**Baltic Studies: Courses**  
(Bachelor Level)

**Spring semester 2015/2016**  
[08.02.2016 – 05.06.2016]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course code</th>
<th>Course name</th>
<th>Lecturer</th>
<th>Credit points*</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vēst2106</td>
<td>The History of Baltic, Part II (the end of 19th century - 2000)</td>
<td>Prof. A. Stranga</td>
<td>2 (3 ECTS)</td>
<td>on <strong>Fridays</strong> from 12.02.2016 till 03.06.2016</td>
<td>10:30 – 12:00</td>
<td>Raina blvd. 19, Room 210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vēst3291</td>
<td>The History of European Diplomacy (1914 -1940)</td>
<td>Prof. A. Stranga</td>
<td>2 (3 ECTS)</td>
<td>on <strong>Fridays</strong> from 12.02.2016 till 03.06.2016</td>
<td>14:30 – 16:00</td>
<td>Raina blvd. 19, Room 210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ekon5069</td>
<td>Recent Economic Development of Latvia</td>
<td>Prof. B. Sloka</td>
<td>2 (3 ECTS)</td>
<td>on <strong>Thursdays</strong> from 07.04.2016 till 02.06.2016</td>
<td>14:30 – 18:00</td>
<td>Aspazijas blvd. 5, Room 320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vēst2102</td>
<td>A History of Latvian Culture</td>
<td>Lect. I. Runce</td>
<td>2 (3 ECTS)</td>
<td>on <strong>Tuesdays</strong> from 09.02.2016 till 05.04.2016</td>
<td>14:00 – 17:30</td>
<td>Aspazijas blvd. 5, Room 121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vēst2105</td>
<td>A History of Ethnic Minorities in Latvia</td>
<td>Lect. I. Runce</td>
<td>2 (3 ECTS)</td>
<td>on <strong>Tuesdays</strong> from 12.04.2016 till 31.05.2016</td>
<td>14:00 – 17:30</td>
<td>Aspazijas blvd. 5, Room 121</td>
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</tbody>
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*Please register for the courses with the lecturer of the respective course.*

*One Latvian credit point corresponds to 1.5 ECTS credits*

**No lecture on April 21**

**Information on Holidays!**
Easter holidays **29.03.2016 - 03.04.2016**
Labour Day **01.05.2016** (National holiday)
Restoration of Independence of Republic of Latvia **04.05.2016** (National holiday)
The History of Baltic, part II. The End of the 19th century – 2000

Course code: Vēst2106
Credit points: 2
ECTS: 3
Total Contact Hours: 32
Number of hours for lectures: 24
Number of hours for seminars and practical assignments: 8
Independent study hours: 48
Course developer: prof. Aivars Stranga

Course abstract
The course deals with the main problems of political, economic and cultural history of the Baltic region since the middle of the 19th century - so called National Awakenings, including a lot of material about the period of the independent states (1918 – 40; since 1990). Course deals with the main problems in historiography; the questions of common and different features in the history of Baltic nations, countries and states, with emphasis on relations with great powers (Russia, Germany), as well as the main problems of religious and cultural life, art will be covered. The history of ethnic and religious minorities will receive its due also, especially - the history of Baltic Germans, local polish, Jewish and Russian minorities.

Learning outcomes
Students will be competent to understand the history of Eastern Europe and integrate this knowledge into more wider understanding of all Europeans history. Course is specially useful for the students from another continents - USA, China, Japan. During their stay in Latvia they would get a knowledge of i an interesting state, nation and culture.

Course plan
1. Introduction into the course. Historiography. (L2)
2. The Baltic Provinces in Russia: cultural, economical and political development. The national movements in Baltic: 1850–1880. (L4)
3. The Revolution of 1905 in Baltics. The specific features in Latvia. (L2)
5. The Creation of the Independent Baltic States: 1918–1920. (S2)
6. The Independent Baltic States: political, economical and cultural development in 1920–1940. Foreign Policy. (L4)
7. The Destiny of Liberal Democracy. Foreign Policy. (S2)
10. The Second Soviet Occupation (Reoccupation). Political, economical, demographical results of soviet and nazi occupation. (S2)
12. The Restoration of the Independence. (L2)
13. Conclusions. (L2)

Requirements for awarding credit points
1. Students will be expected to prepare readings and present an oral papers during the seminars – 60 %
2. Exam - Students will also write one final paper (18 000-20 000 points, double spaced, 12 point) – 40 %
Compulsory reading

Further reading
5. A. Eidintas, V. Zalis. Lithuania in European Politics. – New York, 1997

Periodicals and other sources
History of European Diplomacy (1914 – 1940)

Course code: Vēst3291  
Credit points: 2  
ECTS: 3  
Total Contact Hours: 32  
Number of hours for lectures: 24  
Number of hours for seminars and practical assignments: 8  
Independent study hours: 48  
Course developer: prof. Aivars Stranga

Course abstract  
The course deals with the main problems of European diplomacy between the WW I and WW II and with the problems in historiography. Course covers the failed attempts to create security on continent by means of the traditional diplomacy - alliances (France’s Eastern Alliances) and by a new diplomacy of the League of Nations, collective security and plans of disarmament. Great attention is devoted to the Foreign Policy and Diplomacy of Germany, France and Great Britain, as well as to the great diplomats of the era: G. Streseman, A. Briand, E. Herriot, Ostin and Nevil Chamberlains. The Foreign policy of Russian (SSSR) and Poland receives its due, too.

Learning outcomes  
After the course students could more professionally evaluate many problems in nowadays international relations, especially, great historical and territorial changes which took place in Central and Eastern Europe after Molotov - Ribbentrop Pact of August 1939; for example - it will be more easy to them to understand the relations between Moldova and Rumania today, as well as historical destiny of the Baltic States an active discussions in Europe about the common features between nazism and communism. The analysis of A. Briand’s plans of European Union (1930) would serve for the better understanding of the history of EU. A great attention will be devoted to the role of personalities in history (for example, could the great Gustav Streseman save Weimar Republic and peace in Europe unless his premature death in October 1929?).

Course plan  
1. Diplomacy during the end of the WWI. Paris Peace conference. 1919. (L2)  
2. The Peace treaties: content, analysis. (S2)  
3. France’s Quest for security: alliances with Belgium, Poland, ,Chehoslovakia; treaties of friendship with Rumania and Yugoslavia. 1920 - 1926. (L2)  
4 The failed attempts to reform the League of Nations. The failure of Geneva protocol (1924). (L2)  
5. The aims and the means of the Foreign Policy of the Weimar Germany. The era of Gustav Streseman (1923 - 1929) (L2)  
6. The Locarno treaties: analysis. (S2)  
10. UK policy on the european security. 1934 - 37. (L2)  
11. The foreign policy of France - from Barthoy to L. Blum. 1934 - 1938. (L2)  
12. The Chehoslovakia crisis. 1938. THe Policy of UK anf FRance. THe Munich conference. (L2)
13 The "revolution" in British foreign policy March, 1939. (S2)
14 British - Polish alliance, March - August 1939. (L2)
15 The aims of Soviet foreign policy in 1939. Relations with Germany. Espionage and foreign policy. D. C. Wat.'How War Came' (L2)
16 The foreign policy of Germany till the end of the July. German - Japanese relations. Soviet - German relations from the end of July till the 19th of August: the preparation of non-aggression pact and a secret protocol with Germany. (L2)

Requirements for awarding credit points
1. A participation in class discussions with 2 oral papers - 60%.
2. Final written exam - a final written paper, a topic of which is chosen in a dialog with professor; 12 - 15 000 points, with a list of literature. - 40%.

Compulsory reading

Further reading

Periodicals and other sources

Notes
Though course is mainly prepared for the history students, it can attract the interest of students of economy, too, because its deals with many problems of international economy and trade in 1919 - 1919.
Recent Economic Development of Latvia

Course code: Ekon5069
Credit points: 2
ECTS: 3
Total Contact Hours: 32
Number of hours for lectures: 16
Number of hours for seminars and practical assignments: 16
Independent study hours: 48
Course developer: prof. Biruta Sloka

Course abstract
The aim of the respective course is to introduce foreign students with Economic development of Latvia in historical and current actual issues prospective. During the course comparisons are given with other Baltic countries. In course materials of Central Statistical Bureau, Bank of Latvia and other institutions are used. Students will get updated information on latest publications, recent information on materials available on the internet, recent information on economic actualities in Latvia.

Learning outcomes
After successful finish of the course, students get basic understanding about the economic development in Latvia, achievements, on news in statistical data bases and scientific publications. During the course exchange of information on current issues in economic development, often guests from ministries are invited to encourage discussions on economic actualities. During the course students get 200 pages of material in electronic version. They are reports of other students on course topics.

Course plan
1. Economic Situation: Brief Overview: comparison with other Baltic countries in the context of economic development (L1; S1)
2. GDP and development tendencies (L1; S1)
3. Structure of the national economy (L1; S1)
4. Regional development and standard of living (L1; S1)
5. State finances (L1; S1)
6. Prices. Development of prices in Latvia (L1; S1)
7. Balance of payment. Foreign direct investment (L1; S1)
8. Finance and capital markets (L1; S1)
9. Labour market, development and problems (L1; S1)
10. National Lisbon Programme of Latvia. Integration of Latvia in the Economic and Structural Policy of the EU (L1; S1)
11. Sector-Specific Development Policies. Privatisation. Public – private partnership (L1; S1)
12. Innovations and New Technologies. Information Society (L1; S1)
13. Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises. Advisory Councils of the Ministry of Economics (L1; S1)
14. Competition Policy. Regulation of Public Utilities. Protection of Consumer Interests and Market Surveillance (L1; S1)
15. Quality Assurance (L1; S1)
16. Export Promotion (L1; S1)
Requirements for awarding credit points
Active participation in seminars (20% of final evaluation); preparation of two individual home tasks (10%; 10%); preparation and presentation of one report (20%). During semester 60% of final evaluation, 40% - during final assessment (written exam).

Compulsory reading
2. Latvijas tautsaimniecība: Makroekonomiskais apskats, LR Ekonomikas ministrija, katru gadu 4 izdevumi.

Further reading

Periodicals and other sources
4. Latvijas Investīciju un attīstības aģentūra http://www.liaa.gov.lv/
5. Finanšu un kapitāla tirgus uzraudzības komisija http://www.fktk.lv/
A History of Latvian Culture: 20th Century

Course code: Vēst2102
Credit points: 2
ECTS: 3
Total Contact Hours: 32
Number of hours for lectures: 16
Number of hours for seminars and practical assignments: 16
Independent study hours: 48
Prerequisite knowledge: Vēst2030, Latvia in 20th century
Course developer: Inese Runce

Course abstract
Course is based on the chronological principles. In terms of certain historical period, certain cultural processed are analyzed in 20th century and contemporary Latvia, paying more attention towards the history of intellectual thoughts and cultural development under different political, economical and ideological influences.
Students will have thematic lectures in Riga’s museums, group discussions, and movie analysis.

Learning outcomes
Students will gain knowledge and understanding of cultural processes in Latvia in 20th century, learn cultural facts, ideas and detect the most famous Latvian intellectuals, visit museums etc.

Course plan
1. The short introduction in the previous development of Latvian culture, especially paying attention towards 19th century and its major aspects. The influence of industrialization in cultural development. The Marxist ideas and its popularity in the Latvian society. The national question and segmented society – a transition from social society to the nationally segmented society. The revolution of 1905 and its influence in culture. The development of secular culture. The celebration of Riga’s jubilee. Art Novou in Riga. (2L; 2S)
2. Culture in Latvia: 1914 – 1920 under the First World War and the revolutions of 1917. The Red terror and the influence of Bolshevistic ideology on cultural processes. The localization of Latvian culture during the Bolshevistic regime. Latvians in the Soviet Russia and their cultural rise and fall in 20s and 30s of 20th century. (2L; 2S)
3. The development of culture during the independent Latvia: 1920 – 1940. The rise of national culture and national consciousness. Latvian culture in the European and world’s context. The regionalism in Latvian culture. The impact of K.Ulmanis’ coupe on cultural processes. (2L; 2S)
4. Latvian culture under the Soviet and Nazi occupation power: 1940-1945. (2L; 2S)
5. The major periods of cultural development during the second period of the Soviet occupation, the main achievements and failures. The impact of Khrushchev’s reform period on culture in Latvia. The national protests and its flash on cultural life. The problem of Church in the Communist ideology. (2L; 2S)
6. The culture of Latvian exile in the Western Europe, North America and Australia. (2L; 2S)
7. Latvian culture during the Third Awakening process. Decolonization and democratization of culture. (2L; 2S)
Requirements for awarding credit points

Attendance – optional
Seminars and practical classes: 50%
Written exam and study diaries – 50%

Compulsory reading

Further reading

Periodicals and other sources
www.letonica.lv
www.estonica.es
www.lituanistica.lt
A History of Ethnic Minorities in Latvia

Course code: Vēst2105
Credit points: 2
ECTS: 3
Total Contact Hours: 32
Number of hours for lectures: 28
Number of hours for seminars and practical assignments: 4
Independent study hours: 48
Course developer: Inese Runce

Course abstract
The aim of course is to give knowledge of processes and periods of formation of multicultural society of the Latvia and intellectual benefits of ethnic minorities in society of Latvia. In this course students will gather knowledge about certain ethnic minorities: Baltic – Germans, Jews, Poles, Russians, etc., from the beginnings till nowadays.
In terms of course agenda there will be organized practical classes at the museum "Jews in Latvia," Riga's Greneshikov community of Russsian Old believers, discussions and analysis of articles and study movies.

Learning outcomes
This course will give deeper insight in the historical and cultural processes of development of cultural diversity and enrich understanding about Latvia’s variety and specifics of culture. As well this course will present history of ethnic groups in Latvia. This course will give possibility practically meet representatives of Latvian ethnic minorities and see their institutions in charge.

Course plan
1. The historical processes of multiethnic and multireligious development of Latvia’s society. The geopolitical aspects in history of Latvia. (L4)
2. German cultural heritage in Latvia. The Baltic-Germans in Latvia: 13th -20th century. (L4)
3. Russian cultural influence in Latvia. The old believers and their cultural and religious history in Latvia. (L4; S2)
4. Polish cultural aspects in Latvia, particularly in region of Latgale and its cultural history. (L4)
5. Jews in Latvia: 16th – 20th century. The most famous Jewish personalities in Latvia. (L4; S2)
6. Estonians, Lithuanians, Byelorussians, Gypsies in Latvia. (L4)
7. The question of ethnic minorities – the perspectives in future in Latvia. The creation of new identities. (L4)

Requirements for awarding credit points
Attendance – not obligatory;
Active participation in seminars, studies tours and practical classes – 50%;
Exam (studies diaries) – 50%

Compulsory reading

Further reading

Periodicals and other sources
1. www.staroveri.lv
2. www.vecticiba.lv
3. www.jews.lv