

Course description

History

Course name, ECTS, quarter / semester, contact hours

History; 4 ECTS; quarter 3; 44 contact hours

Authors of the course:

Dr. Evgeny A. Khvalkov, Senior Lecturer, Department of History, HSE Saint-Petersburg
Nikita Balagurov, PhD Student, Department of History, HSE Saint-Petersburg

Outline

The course of “History” is aimed at conveying to the students relevant knowledge on the Russian history. The students are taught how to use the historical knowledge in everyday life (e.g. for the analysis of the content of mass-media, understanding the logic of functioning of the state and private institutions, etc.).

In the course of their studies within the framework of this discipline, the students are expected to:

- Know the professional historical terminology and use it professionally;
- Understand the specific peculiarities of the Russian history;
- Be able to present in a logical and consistent way their knowledge on the Russian history;
- Evaluate the content of the mass-media using the relevant conceptual frameworks;
- Present their knowledge on the Russian history in both oral and written form.

This discipline makes part of the academic curriculum of the Humanities.

Structure and content

Each topic correspond to one lecture (two hours) + one seminar (two hours) + eight hours of self-study
1. European territory of Russia from the Paleolithic till the ninth century.
2. Kievan Rus' from its formation till the Mongol invasion (9 th – 13 th cc.).
3. Medieval Russia in 14 th – 15 th cc.
4. The rise of the Principality of Moscow. The political and military crises of the 16 th – 17 th cc.
5. Russia in the 17 th c.
6. Russia in early 18 th c. Peter the Great's reforms.
7. Russian Empire in the époque of Enlightened Absolutism.
8. Russia and Europe in the époque of the Napoleonic wars.
9. Russian Empire in the 19 th c.: the problems of modernization.
10. Russian Empire and the nationalist movements in the 19 th c.: the imperial borders, foreign policy and international relations.
11. The causes and the course of three Russian revolutions (political, social, ecclesiastic, economic and agrarian problems).

Prerequisites

The class is expected to have good command in both written and oral English (at least B1/B2), good communication skills, and basic knowledge of Russian history coming from their middle / high school background, and general understanding of the logic of social processes.

Assessment: written examination; coursework; essays; class participation.

Written examination (30%)

Coursework (30%)

Essays (20%)

Class participation (20%).