



COURSE LIST FOR THE INCOMING ERASMUS STUDENTS

2023 / 2024 ACADEMIC YEAR

FACULTY OF HISTORY

Faculty coordinator: Assoc. Prof, Violeta Kotseva PhD, ykkoceva@uni-sofia.bg

Course code	Course title (in English)	Language of instruction	Course offered to BA/BS, MA/MS, PhD	Semester (winter/ summer)	ECTS	Workload (hours)			Lecturer/s's name	Lecturer/s's E-mail
						Lectures	Seminars	Practical work		
IS Z 025	Contemporary History of Bulgaria	English	BA MA PhD	winter	4	45			Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rymiana Marinova- Christidi	rumjanadm@uni-sofia.bg

Short description of the course:

The course “Contemporary History of Bulgaria” has as its purpose to introduce students to the most important events and trends in Bulgarian History during the second half of the 20th Century. It follows a chronological principle and covers the period from the beginning of World War II until the end of Socialism in 1989. During the course of the lectures, students should acquire knowledge about the main historical events and processes of contemporary Bulgarian history, and to develop their skills in selecting, and examining historical information. An important element of the course is the opportunity provided to the students to get acquainted with historical sources and to analyze them on their own. Video and photographic material will also be used, helping the students to visualize and to better memorize historical figures, places, events and objects.

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IS Z 019	Modern History of the Balkans	English	BA MA	winter	5	45	15		Assoc. Prof. Dr. Naum Kaichev	kaytchev@cli.o.uni-sofia.bg

Short description of the course:

The course includes general introduction into the political and social development of the Balkan societies with particular focus on their interrelationship with major European countries. The course presents the major notions and images on Balkans and the region's development in interconnection with (West) European influences on it. Particular attention is paid to processes connected with the European integration of the region after 1960s.

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IS E 025	Media Presentation of History	English	BA MA PhD	winter	4	45			Assoc. Prof. Radosslav Spasov	rstefanovs@uni-sofia.bg

Short description of the course:

This is the distance course focusing on different ways to present a history. How we can use a history for resolve the conflicts or to produce a conflicts.

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IS E 701	History of the Bulgarian Jews, 1878 – Today	English	BA MA PhD	winter	4	45			Assoc. Prof. Rymiana Marinova- Christidi	<u>rumianadm@uni-sofia.bg</u>

Short description of the course:

The course “History of the Bulgarian Jews” has as its purpose to introduce students to Jewish life, the organization of the Jewish community and its relationship with the Bulgarian state since the establishment of the modern Bulgarian state in 1878. Following a small introduction to the Jewish presence in the Bulgarian lands from the Antiquity until the period of Ottoman rule, the course will seek to examine the position and development of Jewish communities into the new Bulgarian state concentrating upon 6 distinct periods: a. From 1878 until 1918, b. 1918 until 1940 c. 1940 until 1944,

d. 1944 – 1947 e. 1947 – 1989 f. 1989 – today. During each period the course will examine Jewish community characteristics, its development, and its relationship with wider Bulgarian society as well with the state. In addition, as each of the six periods represents a distinct period in the evolution of the Bulgarian state the course will seek to examine a variety of cardinal issues in Bulgarian history and how Jews were affected from or positioned themselves towards: for example on the issue of territorial expansion after 1878 and Bulgaria’s participation in the Wars of 1885, 1912-13, 1915-1918 or how the ideological polarization and political instability of the Interwar years (1918-1939) affected the Jewish community. Special emphasis will be given on the terrible years of Bulgaria’s alignment with Nazi Germany. Especially on how the centuries long coexistence between Bulgarian and Jews, based on mutual respect and the development of close ties between the two communities, as well as the affiliation and loyalty of the Jews towards the new Bulgarian state, established in 1878, created the preconditions for their salvation during the Holocaust, a truly European exception. The first post- war years also deserve special attention: the community went through an “internal struggle” under the ideological allure of Zionism choosing to massively immigrate to Palestine and to newly-established Jewish state there.

The Socialist period in Bulgaria presented particular challenges for the remaining Jewish community and the course will attempt to explain their complex relationship with the new Communist power, as well as the evolution of wider Bulgarian-Israeli relations. Finally after 1989, and the beginning of the so-called transition period in Bulgarian politics and economics, the course will examine the main challenges faced by the dwindling Jewish community.

During the course of the lectures, students should acquire knowledge about the main historical events and processes concerning Bulgarian Jews, and to develop their skills in selecting, and examining historical information. An important element of the course is the opportunity provided to the students to get acquainted with historical sources and to analyze them on their own. Video and photographic material will also be used,

helping the students to visualize and to better memorize historical figures, places, events and objects.

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IS 5E005	The Synagogue	English	BA MA PhD	winter	4	30			Assist. Prof. Dr. Mina Tasseva Bencheva	mina_tasseva@yahoo.fr

Short description of the course:

The course aims at introducing the students to the institution of the synagogue, its history, and its importance in Jewish culture. After a brief introduction to the main problematics and methods of study, the course focuses on the main periods of synagogue's history, the art forms associated with it, its role in Judaism and community life. The synagogue's history and role are traced from the perspective of the Jewish culture and in the context of interaction with other cultures and religions. Throughout the semester, the students will have the opportunity to work with documents and materials related to the course's program.

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IS Z 706	Semiotics of the Votive Monuments of the Ancient Thracians	English	BA MA PhD	winter / summer	4	45			Prof. Dr. Sc. Dilyana Boteva	<u>boteva@uni-sofia.bg</u>

Short description of the course:

Votive reliefs of the ancient Thracians are among the most numerous "local" monuments and this fact determines their importance for the study of the Thracian religious beliefs and practices. The lack of Thracian literary tradition and, accordingly, the lack of any trustful key to the way we are supposed to approach these monuments results in serious controversies among the researchers when interpreting the relevant manifestations

of the Thracian religious life.

The lecture course aims at reasoning the necessity of approaching the votive monuments of the ancient Thracians with methods of the semiotics as one of the possibilities to get a correct reading of their visual texts. The main stress is laid on the thousand reliefs depicting the so called Thracian Rider/Thracian Heros (Albert Dummont), but representations of other divinities, found throughout the Thracian lands, are going to be taken into consideration as well.

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IS E 001	Everyday Life in Socialist Bulgaria	English	BA MA	winter	5	45		15	Assoc. Prof. Iliia Iliev	isiliev@uni-sofia.bg

Short description of the course:

The course will offer a glimpse of the everyday life in Bulgaria in 1960s to 1980s. It will consist of two main parts. First, there will be ethnographic descriptions on nine key topics: housing, shopping and consumerist practices, agriculture and food production, travel and tourism, ageing and pensions system, family and gender relations, class and professional identity, religion and religiosity, institutional system and functioning of institutions. These descriptions will be based on specific archival documents - complaints, denotations, and suggestions written by citizens to institutions. In parallel, we will discuss papers on the same topics, written by modern historians, anthropologists, or researchers in cultural studies, arts, and literature. The students will be expected to read these papers on their own and to be able to comment upon them in class. We will investigate how the sources (archival documents from official institutions, documents produced by ordinary citizens, oral histories and memories, personal observations, arts and literature) used by the researcher impact her/his final analysis. The examination will be a short (5-8 pages) essay.

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IS E 603	The Ottoman Rule and the Demographic Changes – the Bulgarian Lands, the Balkans and Europe	English	BA MA	summer	3	45			Assoc. Prof. Milena Petkova-Encheva, PhD	milenaip@uni-sofia.bg
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Short description of the course:

The lectures reveal problems in the field of historical demography of Europe and the Ottoman Empire in general and the dynamics of the demographic changes of the Bulgarian lands as a case study. The dynamics and the demographic changes are presented through the analyses of the ongoing transformations in social, economic and political development of the Balkans, the Ottoman Empire and Europe. The lectures present the major principals and methodology applied to historical and demographic reconstruction of the Bulgarian lands under the Ottoman rule. The main topics to be discussed are: the major trends in the demographic development of Europe, Ottoman Empire and the Bulgarian lands, end of XIVth – XVII c.; reveals the historical evidences on the demographic history for the period under study; traces the demographic changes related to conversion to Islam, colonization of Muslim population, migrations, etc.

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IS 03	In the Antechamber of the Mediaeval Culture: Art and Society in Byzantium and West Europe (IV-XV C.)	English	BA MA	winter	3	45			Assoc. Prof. Albena Milanova, PhD	milanova_albena@yahoo.com

Short description of the course:

This course aim to introduce students in the field of the mediaeval cultural model as a normative, symbolic system and its manifestation through different artistic forms in the two historically formed geographical and cultural European zones: Byzantium and West Europe. The parallel and comparative presentation of the processes and the cultural production in these two regions give students the opportunity to perceive the unity and the diversification of the mediaeval cultural space. The course seeks to analyze the forms of the visual art and the architecture from a variety of perspectives, especially in the original context of their making and reception and, in their relationship with the social environment that produce them. It teaches students how to engage, understand and interpret architecture and visual art and makes them familiar with their multiple meanings depending on the kinds of research and interpretative strategies that art historians bring into play.

The theoretical lectures are accompanied by series of extend visual and practical demonstrations and field research (research visits to different kind of mediaeval monuments in Bulgaria and work with the original Byzantine manuscripts from the collection of the Research Center for Slavic and Byzantine Studies “Prof. Ivan Duychev”).

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IS E 702	The War in Medieval Europe and the Mediterranean	English French	BA MA	winter	3	30			Assist. Prof. Nikola Dyulgerov	<u>nrdjulgero@uni-sofia.bg</u>

Short description of the course:

The course examines the main aspects in the development of warfare in the Middle Ages in Europe and the Mediterranean. It examines the types of weapons, fortress construction, combat tactics and military contingents. The course focuses on the traditional warfare of the medieval nations and changes in it, as a result of various social, geographical, economic, political and ideological conditions. Attention is paid to the ideological preparation and the consequences of war in medieval Europe.

Subjects:

1. Warfare in "barbaric" kingdoms; 2. Warfare in Carolingian times; 3. Vikings; 4. Magyars; 5. Warfare in Byzantium; 6. Knighthood; 7. Warfare in the crusader states; 8. Protective clothing and arms and offensive weapons; 9. Castles, fortresses and siege equipment; 10. Sea warfare in XII-XV century; 11. The Hundred Years war; 12. The mercenaries; 13. War and noncombatants in the Middle Ages; 14. Innovations in warfare in the late Middle Ages

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IS 35	„Barbarian Europe“ and the Mediterranean area. Contacts and interrelations during the second half of the First Millennium BCE	English	BA MA	summer	3	30			Assist. Prof. Julij Emilov, PhD	j.emilov@uni-sofia.bg
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Short description of the course:

Focus of the course is on major historical events during the second half of the First Millenium BCE, related to the topic of „European barbarians“ (Iron Age communities in Temperate Europe) and their interrelations to contemporaries, partners or adversaries in the Mediterranean regions (Iberia, Italia, Hellas, Anatolia) and the nearest periphery (Illyria and Thrace).

Discussion of ancient written sources on migrations and mobility to the Apennine and to the Balkan peninsula, as well as examination on the available archaeological evidence serve as basis to provide insight into general and regional patterns of interaction of „barbarians“ to „civilized“ communities in Pre-Roman Europe.

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IS E 009	Everyday Life in Post-Socialist Bulgaria	English	BA MA	summer	3	30			Assoc. Prof. Ilia Iliev, PhD	isiliev@uni-sofia.bg

Short description of the course:

The course offers a glimpse at everyday life in Bulgaria during the transition period after the fall of communism. The selection of topics largely follows the research interests of Bulgarian and foreign anthropologists who worked in the country at that time. A more ambitious goal is to compare the approaches of local and visiting scholars and to discuss their respective advantages and shortcomings. The following topics will be discussed: 1. Prelude. Irwin Sanders 'Balkan village' (1949) and the local ethnographic tradition. 2. Economy of Bulgarian village in 1990s. 3. Urban landscape. Homemade food. The rise and fall of petty traders. 4. Transformation of the family. Demographic collapse. 5. Re-negotiation of gender and age roles. Crisis of gender identity. 6. Childhood and old age in 1990s. 6. Migrations. Internal and external, work and social, chain and individual ones. 7. Ethnic minorities. Roma, Turks, Pomaks. 8. Religion and political culture. 9. The Past. Nostalgia and ownership battles. 10. Civil society, protests, and the tale of NGOs. 11. Consumption patterns and the art of complaining. 12. Tourists and rural houses owners. Final dioscussion: Is anthropology at home possible?

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IS E 010	The Ottoman “World- Economy” – New Approaches to Imperial “Economic Mind”	English	BA/MA	winter	3	45			Assoc. Prof. Milena Petkova-Encheva, PhD	milenaip@uni-sofia.bg
<p>Short description of the course: Till present the research interest in ottoman studies incorporated history of administrative, religious, political, social, economic and many other perspectives. Last decades prove to be successful for studies in the field of the environmental history as well. The present course suggests an approach combining economic and ethnodemographic data in correlation to environment history. Different thematic panels of the course trace back the process and the conditions of establishment of settlement network and the ethnodemographic characteristics in parts of Bulgarian lands including sedentarization of semi-nomadic groups. Next “step” of the course is to outline the environment history of the regions during the ottoman rule in correlation with the economic and demographic development. It reveals the process of the “economic” conquest of territories inthe ottoman imperial framework. The lectures, in seek of comparative approach, examine the relevant processes in other regions of the Ottoman Empire and Europe as well.</p>										
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IS II022	Revolution and Dictatorship in Latin America during 20th Century	English	BA/MA/PhD	summer	2	30			Assoc. Prof. Alexandar Sivilov, PhD	asivilov@uni-sofia.bg

Short description of the course:

The bachelor course has the aim to introduce the students to the political realities in Latin America in the 20th century. The two main traditions typical for the region are traced – the interference of the army in the political structures and the reaction of the oppressed citizens through revolution. The lectures are based on geographic and chronological principle. The main characteristics of the reformist and revolutionary movements in Latin America will be outlined as some of their specific features will be especially pointed out.

Special attention will be focused on the military traditions in the region and the system of caudilism which in the 20th century is transformed in a row of authoritarian regimes. There will be also revealed the foreign influence which led to these political extremes of the Cold War. The course will give the students good knowledge of the political traditions of the region as well as the social and economic order of the countries.

Themes:

1. Political traditions of Latin America.
2. Latin America and the Great Powers.
3. The Left in the region.
4. The military and the Power.
5. Mexico – the longest revolution.
6. Argentina from Peronism to the late Dictatorships.
7. Guatemala – civil war and repression.
8. Cuba the fate of an icon.
9. Brazil – from the first neoliberal military dictatorship to the theology of freedom.
10. Peru army rule and maoist guerrilla.
11. Chile the social experiment.
12. Augusto Sandino and his legacy in Nicaragua.
13. Honduras and El Salvador – how a civil war is made.
14. Columbia from democracy to narcostate.
15. The new place of Venezuela.

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IS 3024	History of Russia during 20th Century	English	BA MA	winter	4	30	30		Assoc. Prof. Alexandar Sivilov, PhD	asivilov@un i-sofia.bg

Short description of the course:

The bachelor course has the aim to familiarize the students with the founding, rise and decay of the Soviet Union. This state is one of the most important phenomenon of the contemporary history. Its existence changes thoroughly the paradigm of state building since for the basis of the institutional system for the first time in history is used modern political theory - the communism. The USSR became example for the opportunities for motivation of the masses linked to the contemporary policies. In its early time of existence the state astonished western rulers with its ability to resist external pressure. The strive of the Great Powers to eradicate this social experiment lead to it consolidation and later to the formation of one of the early totalitarian states. During the rule of Joseph Stalin USSR became one of the strongest industrial systems and after the WWII one of the poles of the global antagonism. The mere existence of Soviet Union changed the course of the history. On one hand it made possible the acceptance of many of the social achievements of our society which nowadays we accept as granted. On the other hand, it became synonym of brutal repression and terror. In the lectures I am trying to achieve a balanced glimpse at this controversial and complex problematic.

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IS E 601	Russia as Multiethnic and Multireligious State, 16 th – 20 th c.	English	BA MA PhD	Winter	4	45		15	Assoc. Prof. Alexei Kalionski, Assoc. Prof. T. Georgieva	kaluonski@ uni-sofia.bg tinageorgie va@abv.bg

Short description of the course:

The main goal of this course is to trace out the history of ethnic, religious, and national relations in the Russian imperial and Soviet contexts. Having in mind the historiographic and theoretical debates in this field, it will outline some representative cases of state policy, pre-modern and modern identity, crisis and conflict, integration and disintegration.

Themes:

1. Territorial expansion in the 16th c. and the foundation of Russian multiethnic empire. Tatars under Russian rule.
2. Territorial expansion in 17th c.: colonization of the steppes and Siberia. Ukraine between Poland-Lithuania, Russia and the Ottoman empire.
3. Territorial expansion in East Europe and Asia, 18th –19th c. Russian America.
4. Russia as multiethnic and multireligious state in 17th – 19th c. Social structures, religions, state policies and practices. Ways of life, elites, religious communities and pre-modern identities.

5. Russia as multiethnic and multireligious state in mid-19th – beginning of 20th c. The imperial “old regime”, reforms, and the rise of nationalism.
6. Nationalisms, nationalist movements, and the disintegration of the Russian empire, 1905-1917.
7. The Bolsheviks and the “national question”, 1903–1922.
8. USSR in the 1920s – 1930s: Soviet federation units, nations, ethnicities, and policies.
9. Stalinist national policy: social engineering and repression.
10. “Soviet people”: state policies, ethnicities and nations after Stalin, 1950s –1980s.
11. Perestroika, glasnost, nationalism, and the disintegration of USSR, 1985–1991.

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IS 3004	Post-Soviet Russia between the Soviet Past and the Eurasian Future (Russian Identity, Geopolitical Transformations, Ideological Vectors)	English	BA MA PhD	Summer	2	30			Prof. Dr. Darina Grigorova	darina.grigorova@uni-sofia.bg

Short description of the course:

The course of lectures is focused on key issues in Post-Soviet Russian History. The Geopolitical Transformations of Russian Foreign Policy in the Post-Soviet space combining the imperial universality and the Russian national interests. The Ideological and Civilizational Vectors of Russia – Eurasian, Liberal, Slavic, Orthodox and the Russian Identity – the ‘Russian Idea’ and Holy Russia. The chronological period of lectures is from the disintegration of the Soviet Union in 1991 to the reunification of Crimea in 2014 and into the present times.

The program consists of six topics:

1. The history of disintegration of the USSR from Soviet Political System to the Presidency Republic of Russian Federation (1991–1993).
2. The Great Eurasia and the Great Europe in Russian Foreign Policy Doctrine after 1991.
3. The Post-Soviet Ukraine and Belarus and Russian Federation – Geopolitical Reality, Nation Identity Question – historical contexts and political and social debates.
4. The Post-Soviet Russian Society and the memory of the Revolutions in 20th century (February and October 1917, August–December 1991), contemporary debates, visions.

5. The Eurasianism – from the Ideology of Russian Emigration after the Bolshevik Revolution in 1917 to the the Eastern Vector of Russian Diplomacy in the Central Asia.
6. The Doctrine Russky Mir and the Russian Policy in the Balkans.

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IS II 306	ETHNIC AND RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES IN BULGARIA: PAST AND CULTURAL HERITAGE	English	BA MA PhD	Winter	4	45			Assoc. Prof. Dr Alexei Kalionski	kaluonski@uni-sofia.bg
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Short description of the course (in the language of instruction):

The main goal of this course is to present the past of different ethnic and religious groups, as well as their contemporary situation in the Bulgarian national, and Balkan regional context. It will address several representative cases of minority politics, discourses, and identities.

Themes:

1. Historical development of minority groups in Bulgaria: political, social and cultural aspects.
2. Minority groups in contemporary Bulgaria.
3. Official and unofficial discourses, stereotypes and images of the “other”.
4. Tradition and change: cultural formulations and representations, sites of memory and holy sites.
5. Marginalization, assimilation, and cultural survival in national and diaspora context: Gypsies/Roma.
6. Religion, tradition, and politics: Pomaks/Muslim Bulgarians.
7. From threatened identity to political representation: Bulgarian Turks.
8. Between the nation and the global diaspora: Jews and Armenians.
9. From nomadic community to integration and assimilation in a Balkan nation: Karakachans/Sarakatsani and Vlachs/Aromanians

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IS II 306	Minorities and Policies in Bulgaria	English	BA MA PhD	Winter	3	45			Assist. Prof. Petya Vasileva-Grueva	petjasv@uni-sofia.bg

Short description of the course (in the language of instruction):

The course presents an anthropological view of the various minorities and confessional communities in Bulgaria. On the one hand, he traces the Faculty of History, Sofia University 14 policy of the Bulgarian state and institutions towards these communities during the different historical periods. This policy is formed under the influence of various strategic, socio-economic, ideological and cultural contexts. On the otherhand, it traces the intra-group dynamics of the communities, the formation and development of their identification strategies and their interactionwith the Bulgarian state and society. Large communities such as Turks, Pomaks and Roma, as well as small well-integrated communities suchas Jews, Armenians, Vlachs and others will be considered. The course aims to highlight the sources and nature of the various state policies of assimilation and integration and their impact on the contemporary identity of these communities

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IS E 013	Digital Ressources and Socio-Economic History	English	BA, MA, PhD	summer	3	30			Assoc. Prof. Hristo Berov	berov@uni -sofia.bg

Short description of the course (in the language of instruction):

Across the university the way in which we pursue research is changing, and digital technology is playing a significant part in that change. Indeed, it is becoming more and more evident that research is increasingly being mediated through digital technology. The main purpose of the course is to get the specific knowledge of different types of digital resources, data bases and digital collections and to give a specific competence to students how to use and develop and elaborate specific resources if it's needed. The main focus will be on the possible use of such kind of resources for the research on the social and economic topics in the context of the Balkan history from XIX to XXI cc.

Requirements for enrollment: YES

If any, please describe the specific requirements: Computer skills, basic knowledge in ancient history and archaeology

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IS E 012	Digital Numismatics	English	BA, MA, PhD	winter	3	30			Assist. Prof. Lily Grozdanova	l.grozdanova@uni-sofia.bg
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Short description of the course (in the language of instruction):

The research potential of digital humanities (DH) practically changes not only the way we gather and systemize source material and data. The intensive development of digital technologies led to a qualitative change in our ability to analyze, interpret and literally see them. The core data able to describe the individual coin is suitable to undergo quantitative, as well as qualitative and interpretational computer-based analyses. These characteristics of the materials make the Digital Numismatics projects crucial for the development of the DH field and the research of the Ancient world and numismatics in particular. The course will explore not only theoretical principles and concepts as the application of Linked Open Data (LOD) but will also concentrate on and test the potential of diverse web-based numismatic tools and platforms by applying them in the education and research process.

Requirements for enrollment: YES

If any, please describe the specific requirements: Computer skills, basic knowledge in ancient history and archaeology

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						Lectures	Seminars	Practical work		
IS E014	GIS and Ancient history: digital tools for ancient studies	English	BA, MA, PhD	summer	3	30			Assoc. Prof. Julia Tzvetkova	julia.tzvetkova@uni-sofia.bg

Short description of the course (in the language of instruction): In the last decades the use of Geographic Information System (GIS) has become wide spread in natural and social sciences. In the field of humanities, with respect to the ancient history and archaeology, GIS offers a batch of tools for data editing, visualisation and, most importantly, querying and analysing. All of these facilitate the analysis and allow for modelling of spatial phenomena such as settlement systems, relationships and communications between the settlements, roads and road system, etc. The present course is focused on the application of GIS in ancient studies, with a special accent on ancient Thrace. Several case studies from the ancient Thracian history will be discussed for demonstrating the possibilities of GIS application for mapping, storing, visualization, but most of all - analysing the antiquity. During the course, students receive basic knowledge of GIS applications in ancient history and for GIS-based analysis of ancient sources.

Requirements for enrollment: YES

If any, please describe the specific requirements: Computer skills, basic knowledge in ancient history and archaeology

Course code	Course title (in English)	Language of instruction	Course offered to BA/BS, MA/MS, PhD	Semester (winter/ summer)	ECTS	Workload (hours)			Lecturer/s's name	Lecturer/s's E-mail
						Lectures	Seminars	Practical work		
IS 3 019	Ethnomuseology	English	BA MA	summer	4	45		15	Assist.Prof. PhD Iliana Strahilova	ilistra@abv. bg

Short description of the course:

This course is divided in 3 parts – historical introduction and theory, analyzing contemporary museology in Bulgaria and practice. During this course Erasmus students will be introduced to the origin and the development of the idea of intangible heritage in Bulgaria. At the first part of the course there will be a brief historical introduction to the problem and how the museums were established here as institutions. During the course we will look through the problems that occur during the war period and how museum workers and the government dealt with them. The end of the historical introduction will be related to the development and the state politics related to the forming of the image of Bulgaria as a touristic product during the Socialist period and what role the museums played in this strategy. Students will learn how the state policy helped opening and developing new types of museums.

The next part is related to the current situation of the Bulgarian museums. Students will be introduced to the state policy nowadays and how it influences the museum work. One of the main topics will be related to the different types of museums as an institution (national, regional, etc.) and how they collaborate with the local authorities. It will also be discussed the problem with the socialistic heritage and how it is perceived by the Bulgarian citizens, how and whether different institutions take part or influence on solving it. It will be paid attention to the contemporary conditions in the museums including presentation, infrastructure, advertisement, popularization and the role of the museum workers in the communication with the audiences.

The last part of the course is practical. Students will visit different types of museums in Sofia to see how Bulgarian identity and cultural heritage is presented. Also, during the course, it will be taught how an exhibition is organized and build. Students will learn how to prepare and

fill different types of museum documentation work and why it is important.

Students who successfully finish this course will learn how to work with museum documents and will be able to participate in the whole process of creating a concept for exhibitions (choosing the museum objects, writing texts and annotations and displaying them). They will be able to critically evaluate museum exhibitions and displaying of tangible and intangible cultural heritage.

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Z 007	History of Religions: Judaism	English	BA MA PhD	Summer	3	30			Assist. Prof. Dr. Mina Tasseva Bencheva	mina_tasseva @yahoo.fr

Short description of the course (in the language of instruction):

The course introduces students to the history of Judaism with respect to the study of the Abrahamic religions and Jewish culture. After an introduction to the terminology and the significant methods of religious study, it examines the major moments in the development of Judaism from the age of the Patriarchs to the Rabbinic Judaism, while focusing on central concepts and ideological strands for the examined periods. The history of Judaism is traced from the perspective of Jewish culture and in the context of its interaction with the religions in Antiquity, Christianity and Islam. Students will be introduced to resources and materials on the proposed program topics.