

NATIONAL RESEARCH UNIVERSITY «HIGHER SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS»

PROGRAM IN «International Relations» 031900.62

Bachelor Programme

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL HISTORY

Course Coordinator Dr Nikolaj Sherbakov

Moscow 2016

Modules 1–2 2016

Teaching Methods

Lecture

Seminar

Class test

Essay

Examination

Brief Course Description The course provides students with a broad base of knowledge on events and issues shaping the world during XVI–XX centuries, under the themes of global interrelations, notions of identity, the rise of mass societies and political and economic issues. These include modernism, colonialism, nationalism, war, revolution, liberalism, communism, fascism, mass production, the Cold War, decolonisation, civil rights, ideological conflict, migration, cultural identities, consumption culture, and communications. It focuses on developments in all continents, rejecting a Europe or Russia-centric approach. The course consists of lectures and seminars, and assessment takes the form of essays and examination.

Contact Hours

Seminar for 2 Hours per Week for 12 Weeks

Lecture for 4 Hours per Week for the Full Term

Learning Materials/Texts

Eric Hobsbawm. *Age of Extremes: The Short Twentieth Century 1914-1991*. Abacus: London, 1995.

Paul Johnson. *Modern Times*. Harper Collins: New York, 1991.

Peter Calvocoressi. *World politics since 1945*. Pearson Education: Harlow, 2009.

Wallace K. Ferguson. A Survey of European Civilization. Houghton Mifflin: Boston, 1969.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students will be expected to:

1. Display understanding of the major facets of political and economic history of the world in the XVI–XX centuries.
2. Display the ability to reflect on the issues presented in the course, and their possible interpretations.
3. Display the ability to bring their historical knowledge to bear upon the understanding of present-day issues.
4. Show evidence of critical analysis of primary documents, careful reading of secondary sources, as well as the ability to conduct independent research and to write clearly and accurately.

Students will be also encouraged to:

- think creatively about, and reflect critically on the nature of, the XVI–XX centuries world;
- critically assess the arguments and debates of historians and other writers/researchers in the field;
- make good use of their research time in preparation for major items of assessment;
- develop strong written and oral skills

Assessment Items

Essay	Research paper in electronic form as well as hard copy, totalling 2,000 - 3,000 words, 10%.
Examination	Formal exam and class test, 40%
Seminars	Class participation demonstrating preparation and involvement, worth 40%.

Seminars

Seminars are crucial to the learning process, and it is imperative that students do not miss any of them unnecessarily. Attendance in tutorials will be recorded. It is important to prepare for tutorials. A good preparation involves reading and critically thinking about the required readings for the week. Students will be assessed on their ability to communicate historical themes and ideas to other members of the class. It is important for all students to actively participate in weekly discussions. Marks will be allocated on the basis of student performance and conduct in the course. This involves students critically engaging with and assessing written material relevant to the week's topic. It does not involve them merely turning up and quietly waiting for the hour to pass.

Essay

The essay must make use of at least 10 appropriate sources. These should include articles or books or some other comparable source. Length: 2000–3000 words.

Instructions:

1. References should be footnoted, always with the page numbers included.
2. Double space the narrative (single space indented quotes) using 12 point font.
3. Every page should be numbered.
4. A bibliography must be added to the essay.
5. A High School of Economics/London University cover sheet should be attached to the front of the essay.
6. The essay must be written in clear, error-free English.

Textbooks and Recommended Texts:

Carter Vaughn Findley. Twentieth-Century World. Wadsworth: Belmont (CA), 2011.

David Reynolds, *One World Divisible: A Global History Since 1945*, Penguin, London, 2000.

Eric Hobsbawm. *Age of Extremes: The Short Twentieth Century 1914-1991*. Abacus: London, 1995.

Paul Johnson. *Modern Times*. Harper Collins: New York, 1991.

Peter Calvocoressi. *World politics since 1945*. Pearson Education: Harlow, 2009.

Richard Goff, Walter Moss, Janice Terry, Jiu-Hwa Upshur. *The Twentieth Century: A Brief Global History*. McGraw Hill: Boston, 2002.

Wallace K. Ferguson. *A Survey of European Civilization*. Houghton Mifflin: Boston, 1969.

Other reading material:

Antony Best, Jussi M. Hanhimäki, Joseph A. Maiolo. *International History of the Twentieth Century and Beyond*. Routledge: London and New York, 2008.

Bela Tomka. *A Social History of Twentieth Century Europe*. Routledge: London and New York, 2013.

David Reynolds. *From World War to Cold War Churchill, Roosevelt, and the International History of the 1940s*. Oxford University Press: Oxford, 2006.

Ivan T. Berend. *Economic History of Twentieth-Century Europe*. Cambridge University Press: Cambridge, 2006.

Peter Gran. *The rise of the rich. A new view of modern world history*. New York: Syracuse University Press, 2009.

The New Cambridge Modern History. Cambridge University Press: Cambridge. Vol. 1–13. 1957–1979.

Twentieth-Century Europe : A Brief History, 1900 to the Present. Wiley-Blackwell: Somerset, 2014.

LECTURE OUTLINE

WEEK	DATE	LECTURE
1	5/09	An Introduction to "facts and figures": Why History is worth studying, what are the limits of the world "History", what language to choose for better understanding History. Geography, demography and biography as "World-systems" main components
2	12/09	Ascendancy of European countries in XVII - first half of XVIII century and creation of colonial empires.
3	19/09	"Fin de siecle" : clash of ideas, clash of states, birth of modernity.
4	26/09	Shaping of post-war world in "interbellum". Results of WW I as a source for further international tensions. Creation of new political ideologies and new "centers of force".
5	3/10	Long way to new war starts with small wars. Regional wars and conflicts as introduction to WW II.
6	10/10	New menaces and old leaders, new leaders and old menaces. The roots and inspirations for Cold War. Formation of its rules, traditions and geography in 1945-1962.
7	17/10	The Bandung generation — the start of new kingdoms. Waves of liberation in the Third World countries in 1950s-1960s, UN scenarios and the legacy of Colonial Age.
8	31/10	Hotbeds of Cold War. Ideological and technological factors in spreading of Cold War in 1962-1975.
9	7/11	The Collectivist Seventies. Dollar, oil and armaments challenges to be resolved; the start of North-South Dialogue.
10	14/11	Scientific progress versus chaos. Ambitions of leading industrial states in the age of post-industrial revolution. Political, technological, ecological challenges in the late 1970s-1980s.
11	21/11	New actors of international relations. Governmental, non-governmental, marginal and non-material participants of the international relations' space in the 1980s-1990s.
12	28/11	The results of the "greatest geopolitical catastrophe of the XXth century". Main

		changes in the "Old Order" after the end of the Cold War.
13	5/12	The world in the beginning of the XXI century: new prospects

SEMINAR OUTLINE

WEEK	DATE	SEMINAR
2	13/09	Age of Discoveries (China and the West)
3	20/09	The Industrial Revolution – the transition to capitalism
4	27/09	From absolute monarchy to parliamentary democracy (Great Britain and France)
5	3/10	The 1857 Great Mutiny as a result of European expansion
6	11/10	European expansion by the end of the XIXth century
7	18/10	The problem of self-determination of small nations resulting from WW I (the Middle East variant)
8	1/11	Political and economic developments of Soviet Russia under “Sanitary Cordon”
9	8/11	The Great Depression and its effects (Germany, the USSR, Brazil)
10	15/11	Nazi Germany 1933-1939: Ideology and Politics
11	22/11	Reshaping the world after WW II (Potsdam and Nurnberg)
12	29/11	Political and economic developments of New China (1949–1969)
12	2/12	Mass culture and youth subcultures in the West (May 1968 events in France)
13	6/12	Cold War proxy wars (Angola and Vietnam)
13	9/12	Power and the mass-media in the West (the Watergate scandal)
14	13/12	Protest movements within Eastern Europe (Poland 1980-1981)
14	16/12	The end of the Cold War and its effects on the Third World (South Africa)

Essay Questions:

1. To what extent did the concept of the ‘White Man’s Burden’ influence European attitudes towards the ‘colonies’?
2. Assess the causes of the First World War. Was imperial rivalry the major factor?

3. Why did Asian nations receive independence from European powers before African nations? (Focus your answer on at least one nation from each region).
4. How can the collapse of communism in the late 1980s be explained?
5. Was fascism simply a more radical form of nationalism or something else? (Refer your answer to the movements and regimes that can be described as fascist).
6. Why did democracy decline in popularity after the First World War and during the Great Depression?
7. To what degree can 9/11 be said to be exceptional? (Discuss by comparing it to other acts of terrorism in the 20th Century).
8. To what extent can genocide be considered a logical consequence of nationalism?
9. Why can the end of the Cold War be said to have made the world a more dangerous place?
10. To what extent can both world wars be seen as the causes of American hegemony?
11. Has the influence of the media in the late twentieth century served to enhance democracy or inhibit it?
12. Can improvements of technology explain the horrendous violence of the twentieth century or are there other reasons? (Discuss with reference to two genocides).
13. In what ways is the nation-state threatened by globalisation? How have nation-states attempted to address the apparent threat posed to their relevance by globalisation?

Exam Questions

1. What were the main reasons for the successful and unsuccessful "revolutions from the top" in the Eastern states in interbellum period?

2. Why some nationalistic movements and parties of the peoples of Asia and Africa demonstrated solidarity and support for the ideology and political practice of nazism, fascism and aggressive expansion?
3. The development of the selfdetermination concept in XX-th century, periods and forms of implementation.
4. In what way the method of development chosen by the newly liberated countries influenced the balance of forces in Cold War?
5. The position of developing countries within the international economic relations, dialogue "North-South" and "South-South" in the second half of the XXth century - beginning of the XXI century.
6. The forms of peacemaking, peacekeeping and peaceful settlement and the prospects of the resolution of conflict situations in most dangerous hotbeds.
7. The Thirty Years War as the first Pan-European war, its role in creating new system of international relations.
8. Material implementation of main ideas of Enlightenment Age in culture, politics and social relations of main European countries.
9. Social and economic results of the industrial revolution, its consequence for the development of colonial expansion.
10. Characteristic features of the development of main industrial states in 1970s-1990s.
11. Transformation stages of totalitarian regimes in the countries of world socialist system.

12. The development of the idea of national state and the changes of European political map in the XIXth century.
13. The person of charisma in XVIII and XX century: when and why the ascent is easier?
14. Ideology of Nazism and fascism and antifascist activities before WW II.
15. Transformation of bipolar system and the emergence of the challenges to world civilization at the end of the XXth century.
16. The development of militarism and geopolitical ambitions in Japan in interbellum and during WW II.
17. The changes in public thought in the process of mass culture development and creation of information society in the XXth century.
18. The place of Islamic fundamentalism within the international relations in 1970-1990 and at the beginning of the XXIst century.
19. New trends in European public thought development in the second half of XIX-th century.
20. League of Nations: attempts to regulate international relations in interbellum.
21. The reasons and forms of the tension of international relations at the beginning of the XX-th century.
22. United Nations: organization principles and main goals; the role of UN and its special organs in the modern world.
23. The failure of "inviolable borders" concept and the consequences of the changes in the self-determination concept at the end of the XXth- beginning of the XXIst century.

24. The "Third World" in 1960-1980, the role of Non-Aligned Movement and of regional organizations.

25. The main concepts of international relations in the period of Cold War, the hotbeds of Cold War.

26. Main stages and main problems of the development of New China after WW II.