



UNIwersytet
JAGIELLOŃSKI
W KRAKOWIE

Course title	Central Europe - Politics, Society, and International Relations
ECTS	6
ECTS allocation	Contact hours 30: 1; readings 30 hours- 1,5, presentation 30: 1,5 ECTS, preparation to the exam 50 hours :2 ECTS
Course goals (e.	This course aims to introduce students to Central Europe's politics, society and international relations. The subject adopts a chronological and problem-oriented approach and will focus on post-communist Central Europe, presenting different aspects of transformation and the Europeanisation of the region. The first part is dedicated to the definition and perception of the region, while the second part focuses on the case studies of Poland, Hungary, Czechia, Slovakia and their neighbours. The second part aims to give students a general overview of the domestic and international aspects as well as current challenges in the region (rising populist illiberalism, security issues, polarisation of societies)
Skills - Student can	On successful completion of the module, students will be able to understand major trends in contemporary CEE politics and society in the context of the EU enlargement and post-enlargement. The course will then contribute to the development of various intellectual skills. The lectures, students' discussions, presentations and readings will contribute to developing the application of knowledge.
Knowledge - student knows	The approach employed in the module will allow students to gather knowledge on historical developments, current events, and theoretical explanations. It will allow students to better comprehend processes underscoring contemporary CEE in the context of current

Ośrodek

Międzyobszarowych

Indywidualnych

Studiów

Humanistycznych

i Społecznych

Rynek Główny 8/16

31-042 Kraków

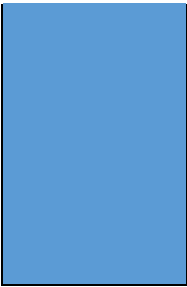
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	challenges (war in Ukraine, rising Euroscepticism).
Social competences - student is ready to ...	Students will be ready to work individually and as a group, also to organise their study process through the self-guided museum tour. The practical skills acquired during the course consist of the ability to analyse and assess and also talk and write about the particular problems of CEE politics, history and society.
Course content	1. Deconstructing Central Europe: Introduction to the seminar agenda 2. Political history of Central Europe (in a nutshell). 3. Case study: Poland 4. Case study: Slovakia 5. Case study: Czechia 6. Case study: Hungary 7. Regional challenges: international relations and bilateral cooperation 8. V4 cooperation - simulation of the Visegrad Summit 9. Illiberal turn in Central Europe? 10. Society / Politics / Culture of CE (group project presentations) 11. Society / Politics / Culture of CE (group project presentations) 12. Self-guided museum tour (guidelines will be given at the beginning of the semester)
Teaching methods	text analysis; case study; discussion; game; conversation lecture; lecture with multimedia presentation;

Literature/ readings	N. Davies, Europe (selected chapters) Central and East European Politics. From Communism to Democracy (2018) Edited by Sharon L. Wolchik and Jane Leftwich Curry Vít Hloušek & Petr Kaniok (2021) Europe forever? Czech political parties on the orientation of Czech foreign policy, East European Politics, 37:4, 702-721 Mazurkiewicz, A. and Michnik, W. (2023). Towards the Frontline States Concept: Understanding the Responses to Russia's War Against Ukraine (PeaceRep report). Conflict and Civicness Research Group, London School of Economics. URL: https://peacerep.org/publication/towards-the-frontline-states-concept/ (obligatory pages: 6-8, 14-16, 20-22) Reading: Stanley, B. (2019). 'Backsliding Away? The Quality of Democracy in Central and Eastern Europe', Journal of Contemporary European Research 15(4): 343-353.
Assessment, learning outcomes verification	Students are expected to participate in the classes actively. Attendance is mandatory. Students missing more than two classes will have to make them up by writing a paper per each class missed. The papers, whose topics will be assigned by the course tutor, will have to be at least 2,000 words each (including footnotes and bibliography). Missing more than 50% of the classes will fail the course. The assessment of the course consists of: Self-study on Pegaz (10%) Presentation in class (40%) Written final exam (50%) There will be 5-6 open exam questions concerning the general issues covered in the lectures and seminars. The exam will be organised in the first week of the exam session (possibly also a pre-session exam). In the rare cases that a student fails the exam, s/he has the



right to re-sit the exam. The re-sit exam may be convened sooner than a week after the failed exam.

The positive grades received on the exam are final and there is no way to upgrade them during the re-sit exam.