation are assessed: - content, structure and length of the presentation; - the validity of the arguments, claims and conclusions presented; - scientific style and language culture. For group presentations, each student is evaluated individually (the contribution of each student must be specified in the presentation). In seminars where students do not present their topic, active participation in the discussions is expected and recommended. <i>Students who do not present their chosen topic during seminars are not admitted to the exam.</i>
Examination	60	During the Exam period	The exam is evaluated on a 10-point system and then multiplied by a weighting factor of 0.6 (60%). The overall grade for the subject is calculated by arithmetic average. The examination is in writing. The examination consists of 3 open questions. The answers to each question are evaluated individually on a 10-point system, from which an average is taken. Evaluation for the examination: 9-10 - Excellent or very good knowledge and skills. 8 - Good knowledge and ability, with possible minor errors. 7 - Intermediate knowledge and ability, some errors. 6 - Knowledge and ability below average, with significant errors.

			5 - Knowledge and skills still meet the minimum requirements, many errors. 1-4 – Knowledge does not meet minimum requirements.
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Author (-s)	Publishing year	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing house or weblink
Required reading				
Bražukienė I. O.	2010	Lietuvos apdirbamoji pramonė		Vilnius, Vilnius University Press
Valstybės duomenų agentūra	2023	<i>Lietuva skaičiais</i> (2023 m. leidimas) ir <i>Lietuvos statistikos metraštis</i> (ankstesnių metų metraščiai ir kt. leidiniai)		Vilnius Access via the Internet: https://osp.stat.gov.lt/lietuva-skaiciais-2023/apie-leidini Access via the Internet: https://leidiniai-ls-osp-sdg.hub.arcgis.com/

*There are no textbooks available that correspond to the course syllabus, so all the literature is considered to be optional; the resources that are recommended on this list are closest to the topics discussed in the subject

Recommended reading				
Balčaitė S.	2021	<i>Uždaros gyvenvietės Lietuvoje: teritorinės integracijos problema</i> /Disertacija/		Vilnius: Vilniaus universiteto leidykla Access via the Internet: https://talpykla.elaba.lt/elaba-fedora/objects/elaba:14164868/datastreams/MAIN/content
Baranauskienė V.	2021	<i>Socioteritorinė atskirtis Lietuvos retai apgyventose teritorijose</i> /Disertacija/		Lietuvos socialinių mokslų centras Access via the Internet: https://talpykla.elaba.lt/elaba-fedora/objects/elaba:93627567/datastreams/MAIN/content
Bražukienė I. O.	2000	Lietuvos žemės ūkio raida XX amžiuje produkcinio teritorinio aspekto.		Vilnius, Vilnius University Press
Bučaitė-Vilkė J., Civinskas R., Lazauskienė A., Leščauskaitė V., Lackowska M., Gendzwill A., Krukowska J., Mikalauskas A.	2019	Savivaldybių bendradarbiavimas Lietuvoje: formos, galimybės, vizijos		Kaunas
Burneika D., Ubarevičienė R., Valatka V., Baranauskaitė A., Pociūtė-Sereikienė G., Daugirdas V., Krupickaitė D.	2017	Lietuvos metropoliniai regionai. Gyventojų erdvinė diferenciacija XXI a. pradžioje		Lietuvos socialinių tyrimų centras
Čičinskas J.	2005	Lietuvos ūkis kelyje į rytdieną.		Vilnius
Daugirdas V., Baranauskienė V., Burneika D., Kriaučiūnas E., Mačiulytė J., Pocius A., Pociūtė-Sereikienė G., Ribokas G.	2019	Netolygaus regioninio vystymosi problema Lietuvoje: socio-ekonominiai gerovės aspektai		Vilnius Access via the Internet: http://demografija.lt/download/Netolygaus

				<u>regioninio vystymosi problema galut.pdf</u>
Daugirdas V., Burneika D., Kriauciūnas E., Ribokas G., Stanaitis S., Ubarevičienė R.	2013	Lietuvos retai apgyventos teritorijos		Vilnius, In Flexum
Ekonominio bendradarbiavimo ir plėtros organizacija	2000	Baltijos šalys: Regioninė ekonominė analizė.		Vilnius
Lietuvos socialinių tyrimų centras	2014	Lietuvos socialinė raida: Lietuvos gyventojai XXI a. pradžioje: sociodemografiniai aspektai	3	Vilnius, Vaibra
Liutikas D., Pociūtė-Sereikienė G., Baranauskienė V., Kriauciūnas E., Burneika D.	2023	Turizmas Lietuvoje. Pokyčiai ir perspektyvos besikeičiančiame pasaulyje		Lietuvos socialinių mokslų centras Access via the Internet: https://lstc.lt/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Mokslo-studija.pdf
Meškauskas K.	1992	Lietuvos ūkis 1940-1990.		Vilnius
Migracijos departamentas prie Lietuvos Respublikos vidaus reikalų ministerijos	2005-2023	<i>Migracijos metraštis</i> (kasmetiniai leidiniai)		Vilnius Access via the Internet: https://migracija.lrv.lt/lt/statistika/migracijos-metrasciai/
Nacionalinė žemės tarnyba	2018	Nacionalinis atlasas,	III tomas	Vilnius: Nacionalinė žemės tarnyba
Pakštas K. (sudarytojas Gaižiūnas S.)	2003	Kultūra. Civilizacija. Geopolitika		Vilnius : Pasviręs pasaulis

Stankūnienė V.	2017	Lietuvos demografinė kaita. Ką atskleidžia gyventojų surašymai?		Vytautas Magnus University Publishing Center
Ščerbinskaitė, S., Baranauskienė, V.	2023	<i>Tarp miesto ir kaimo: ką reprezentuoja kaimo bendruomeninės organizacijos Lietuvoje?</i> Filosofija. Sociologija	34 (2)	Access via the Internet: https://lmaleidykla.lt/ojs/index.php/filosofija-sociologija/article/view/4977/4332
Vaitekūnas S.	2006	Lietuvos gyventojai. Per du tūkstantmečius		Vilnius
Vaitekūnas S.	1998	Lietuvos teritorija ir gyventojai		Vilnius
Vidzbelis D., Burneika D.	2023	<i>Spatial analysis of Lithuanian youth turnout: Results of 2016-2020 parliamentary elections.</i> Geographia Polonica	96 (2)	Access via the Internet: https://rcin.org.pl/igipz/Content/239076/WA51_275417_r2023-t96-no2_G-Polonica-Vidzbelis.pdf
VĮ Žemės ūkio informacijos ir kaimo verslo centras	2021	Lietuvos žemės ūkis: faktai ir skaičiai	1 (27)	Vilnius Access via the Internet: https://osp.stat.gov.lt/services-portlet/pub-edition-file?id=36580
Internet Resources				
Lietuvos respublikos vyriausioji rinkimų komisija	2023	Duomenys, žemėlapiai ir kt. apie rinkimus		Prieiga per internetą: https://www.vrk.lt/
Valstybės duomenų agentūra	2023	Oficialios statistikos portalas		Prieiga per internetą: https://osp.stat.gov.lt/
Valstybės duomenų agentūra	2023	Atviri duomenys		Prieiga per internetą: https://open-data-ls-osp-sdg.hub.arcgis.com/
Valstybės duomenų agentūra	2023	Gyventojų ir būstų surašymai		Prieiga per internetą: https://osp.stat.gov.lt/gyventoju-ir-bustu-surasymai1
Europos statistikos rodiklių duomenų bazė	2023	Europos statistikos rodiklių duomenų bazė		Eurostat http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat

