



COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
Belarus and Ukraine studies	

Lecturer(s)	Department(s) where the course unit (module) is delivered
Coordinator: Dr. Laurynas Jonavičius	Institute of International Relations and Political Science

Study cycle	Type of the course unit (module)
Second Cycle	Elective

Mode of delivery	Period when the course unit (module) is delivered	Language(s) of instruction
Face to face	2 semester	English

Requirements for students	
Prerequisites: English language skills (B2)	Additional requirements (if any): None

Course (module) volume in credits	Total student's workload	Contact hours	Self-study hours
5	130	32	98

Purpose of the course unit (module): programme competences to be developed		
<p>This course is designed as an introduction to Belarus and Ukraine studies. This course is two cases study. The course deals with the historical forms of Belarusian and Ukrainian state and current political and economic system of Belarus and Ukraine. During the course the issues of the foreign policy, regional security, election system, economics and energy security are going to be analyzed.</p> <p>During this course a set of generic competences will be developed, such as the ability to set an agenda for research and prioritize various tasks, independently design a research on chosen topic, capacity to integrate different theories and analytical insights into coherent research and present the findings for specific audiences. Moreover, a set of subject specific competences will be developed, such as a key knowledge on the major concepts, theoretical perspectives and findings about the political and economic development of Ukraine and Belarus, will be able to evaluate ongoing social, political and economic processes in these countries and understand the problems related with their political identity formation.</p>		
Learning outcomes of the course unit (module)	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
Will be able to critically evaluate the contemporary political and social dynamics in Belarus and Ukraine	Lectures, discussions, case studies.	Assessment of exam, quality of participation in seminars.
Will be able to understand the problematics of Belarussian and Ukrainian political identity formation and the importance of these processes for the contemporary situation of these countries	Research methods, gathering of literature and information, preparation of the presentation and written assignment, group discussions.	Assessment of exam, quality of participation in seminars, written assignment.
Will be able to independently apply research methods of political science to examine the contemporary situation and will formulate evidence	Research methods, gathering of literature and information, preparation of the	Assessment of exam and written assignment.

based proposals.	presentation and written assignment, discussions.	group
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Content: breakdown of the topics	Self-study work: time and assignments					Assignments
	Lectures	Tutorials	Seminars	Contact hours	Self-study hours	
1. Introductory seminar The overview of the course			2	2		
2. Soviet context			2	2	2	A documentary movie of Edvins Snore "The Soviet Story", 2008 (85 min.)
3. Under the Soviet Union Issues to be discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creation of the Soviet Union and the government structure of it; - Different or the same experience of two Soviet Republics? 			2	2	6	Swoboda, Victor, "Was the Soviet Union really necessary?" <i>Soviet Studies</i> , 1992, Vol. 44 Issue 5, p. 761-785. (www.ebsco.com) Tishkov, Valery, "Soviet Ethnic Engineering: Success and Failure" in Tishov, Valery, <i>Ethnicity, Nationalism and Conflict in and after the Soviet Union</i> , PRIO, UNRISD: Sage, 1997, p. 24-43. (www.ebsco.com) Francine Hirsch, <i>Empire of nations: ethnographic knowledge & the making of the Soviet Union</i> , Chapter 4, p. 145-160 [google books]
4. Contested History and Identity in Belarus Issues to be discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The roots of Belarusian identity: history, language, geography; - Eastern and Western myths in Belarusian history; 			2	2	6	Grigory Ioffe. Understanding Belarus: Belarusian Identity. <i>EUROPE-ASIA STUDIES</i> , Vol. 55, No. 8, December 2003, 1241–1272 (www.ebsco.com); Grigory Ioffe. Understanding Belarus: Question of Language. <i>EUROPE-ASIA STUDIES</i> , Vol. 55, No. 7, December 2003. P. 1009–1047 (www.ebsco.com).
5. Regionalized History and Identity in Ukraine Issues to be discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Roots of regionalization; - Factors of identity: language, religion, history 			2	2	5	Wilson, Andrew, "Elements of a theory of Ukrainian ethno-national identities", <i>Nations & Nationalism</i> ; Jan2002, Vol. 8 Issue 1, p31, 24p. (www.ebsco.com) Shulman, Stephen, Sources of Civic and Ethnic Nationalism in Ukraine. <i>Journal of Communist Studies & Transition Politics</i> ; Dec2002, Vol. 18 Issue 4, p. 1-30. Kuzio, Taras, "National Identity and History Writing in Ukraine", <i>Nationalities Papers</i> , Vol. 34, No. 4, September 2006, p. 407-421. (www.ebsco.com)

<p>6. Belarusian Political Regime and Institutions</p> <p>Issues to be discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Belarus political culture; - National ideology, egalitarian nationalism; - Institutional regime (President, Parliament, Courts, Law Enforcement Institutions) 		2	2	5	<p>Leshchenko, Natalia, The National Ideology and the Basis of the Lukashenka Regime in Belarus. <i>Europe-Asia Studies</i>; Oct2008, Vol. 60 Issue 8, p. 1419-1433. (www.ebsco.com)</p> <p>Usov, Pavel. The neo-authoritarian regime in the Republic of Belarus. <i>Lithuanian Foreign Policy Review</i>, 2008, www.lfpr.lt</p> <p>Ioffe, Grigory, "Lukashenka: Last Defender of Belarusian Statehood", <i>Transitions Online</i>, 11/3/2008, www.ebsco.com.</p> <p>Political cartoons www.belzhaba.com; http://multclub.org/.</p>
<p>7. Democratic process in Ukraine</p> <p>Issues to be discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ukrainian party system; - Challenges for democracy 		2	2	5	<p>Kynev, A. V., "The Effects of "Maidan", <i>Russian Politics & Law</i>; Mar/Apr2006, Vol. 44 Issue 2, p28-38, 11p. (www.ebsco.com)</p> <p>Haran, Olexiy, "From Viktor to Viktor: Democracy and Authoritarianism in Ukraine", <i>Demokratizatsiya</i>; Spring2011, Vol. 19 Issue 2, p93-110, 18p. (www.ebsco.com)</p>
<p>8. Belarusian Political Process in Art</p> <p>A movie of A. Khachevatski "Ploshcha" (the Square) with English subtitles or E. Kibalchich "Belarusian Dream" (55 min) with English subtitles</p>	1	1	2	4	<p>Astrid Sahn, "Civil society and mass media in Belarus", p. 49-64. In <i>Back from the cold? The EU and Belarus in 2009</i>, Chaillot Paper - n°119, November 2009, ed. Sabine Fischer. http://www.iss.europa.eu/uploads/media/cp119.pdf</p>
<p>9. Guest speaker</p> <p>Vytis Jurkonis, project director at Freedom House. Belarusian civil society: still alive?</p>	2		2		-
<p>10. Between Planning Economy and Free Market</p> <p>Issues to be discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Economic system; - economic growth and stagnation; 		2	2	6	<p>Leonid Zlotnikov, "The Belarusian 'economic miracle' – illusions and reality", p. 65-78. In <i>Back from the cold? The EU and Belarus in 2009</i>, Chaillot Paper - n°119, November 2009, ed. Sabine Fischer. http://www.iss.europa.eu/uploads/media/cp119.pdf</p> <p><i>Postcommunist Belarus</i>. Ed. S. White, E. Korosteleva, J. Lowenhardt. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 2005. P. 97-122.</p> <p>Grigory Ioffe. <i>Understanding Belarus: Economy and Political Landscape</i>. <i>Europe-Asia Studies</i>, Vol. 56, No. 1 January 2004, 85-118. (www.ebsco.com)</p>
<p>11. Oligarchy in Ukrainian Economy</p> <p>Issues to be discussed:</p> <p>economic life in Ukraine: control of business or</p>		2	2	6	<p>Puglisi, Rosaria, The Rise of the Ukrainian Oligarchs. <i>Democratization</i>; Aug2003, Vol. 10</p>

business control;						<p>Issue 3, p. 99-123. (www.ebsco.com) G. O. Korzhov, OLIGARCHY AS A MODEL OF SOCIAL ORGANIZATION IN CONDITIONS OF POST-SOCIALIST TRANSFORMATION, VISNYK LVIV UNIV., Ser. Social. 2007. № 1. P. 51–63. http://www.nbu.gov.ua/Portal/SocGum/Vlnu_sociology/2007_01/Korzhov.pdf</p> <p>Yuriy Gorodnichenko, Yegor Grygorenko, Are Oligarchs Productive? Theory and Evidence Institute for the Study of Labor, January 2008, http://www.econstor.eu/dspace/bitstream/10419/35017/1/55986664X.pdf</p>
12. Guest Speaker Mr. Edminas Bagdonas, Head of Eastern Neighborhood Policy Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Belarus and Ukraine: Between East and West. Lithuanian view	2			2	-	-
13. Energy security of Belarus and Ukraine Issues to be discussed: - Gas and oil politics, transit and dependency			2	2	5	<p>Margarita M. Balmaceda, “At a crossroads: The Belarusian-Russian energy-political model in crisis”. P. 79-92. In <i>Back from the cold? The EU and Belarus in 2009</i>, Chaillot Paper - n° 119, November 2009, ed. Sabine Fischer. http://www.iss.europa.eu/uploads/media/cp119.pdf</p> <p>Anya Loukianova, “Belarus takes a second look at nuclear energy”, <i>Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists</i>, 9 July 2008. http://www.thebulletin.org/web-edition/features/belarus-takes-a-second-look-nuclear-energy</p> <p>Balmaceda, Margarita M., Ukraine's Persistent Energy Crisis. Problems of Post-Communism; Jul/Aug2004, Vol. 51 Issue 4, p. 40-50. (www.ebsco.com) <i>Statistical Review of World Energy</i>, British Petroleum report, availed on: www.bp.com.</p>
14. VIP analyst on Ukraine Issues to be discussed: Challenges and possibilities for Ukraine	1		1	2	2	<p>Zbigniew Brzezinski: Ukraine's Future: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jnXaFMFU3v4 (57 min.)</p>

15. Belarus , Ukraine and Russia Issues to be discussed: - Belarus-Ukraine relations - Union state; Eurasia Union; - Relations with Russia: Hierarchy of bilateral relations;			2	2	6	Hancock, Kathleen J., “The Semi-Sovereign State: Belarus and the Russian Neo-Empire”, <i>Foreign Policy Analysis</i> (2006) 6, p. 117–136. http://www.khancock.com/Hancock-Semi-Sovereign%20State.pdf Dzianis Melyantsou, Andrej Kazakevich, “Belarus’ Relations with Ukraine and Lithuania before and after the 2006 Presidential Elections”, <i>Lithuanian Foreign Policy Review</i> , No. 20, 2008. P. 47-78. http://www.lfpr.lt/uploads/File/2008-20/Melyantsou_ENG.pdf Pifer, Steven. Ukraine’s Geopolitical Choice, 2009, <i>Eurasian Geography & Economics</i> , Jul/Aug2009, Vol. 50 Issue 4, p. 387-401, http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/articles/2009/07_ukraine_pifer/07_ukraine_pifer.pdf Stanislav Maselnik, Putin’s Eurasian Union: A danger or strategic opportunity? 25/11/2011, http://www.europeanstrategist.eu/2011/11/putins-urasian-union-a-danger-or-strategic-opportunity/
Written essay		2		2	20	Preparation of written thesis
Written exam					20	Reading of course materials
Total	6	2	24	32	98	

Assessment strategy	Weight, %	Deadline	Assessment criteria
Participation in the class	30%	During semester	The seminars’ attendance is compulsory. Responsibility for summarizing the day’s reading will be assigned to one student per class. The number of summaries by each student will depend on the course enrollment. However everyone will be expected to read all assigned materials, except materials, which are indicated as “additional readings”. Assessment: Preparation for the class (20%) Active participation (10%)
Essay	40%	During semester	The course paper topic and title has to be selected and be approved by the day of the last seminar (or May 21) if not agreed differently. General requirements for the papers: http://www.tspmi.vu.lt/en/studies/methodical . Essay has to be no more than 15000 characters with spaces long. All papers are to contain either endnotes or footnotes attributing credit for quotes and paraphrases, as well as a complete bibliography of the works used. Paper without proper citation and bibliography will lose one grade. Assessment: Correspondence to methodological requirements (5%) Good knowledge of academic discussion on the chosen topic (20%)

			Depth of analysis, capacity to apply theoretical knowledge for an analysis of specific case (20%)
Exam	30%	During session	The exam will be a comprehensive in-class exam with three questions. It will take 1 hour and 30 min. The date of the exam will be announce in accordance with the other exams of the CEE studies Master programme.

Author	Year of publication	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing place and house or web link
Compulsory reading				
Ioffe, Grigory,	2008	Lukashenka: Last Defender of Belarusian Statehood	Transitions Online, 11/3/2008, www.ebsco.com.	
		Statistical Review of World Energy, British Petroleum report, availed on: www.bp.com.		
Balmaceda, Margarita M.	2009	“At a crossroads: The Belarusian-Russian energy-political model in crisis”.		Back from the cold? The EU and Belarus in 2009, Chaillot Paper - n°119, November 2009, ed. Sabine Fischer, pp. 79-92. http://www.iss.europa.eu/uploads/media/cp119.pdf
Balmaceda, Margarita M.,	2004	Ukraine's Persistent Energy Crisis.	Problems of Post-Communism; Jul/Aug2004, Vol. 51 Issue 4, p. 40-50. (www.ebsco.com)	
Dzianis Melyantsou, Andrej Kazakevich, ,	2008	Belarus' Relations with Ukraine and Lithuania before and after the 2006 Presidential Elections”	Lithuanian Foreign Policy Review, No. 20, 2008. P. 47-78. http://www.lfpr.lt/uploads/File/2008-20/Melyantsou_ENG.pdf	
Ed. S. White, E. Korosteleva, J. Lowenhardt.	2005			Postcommunist Belarus. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 2005. P. 97-122.
Hancock, Kathleen J.	2006	The Semi-Sovereign State: Belarus and the Russian Neo-Empire”	Foreign Policy Analysis (2006) 6, p. 117–136. http://www.kh	

			anchock.com/H anchock-Semi- Sovereign%20 State.pdf	
Haran, Olexiy,	2011	From Viktor to Viktor: Democracy and Authoritarianism in Ukraine	Demokratyzatsiya; Spring 2011, Vol. 19 Issue 2, pp 93- 110	
Hirsch, Francine		Empire of nations: ethnographic knowledge & the making of the Soviet Union		Chapter 4, p. 145-160
Ioffe, Grigory	2004	Understanding Belarus: Economy and Political Landscape. Europe-Asia	Studies, Vol. 56, No. 1 January 2004, pp. 85-118.	
Ioffe, Grigory	2003	Understanding Belarus: Belarusian Identity	Europe-Asia Studies, Vol. 55, No. 8, December 2003, 1241– 1272	
Korzhov, G. O.	2007	Oligarchy as a model of social organization in conditions of post-socialist transformation	VISNYK LVIV UNIV., Ser. Social. 2007. № 1. P. 51–63. http://www.nbuv.gov.ua/Portal/Soc_Gum/Vlnu_sociology/2007_01/Korzhov.pdf	
Kuzio, Taras,	2006	National Identity and History Writing in Ukraine	Nationalities Papers, Vol. 34, No. 4, September 2006, p. 407- 421.	
Kynev, A. V.,	2006	“The Effects of "Maidan”	Russian Politics & Law; Mar/Apr 2006, Vol. 44 Issue 2, p28- 38, 11p.	
Leshchenko, Natalia,	2008	The National Ideology and the Basis of the Lukashenka Regime in Belarus.	Europe-Asia Studies; October 2008, Vol. 60 Issue 8, p. 1419- 1433.	
Loukianova, Anya	2008	Belarus takes a second look at nuclear energy	Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, 9 July 2008. http://www.the	

			bulletin.org/we b- edition/features /belarus-takes- a-second-look- nuclear-energy	
Maselnik, Stanislav	2011	Putin's Eurasian Union: A danger or strategic opportunity?		<a href="http://www.europeanstrategist.eu/2011/11/putins-
eurasian-union-a-danger-
or-strategic-opportunity/">http://www.europeanstrategist.eu/2011/11/putins- eurasian-union-a-danger- or-strategic-opportunity/
Pifer, Steven., Eurasian Geography & Economics,	2009	Ukraine's Geopolitical Choice	Jul/Aug2009, Vol. 50 Issue 4, p. 387-401, http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/articles/2009/07_ukraine_pifer/07_ukraine_pifer.pdf	
Puglisi, Rosaria	2003	The Rise of the Ukrainian Oligarchs	Democratization; August 2003, Vol. 10 Issue 3, pp. 99- 123.	
Sahm, Astrid	2009	Civil society and mass media in Belarus		Back from the cold? The EU and Belarus in 2009, Chaillot Paper - n°119, November 2009, ed. Sabine Fischer. http://www.iss.europa.eu/uploads/media/cp119.pdf
Shulman, Stephen,	2002	Sources of Civic and Ethnic Nationalism in Ukraine.	Journal of Communist Studies & Transition Politics; December 2002, Vol. 18 Issue 4, p. 1- 30.	
Swoboda, Victor,	1992	"Was the Soviet Union really necessary?"	Soviet Studies, 1992, Vol. 44 Issue 5, p. 761- 785.	
Tishkov, Valery, in Tishov, Valery,		"Soviet Ethnic Engineering: Success and Failure"	Ethnicity, Nationalism and Conflict in and after the Soviet Union, PRIO, UNRISD: Sage, 1997, p. 24-43.	

Usov, Pavel..	2008	The neo-authoritarian regime in the Republic of Belarus	Lithuanian Foreign Policy Review, 2008, www.lfpr.lt	
Wilson, Andrew,	2002	Elements of a theory of Ukrainian ethno-national identities	Nations & Nationalism; January 2002, Vol. 8 Issue 1, p31, 24p.	
Yuriy Gorodnichenko, Yegor Grygorenko	2008	Are Oligarchs Productive? Theory and Evidence		Institute for the Study of Labor, January 2008, http://www.econstor.eu/dspace/bitstream/10419/35017/1/55986664X.pdf

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