



RUSSIA IN GLOBAL POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ARENA

Preliminary program

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Program duration: 1 semester

Participants: International and Russian students

Teachers: Professors from St. Petersburg State University; visiting Professors from European partner Universities;

Training methods: lectures, case studies, field trips, company visits, and group discussions

Credits: maximum 33 ECTS credits

Program Scheme: Compulsory courses + Elective courses

SYLLABUS

1. **History and Culture of Russia. 48 contact hours / 6 ECTS credit units**

- 1.1. [Economic History of Russia, 1700-1991](#)
- 1.2. [Political History of Russia, 1861-1991 \(optional\)](#)
- 1.3. Russian Culture: an overview (optional)

2. **Russia in Global Affairs. 64 contact hours / 8 ECTS credit units**

- 2.1. [Foreign policy of contemporary Russia: concepts, actors, and instruments of analysis \(optional\)](#)
- 2.2. [Russia in World Economy: economic relations with main trading partners and international institutions](#)
- 2.3. [Political developments in Russia and other NIS: 'color revolutions' and 'sovereign democracy' \(optional\)](#)

3. **Economic issues in Contemporary Russia. 48 contact hours / 6 ECTS credit units**

- 3.1. [Economic transition in Russia: paths, phases, institutions, legal framework and results \(optional\)](#)
- 3.2. [Russia a country of contrasts: regional analysis of Russian economy](#)
- 3.3. [Sectorial analysis of Russian economy \(optional\)](#)

4. **Doing business in Russia. 48 contact hours / 6 ECTS credit units**

- 4.1. [Russian business culture \(optional\)](#)
- 4.2. [Marketing in Russia \(optional\)](#)
- 4.3. Enterprise forums

5. **Russian language 112 contact hours / 7 ECTS credit units**

COURSE CONTENT

Name of the course Economic History of Russia, 1700-1991

ECTS credits 4

Teaching methods and workload

contact hours 32 hours

Course objective

The aim of the course is to introduce students research methods of the Economic history of Russia; to give students system knowledge of the Economic history of Russia as a permanent and succession development process of the economic institutions, leading branches in the national economy, economic mechanisms and systems, affected influence on national economy.

Course description

Studying the principles of the social development allows to objectively estimate the reasons, grounds and factors which determine the state of the national economy at each historical period, to model and work out the economic development forecasts for foreseeable future. New appraisals of the Russia's past, involving earlier inaccessible sources in the scientific sphere, allow to consider modern state of the national economy as a reflection of the objective laws of social processes and, the first thing, of the principles of economic development.

Mission of the course is:

- To introduce students the stages of national economy development in Russia;
- Elaborate the idea of the correlation of national economy, governmental policies, natural, geographical and ethnical factors;
- To develop skills in working with the sources on Economic history of Russia.

Structure

The following themes are included in the course provided by **Prof. Oleg Misko**:

1. Economic reforms of Peter I. Economy of the Russian Empire in XVIII century (1730-1790): policies of the territory

expansion; industry and trade development; social structure modifying; nobility privileges during the Catherine II governance; serfhood strengthening; bank system and paper currency; state of the Russian industry; international relations.

2. Economy of the Russian Empire in the first half of XIX century: place of the Russian economy in the international cooperation; reforms of M.M. Speransky; Russian governmental system; consequences of the Great Patriotic War in 1812; international relations: Russia and the Occident; currency reform 1839-1843 (led by E.F. Kankrin); serfhood crisis.
3. Economy of the Russian Empire in the second half of XIX century: organization of the serfhood abolition; changes in monetary system; tax reform by N.H. Bunge; structure of the domestic market and foreign trade; capitalism initiation.
4. Economy of the Russian Empire in the end of XIX – beginning of the XX centuries (1880–1913): financial policies of S.U. Vitte; monetary reform in 1895-1898; the role of international financing in Russian economy; industrial development and features of national urbanization and industrialization processes in Russian Empire in the end of XIX – beginning of the XX centuries; economic cycles; agricultural reform: its consequences and contradictions; peasants migration.
5. State regulation of the Russian economy during the war time and revolution (1914-1917): condition of the Russian economy on the eve of the World War I; losses during the war; currency circulation and inflation; leakage of bread (bread crisis) in 1916 and its causes; surplus appropriation system; revolution in 1917: functions of the Temporary Government, dual government; economic depression; The October revolution; economy nationalization; position of the Soviet Russia in the

- international cooperation; Russian Empire collapse and Soviet system establishment.
6. Methods of organization of the socialistic economy at the beginning: military communism, new economic policy (NEP), state planning system. Soviet Union economy at the end of 1930: crisis of the military communism; national electrification plan (GOELRO); new economic course; cooperation development; Soviet Union and international relations; industrialization course; centralized planning system; monetary reform 1922-1924; governmental regulation of the financial and bank system, trade and personal income; socialization of the national agriculture economy; socialistic economy success during the world stagnation in 1929-1933; main indicators of the economic and social development by 1940.
 7. The USSR economy at the Great Patriotic War: international affairs before the Second World War; inclusion of the western territories; military preparation; losses of the first months of the War; state mobilization of citizens; governmental regulation of demand; agriculture issue during the War; allies of the Soviet Union; losses of the USSR during The Great Patriotic War.
 8. Soviet economy in 1945-1965: revitalization of the national economy; monetary reform in 1947; economic reasons for The Cold War, militarization; league of the socialistic countries and role of the USSR among them; organization of the territory regulatory systems; reclamation of the incult land; reforms and innovations in agriculture system; reforms in social sphere; science development in 1950-1960.
 9. Reforming of the economic mechanism in the second half of XX century (1960-1990): search for the optimal model of the economy administration (new economic reform); planning methods modification; changes in agriculture administration; reforms at the

end of 1970; foreign affairs of The USSR and socialistic countries, participation of The Soviet Union in the international cooperation; reform of the politic system of The USSR.

Assessment

Active participation in lectures, presentations, written assignments

Name of the course	Political History of Russia, 1861-1991.
ECTS credits	4
Teaching methods and workload	
contact hours	16 hours
Course objective	This course examines the history of the USSR in relation to that of Tsarist Russia, whose attempts at reform and reconfiguration from the 1850s helped to generate two revolutions (1905-7, 1917-21).
Course description	<p>The Soviet Union has had a greater impact on the course of the twentieth century than any other state. The Bolshevik seizure and consolidation of power provided models for revolutionary movement and socialist government from China to Cuba. The success of the Bolshevik revolution determined the course for global international relations for much of this century. Whilst the USSR has now collapsed, its legacy is still being felt both within Russia and the former Republics of the USSR, and globally.</p> <p>Among the themes emphasised will be political, social, religious and cultural history, and the nature of the relationship between the nationalities, including the Russians, and the Russian state (both Tsarist and Soviet).</p>
Structure	<p>List of lectures and seminars provided by Prof. Nikita Lomagin:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Crimean War, Emancipation and Reform 2. Narodnichestvo 3. Reaction and Reform 4. The Last of the Czars 5. Revolution of 1905 6. Revolution of 1917 7. War Communism and The Civil War 8. New Economic Policy 9. Comintern and Narkomindel 10. Stalin vs. Trotsky 11. The Great Purge 12. From Collective Security to Nazi-Soviet Pact 13. Russia in the War Two

14. The Cold War
15. Rise and Fall of Khrushchev
16. From Thaw to 'Developed Socialism': Brezhnev and Kosygin China
17. The Gorbachev Revolution and The Death of the Soviet Union

Assessment

Examination is by assessed essays (25%) and one three-hour examination (75%).

Name of the course

Russian Culture: an overview

To be announced later

Name of the course	Foreign policy of contemporary Russia: concepts, actors, and instruments of analysis
ECTS credits	2
Teaching methods and workload	
contact hours	16 hours
Course objective	This course offers a comparative look at the making and implementation of Russian Foreign Policy after the end of the Cold War and collapse of the Soviet Union.
Course description	Faced with the disappearance of the Soviet Union the task of understanding and explaining Russian Foreign policies, scholars can pursue one of two broad options. The first option – and focus of most discussion and publication since December 1991 is description and documentation of Russian policy. The second option is explicitly theoretical. This approach is less focused upon the policy itself and more intent on the dynamic processes of policy formation, evolution and change. This course offers a combination of these two options. To do so, we begin with investigation of the sources of the Russian conduct (theories, frameworks and approaches) and analyze the foreign policy institutions and priorities of Russia. We will examine several theoretical models that focus on the impact of different factors on Russian Foreign Policy: type of government, ideology, leadership politics, bureaucratic and interest group politics, the European security system, Russia's historic borderlands and "empire", and international economic system. The second part of the course is aimed at close examination of regional aspects of Russian Foreign Policy with particular attention to relation with the West, newly independent states of the former Soviet Union, and the Far East.
Structure	List of lectures and seminars provided by Prof. Nikita Lomagin : <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Theoretical basis of Foreign Policy Analysis 2. Russian Foreign Policy priorities in historical perspective 3. Democratization and Russian Foreign Policy

4. Russian Foreign Policy Institutions, Bureaucracies, and Business – Elites
5. Searching for the National Interests
6. Russia and the West
7. Russia and the “Near Abroad”
8. Russian Foreign Policy towards the Far
9. Russian Policies in the Middle East

Assessment

Active participation in lectures, build-in discussions, case studies, presentations, written assignments

Name of the course	Russia in World Economy: economic relations with main trading partners and international institutions
ECTS credits	6
Teaching methods and workload	
contact hours	48 hours
Course objective	The course aims at showing the transition and current priorities in relations of Russia with main trading partners and international institutions.
Course description	<p>Modern Russian economy dramatically differs from the Soviet one. Novelty of the situation in many cases results from developments in scope & scale of inward and outward international economic co-operation. “New Russia” provides foreign economic agents (international economic organisations, national governments, private companies) with new challenges, new threats and opportunities.</p> <p>The course reveals the process of Russia’s external economic activity’s transformation, its current priorities and relations with main partners and international institutions.</p>
Structure	<p>The course comprises the following issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. “Russian Economy within International Context: general overview” by Prof. Sergey Sutyurin 2. “Russia and EU” by Associate Prof. Vadim Kapustkin 3. “Russia and CIS countries” by Associate Prof. Vladimir Sherov-Ignatieff 4. “Russian relations with the major international financial institutions” by Associate Prof. Olga Trofimenko 5. “Russia in Finnish Economy” by Associate Prof. Nikita Lisitsyn 6. “Russian economic relations with the countries of Asian region” by Associate Prof. Ludmila Popova 7. “Contemporary Economic Relations between Russia and Latin American Countries” by Dr. Alexandra Koval
Assessment	Active participation in lectures, build-in discussions, case studies, presentations, written assignments

Name of the course	Political developments in Russia and other NIS: ‘color revolutions’ and ‘sovereign democracy’
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ECTS credits	2
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Teaching methods and workload

contact hours	16 hours
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Course objective

The goal of this special course is acquainting the students with the causes, the course, and the consequences of political crises in NIS States which received in literature the name of “coloured revolutions”. Complex reflection of these events is extremely actual in the frames of studying mechanisms of managing public and political processes in information époque. This is especially important in the context of the vibrant discussion about the possibility of repetition of the “orange” scenario in Russia.

Course description

Experience of the NIS States demonstrates that the technologies of nonviolent revolt, whatever smart they are, do not cancel the notion of the revolutionary situation in its classic understanding. The scenario of any “revolution” among other factors depends on a combination of objective social-economic and political realities in a given society. The success of the revolt is substantially dependent on the degree of understanding of these realities by both the opposition and the regime. Comparative approach to considering such events allows analyzing both cases of «successful revolutions» (Georgia, Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan) and cases of their actual failure (Moldova, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Byelorussia). The students will learn the reasons assisting in successful application of revolutionary technologies in the first group of states and the circumstances that prevented the opposition from efficient use of them in the second group.

Nowadays the process of conceptualizing the events of the “coloured revolutions” is taking pace. No integral theory of these processes has been created yet. It defines the need of applying traditional theories which explain the revolutionary processes of the past and present from the point of view of rationality

(Marxism, Leninism, the transitology theory, etc.). Side by side with the above-mentioned political theories the students will get acquainted with the post-modernist paradigm in the frames of which the “coloured” processes are perceived as a performance or a carnival characterized by mixing and mutual penetration of rational and irrational, virtual and real, natural and artificial in the public conscience. The basis of the theoretical reflection of the “revolutionary processes” in the frames of this paradigm was put by Gustav Lebon’s doctrine of the crowd, Mikhail Bakhtin’s works on the carnival culture of the Middle Age Europe, Guy Debor’s studies of the performance society, the theory of cultural hegemony by A. Gramshi, etc. In general the contents of the special course anticipate acquainting the students with basic approaches to comprehension of the revolutionary processes based both on the modernist and the post-modernist methodologies.

Structure

The course is provided by **Dr. Philip Kazin** and is divided into 4 parts:

1. Phenomenon of the “coloured revolution”. Its conceptual characteristics and typical features.
2. Successful revolution technologies. (Serbia, Georgia, Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan).
3. Understanding revolutionary failures (Uzbekistan, Moldova, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Belarus).
4. Social prerequisites and political limitations for “coloured scenario” in nowadays Russia.

Assessment

Active participation in lectures, presentations, written assignments

Name of the course	Economic transition in Russia: paths, phases, institutions, legal framework and results.
ECTS credits	4
Teaching methods and workload	
contact hours	32 hours
Course objective	Main mission of this course is to investigate central issues of economic transition/transformation in modern Russia, which ultimately constitute the core of national macroeconomic environment.
Course description	Transformation/transition represents a phenomenon which both could and should be treated from various perspectives. It has many dimensions of substantial importance. One might argue that discussion on transition is nowadays already outdated, since the process in general has been successfully completed. Indeed, already UNCTAD Trade and Development Report 2006 doesn't use the notion of "economies in transition". It includes new members of EU from Eastern Europe in the group of "developed countries", while introducing yet another category "countries of South-Eastern Europe and CIS". Nevertheless, in a strict sense of the word transition is not totally over in Russia and some other countries. More than that, even in terms of UNCTAD categorization one has to define the type of economies in "countries of South-Eastern Europe and CIS". Finally, the bulk of the roots experienced by modern Russia is in the near past of the country. Recent transfer of presidential power from Vladimir Putin to Dmitri Medvedev makes relevant evaluation of achievements and failures of the former as well as challenges faced by the latter.
Structure	To be announced later
Assessment	Active participation in lectures, presentations, written assignments

Name of the course	Russia a country of contrasts: regional analysis of Russian Economy
ECTS credits	2
Teaching methods and workload	
contact hours	16 hours
Course objective	The course aims at presenting the peculiarities of Russian regions' development
Course description	<p>Russian economy grew fast in the last years, but economic performance of different regions of the country varied to a large extent. Moscow and Norwest region being locomotives of this growth the others were lagging behind, but possessing a great potential for the future growth.</p> <p>Course concludes the description of different regions of Russia, their comparison in terms of incomes, GRP, dependence on the foreign trade and other parameters. The current development of Russia is affected by crisis in world economy. Every region is affected and responds to the crisis differently; therefore, the course shows the peculiarities of crisis consequences for the major regions.</p>
Structure	<p>The course comprises the following issues:</p> <p>Russia regions. General characteristics. by Associate Prof. Vadim Kapustkin</p> <p>Comparison of Russian regions by socio-economical parameters. by Associate Prof. Vladimir Sherov-Ignatieff</p> <p>Foreign trade of Russian Regions by Associate Prof. Vladimir Sherov-Ignatieff</p> <p>“How does crisis affect Russian Regions?” by Associate Prof. Nikita Lisitsyn</p> <p>“Economy of Russian North-West: SWOT analysis” by Associate Prof. Nikita Lisitsyn</p>
Assessment	Active participation in lectures, presentations, written assignments

Name of the course	Sectorial analysis of Russian economy
ECTS credits	4
Teaching methods and workload	
contact hours	32 hours
Course objective	This course gives deeper understanding of Russian economy structure and includes an in-depth analysis of main industries that concludes potential for the future growth: innovative sector and service sector.
Course description	<p>During the transition period Russian economy experienced major structural changes. This fact implies that the development of industries differed.</p> <p>The course gives an overview of Russian economy growth and structural changes in GDP; the peculiarities of major industries development and concentrates on the industries that possess the greatest potential for the future growth, namely the innovative sector and service economy (insurance industry).</p>
Structure	<p>The course comprises the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Russian economic growth and structural changes” by Prof. Natalia P. Kuznetsova • “Russian innovative economy” by Prof. Sergei Valdaitsev • “Insurance industry in Russia” by Prof. Natalia P. Kuznetsova
Assessment	Active participation in lectures, presentations, written assignments

Name of the course	Russian Business Culture
ECTS credits	4
Teaching methods and workload	
contact hours	24 hours
Course objective	<p>This course examines the historical and religious background and the practical particularities of business culture in Russia, paying close attention to such institutions as ethical codes, law, corporate culture and other country-specific traits.</p> <p>It also aims to familiarize students with the contemporary Russian business culture and to demonstrate how knowing it well is crucial for successful business in Russia.</p>
Course description	<p>Business culture in Russia is changing and is not unified in regions; nevertheless it differs from Western standards and has some distinguishing features. The course discusses the historical background of economic ethics. The level of individualism or collectivism, the ability to act and to think rationally, the value attitude towards nature, time, work, wealth, property and the ends of economic activities in many respects depend on religion, history and current practices. Economic ethics of Western and Eastern Christianity (including Old Belief) are compared. The attitude towards the authorities prevailing among Russian businessmen is of a particular importance for comprehension and discussion alongside with the role of the state in the economy. Paradoxically, powerful state and great number of laws and regulations are combined with large shadow economy.</p> <p>The use of multidisciplinary approach is supposed, from economics and economic history (North) to economic anthropology (Polanyi), economic sociology (Weber) and management (Hofstede).</p> <p>The course also provides practical, down to earth knowledge and skills that can be applied in real life for in order to be ready for doing successful business in Russia one must know well the Russian way of thinking – what are the particular ways Russians think, act, interact and make important judgements and</p>

decisions.

Structure

The course given by **Dr. Danila Raskov** and **Dr. Peter Zashev** deals with the following key topics:

1. Russian Culture Overview: Key Concepts and Values
2. Historical and Religious Dimensions of Russian Business Culture
3. Economic Ethics and Developments of Old Believers (case-study of 19-th century)
4. State, Hierarchy and the Rule of Law
5. Corporate Culture and Corporate Social Responsibility in Russia
6. Russians as business partners: negotiating with and selling to Russians
7. Russians as colleagues: working with and managing Russians
8. Russians as consumers: consumer preferences, advertising and marketing mass consumer products

Assessment

In order to take the course one must pass through the following hurdles:

- to participate in at least 75% of the lectures
- to make a written exam consisting of 4 essay type of questions that bring in the total of 32 points. To pass the written exam at least 17 points are needed.
- to write a 12 pages course work on relevant for Russian business culture topic. The course work scores maximum 58 points.

Name of the course	Marketing in Russia
ECTS credits	4
Teaching methods and workload	
contact hours	32 hours
Course objective	The course aims at presenting the core marketing management decisions of companies in Russian market. It gives an understanding how to make decisions and propose various marketing strategies and tactics for business operations in both multinational corporations and small sized firms in Russia.
Course description	The basic concepts and practices in marketing are considered, with the emphasis being on issues facing both multinational corporations and small and medium sized firms in Russian market. Topics to be covered include identification and analysis of environmental differences in terms of opportunities and challenges for marketing decisions in Russia. The course presents ways in which marketing managers adjust to these differences.
Structure	<p>The course comprises the following issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The brief survey of the History of marketing and international marketing in Russia 2. Marketing research in Russia 3. Product policy in Russian market 4. Decisions on Price policy in Russian market 6. Russian market entry and approaches to Distribution. 7. Peculiarities of Promotion-mix in Russia 8. Organizing and planning of marketing activity in Russia
	<p>Instructors: Associate Prof. Irina Vorobyeva & Dr. Alexandra Koval</p>
Assessment	Active participation in lectures, build-in discussions, case studies, presentations, written assignments