

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Despotism Rebellion and Elections in Eastern Europe till the 18th Century - 39397

Last update 21-08-2022

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: History

Academic year: 0

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Yehudit Kalik

Coordinator Email: kalik@012.net.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Tuesday 15:30-16:30

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Yehudit Kalik

Course/Module description:

From its political formation in the late 15th century, Eastern Europe became a playground for attempts to establish opposite political systems: Muscovite Russia, and later the Russian Empire marches with short intervals towards authoritarianism and even despotism, while the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, Crown Poland, and later the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth nourish parliamentary systems. The course will examine historical roots of these developments, including such issues as: elections and parliaments in Russia and Poland, attempts to design constitutional forms of government in Russia, rebellions of various social strata (nobles, Cossacks, peasants, national and religious minorities) in Poland and Russia.

Course/Module aims:

To provide a historical perspective to the understanding of the social and political structures in Eastern Europe.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

At the end of the course students will acquaint central issues in the formation of political structures and ideologies in Eastern Europe in the early modern age.

Attendance requirements(%):

100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Discussion with the students on a basis of scholarly literature and primary sources.

Course/Module Content:

The following subjects will be discussed: What are the roots of Russian autocracy: Mongol, Turkish, or western influence? What is the place of the Republic of Novgorod in the Russian historical heritage? Was the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth a parliamentary republic or a feudal decentralized monarchy? Why all attempts to establish a constitutional monarchy in Russia from the "age of troubles" in the early 17th century to the "great reforms" of Alexander II in the mid-19th century have failed? What is the difference between institutionalized rebellions in Poland and peasants' wars in Russia and Poland?

Required Reading:

appears in the moodle

Additional Reading Material:

appears in the moodle

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 0 %

Presentation 0 %

Participation in Tutorials 50 %

Project work 50 %

Assignments 0 %

Reports 0 %

Research project 0 %

Quizzes 0 %

Other 0 %

Additional information: