

Syllabus

1. Course Description

a) **Course title:** History

b) **Course type:** compulsory

c) **Pre-requisites:** This course is designed for undergraduate students with good command of the English language (B2 or higher). It requires general understanding of Russian and world history at the level of the school curriculum.

d) **Abstract**

This course introduces students to the history of empires from the Early Modern Period to the end of the twentieth century. Lectures and readings offer integrated analysis of the social, cultural, economic, and political dimensions of European empires, focusing on the systems of dominance in colonial and continental regimes, the processes of nation-building in multi-ethnic and multi-confessional countries (e.g., the Ottoman Empire, Austria-Hungary, and Russia), imperial ideological projects in the Modern Period, world wars, mass repressions, and decolonization. Particular attention is given to the history of enslaved and colonized peoples and their interactions with central elites. By the end of the course, students will see that in social sciences like history empires remain crucial laboratories for studying violence, identity, power, and ideology as well as for understanding the present multi-cultural world. The course includes lectures, seminars, one essay, and a final exam.

2. Learning Objectives and Outcomes

By the end of the course, students should (1) understand main issues and approaches in imperial history, (2) learn how to formulate a strong research statement, (3) and be able to use relevant supportive argumentation in discussions.

3. Course Plan

- a) Age of Empires: The Old and the New Worlds in 1500—1700
- b) Empire, Society, and Culture in the Enlightenment
- c) Colonial and Continental Regimes in the Second Half of the Eighteenth Century
- d) The Napoleonic Wars and a New World Order in 1815
- e) Empires and the Rise of Nationalism in the Long Nineteenth Century
- f) World War I: The Suicide of Europe
- g) From Liberty to Violence: Empires and Revolutions in 1917—1919
- h) World War II and the Holocaust
- i) After the 1950s: The Impact of Imperialism on the Post-Colonial World

4. Reading List

- 1) Bogatyrev Sergei, "Reinventing the Russian Monarchy in the 1550s: Ivan the Terrible, the Dynasty, and the Church," *The Slavonic and East European Review* 85/2 (2007): 271-93.
- 2) Bushkovitch Paul, *A Concise History of Russia* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2011).
- 3) Cohrs O. Patrick, *The Unfinished Peace after World War I: America, Britain and the Stabilization of Europe, 1919—1932* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2006).
- 4) Cooper Frederick & Ann Laura Stoler, "Between Metropole and Colony: Rethinking a Research Agenda," in *Tensions of Empire: Colonial Cultures in a Bourgeois World*, eds. Frederick Cooper & Ann Laura Stoler (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1997): 1-56.
- 5) Cooper Frederick, "What is the Concept of Globalization Good For? An African Historian's Perspective," *African Affairs* 100 (2001): 189-213.
- 6) Cooper Frederick, *Colonialism in Question: Theory, Knowledge, History* (Berkeley & Los Angeles: University of California Press, 2005).
- 7) Diaz-Andreu Margarita, *A World History of Nineteenth Century Archeology* (Oxford & New York: Oxford University Press, 2007).
- 8) *Dictatorship in History and Theory: Bonapartism, Caesarism, and Totalitarianism*, eds. Peter Baehr & Melvin Richter (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2004).
- 9) Elliott H. John, *Empires of the Atlantic World: Britain and Spain in America 1492— 1830* (New Haven & London: Yale University Press, 2006).
- 10) *Europe and the World in the Age of Expansion*, 10 vols., ed. B. C. Shafer (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1974—1977).
- 11) Miller Alexei, *The Romanov Empire and Nationalism: Essays in the Methodology of Historical Research* (Budapest & New York: CEU Press, 2008).
- 12) *The Oxford History of the British Empire*, 5 vols., ed. Roger Louis (New York: Oxford University Press, 1999—2001).

5. Grading System

Cumulative assessment is based on the grades for the essay and class discussions: $G_{cumulative} = G_{seminars} * 70\% + G_{essay} * 30\%$. Final assessment is based on the cumulative and exam grades: $G_{final} = G_{cumulative} * 60\% + G_{exam} * 40\%$. Both continuous and final grades are rounded to the nearest ten.

6. Guidelines for Knowledge Assessment

Seminars

Apart from lectures, students have weekly class sessions that are run in a seminar style. Students are expected to complete the reading (primary and secondary source selections assigned for each topic) before class and come prepared to discuss it.

Essay

In the essay, students develop their scholarly skills by analyzing a research problem related to the course material. The essay should be at least two thousand words long and contain an explicit statement supported by several arguments and proper examples taken from primary and secondary sources. For more information on how to formulate a statement and support it with arguments and examples, please refer to the book *The Craft of Research* by Wayne Booth, Gregory Colomb, and Joseph Williams. When checking the essay, the lecturer pays attention to the structure of the text, the quality of statements, arguments, and examples, as well as the use of corresponding literature. All essays must be submitted online by 11.59 p.m. on February 15, 2019. Please note, all essays are checked for plagiarism.

Final Exam

The final exam is taken orally at the end of the third module. At the exam, a student picks a question card randomly with one topic based on the course material. The student has up to fifteen minutes to get ready and then he and the examiner talk on the topic from the card. The list of topics will be published one month prior to the exam. Students with “excellent” (8 or higher) cumulative results can be exempted from the final exam.

7. Methods of Instruction

The discipline is delivered through lectures seminars, including computer classes.

8. Special Equipment and Software Support (if required): Computer classes.