"**An Introduction to a History of Science and Technology"**

Professor Julia Lajus

It is an introductory course that does not require any prior knowledge of the subject. The course duration is 16 hours in 4 days split proportionately into lectures and seminars, at which students will discuss assigned readings. The course focuses primarily on the 20th century development of science and technology with an introductory lecture on earlier periods. The course examines the history of scientific ideas and practices in the social context of the production of knowledge, history of innovations and large socio-technological systems.

The course is structured in 4 thematic blocks / days. The first one discusses the state of the art in technological and scientific development on the eve of the 20th century. The introductory lecture based on John Pickston conception of ‘ways of knowing’ provides a concise outline of development of science prior 1900. The technological development is presented on the examples of the technologies displayed at the Paris World Fair in 1900. The second block is devoted to the history of innovations and functioning of large socio-technological systems on the example of work by American inventor Thomas Edison. The problems of development of international scientific programmes and transfer of knowledge between different countries and cultures is discussed on the example of International Polar Years. Influence of the Second World War and Cold War on the rise of science and technology including nuclear programs, studies of the Earth, oceans and cosmos on the both sides of the Iron Curtain is the focus of the third day of the course. The final lecture / seminar is devoted to the history of global commons on the example of climate science.