

Teaching course
 Construction and deconstruction of Soviet human
 through everyday life experience

| № | Modules and themes | № week | Date |
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| 1 | Theme 1. Formation of the Soviet human. Soviet identity. "Soviet human" in official documents. The Soviet ideal of a healthy spiritual and physical lifestyle, "ethos" of the new man. | 1 | |
| 2 | Theme 2. The image of the enemy and the image of the hero. "We" and "They". Bourgeois as the antithesis of communist morality. Evolution of the "foreigner's" and enemy's image in the Soviet official text and visual discourse. | 1 | |
| 3 | Theme 3. Homo Sovieticus – myth and reality. The concept of a new historical community – the "Soviet folks" as a way of Russification. The evolution of the Soviet patriotism concept. The main features of human mentality in the socialism era. Collectivism and Privacy in Soviet society: the struggle of values. | 1 | |
| 4 | Theme 4. The historical memory about WWII as a method of constructing Soviet identity. The memory of war and collective identity. WWII as the basis of Soviet indoctrination. The myth about war as a legitimation of the Soviet regime and the "sacred cow" of communist ideology. The ways and forms of construction and deconstruction of the Soviet myth of war. "Great Patriotic" VS "Soviet-German": war of war's names. | 2 | |
| 5 | Theme 5. The Soviet society of "Developed Socialism" era – consumer society? Socio-economic development in the USSR in 1961-1985 years through the prism of everyday life. Modernization in the USSR and its socio-economic consequences: the formation of new urban civilization. "Economics of deficit" Queue as a product of economic deficit. Living standards: wages of different categories of the population, basket, clothes, the concept of "luxury items". "Flat, country house, car" – a triad that characterizes the consumer ideal, formed in Soviet society in the 1960s-1980s. | 2 | |
| 6 | Theme 6. The policy of "new everyday life". Upbringing of the new Soviet human through policy of everyday life. Equality between men and women: declaration and realities. The struggle for the final overcoming of inequalities between men and women. The fight for "strong Soviet family". Men's drinking as a major social vice in the late-Soviet society. | 2 | |
| 7 | Theme 7. The leisure of the Soviet person in the period of the "Developed Socialism". The regulation of leisure: tasks, approaches, challenges. Leisure infrastructure problems: the disproportionate possibilities in the | 3 | |

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| | center/periphery and urban/rural places. Popular culture versus private entertainment. The Soviet concept of "free time" and "entertainment". | | |
| 8 | Theme 8. Soviet Culture: between enlightenment and propaganda. Soviet television: the essence of the entertaining television programs, their ideological meaning. Soviet variety music as the opposite of [capitalistic] show business. Soviet society – a society of universal literacy: popular newspapers, magazines, books, visiting libraries. The concept of "Cultural Activities": radio and television, cinema, clubs, museums, clubs, parks, planetariums, etc. | 3 | |
| 9 | Theme 9. "Serious fun": professional and amateur sports in the USSR. Athletic movement in the Soviet Union: development, role in the fight for healthy lifestyle. The perception of body. Organized tourism and its role in the patriotic education of folks. Tourism as an escape into the sphere of freedom. Foreign tourism in the USSR. | 3 | |
| 10 | Theme 10. Everyday resistance in the USSR between 1964-1985: sociocultural dimension. Types and forms of everyday resistance in the USSR. Unofficial humorous discourse. Deviant styles of clothing as an expression of everyday resistance. Unofficial musical subculture. "Samizdat" and "enemy voices". Peculiarities of everyday resistance of different social groups in the USSR. | 4 | |
| 11 | Theme 11. The society of Ukraine between 1991-2012: in the shadow of Soviets. Establishment of the basis of civil society: non-governmental unions, the appearance of independent mass-media. Social differentiation within the society, the emergence of new social groups. Uneven growth in incomes and prices. Management counter-revolution. The financial-industrial groups and their role in the economic development of Ukraine. Pension reform and debates around it in the mass-media. Mass migration abroad searching for better-paid work. Change in the priorities of the youth: informal family and fertility decline. | 4 | |
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Forms of Student Academic Work and Methods of Assessment.

| Forms of class work and homework | Max score | Score | Result |
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| Analytical reports | 20 | 50-100 | credit |
| Reports | 20 | | |
| Participation in discussions | 10 | | |
| test | 40 | | |
| Total | 100 | 0-50 | Non-credit |

Literature (provided to students)

- Åslund A. *Building Capitalism: The Transformation of the Former Soviet Bloc*. Cambridge, 2002.
- Chernyshova, N. *Soviet Consumer Culture in the Brezhnev Era*. London, 2013.
- Fox, M. D. *The Fellow Travelers Revisited: The "Cultured West" through Soviet Eyes* in: *The Journal of Modern History*, Vol. 75, No. 2 (June 2003), pp. 300-335.
- Lapidus, Gail W. *Women in Soviet Society: Equality, Development, and Social Change*. California 1978.
- Kenez, P. *A History of the Soviet Union from the Beginning to the End*. Cambridge University Press, 2006.
- Kessler, G. *The "schools of Communism" Under Neo-liberal Reform: Russia's Traditional Trade Union Movement in the Transition to a Free Market*. Amsterdam, 1992.
- Kornai, J. *The Socialist System. The Political Economy of Communism*, Oxford University Press, 1992.
- Powell, D. E. *Religion and secularization in the Soviet Union: The role of antireligious cartoons* in *Religion and modernization in the Soviet Union* / Ed. D. J. Dunn. Boulder, Colo., 1977, pp. 136-160.
- Sigelbaum, L. *Cars for Comrades: The Life of the Soviet Automobile*. Cornell University Press, 2008.
- Sigelbaum, L. *Soviet State and Society Between Revolutions, 1918-1929*. Cambridge University Press, 1992.

Annotation of the Discipline.

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| 1 | <i>Title of the course</i> | Construction and deconstruction of Soviet human through everyday life experience |
| 2 | <i>Description and the objectives of the course and its components.</i> | <p>Soviet medical students who have studied Latin, began training with the phrase: "Homo Soveticus sum". Future doctors in the first year, with the first steps in medicine learned that there are two kinds of people: Homo Sapiens and Homo Soveticus.</p> <p>What is this creature – the Soviet human? How was it designed? How was it created? How did it developed? Without any doubt, events in October 1917 should be marked in the calendar with red: for the first time a revolution took place that aimed not only to capture power ("state machine" in the words of Lenin), but to create an ideal society, an entirely new political, economic and social system. The designers of these knew that the goal can be achieved only by the creation of a new human.</p> <p>The proposed course aims at tracing the processes of forming the Soviet human through everyday life experience and the resistance to these processes. The models of an "ideal" soviet human can be found in the official documents and the images transmitted by the</p> |

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| | | <p>mass culture (cinema, posters, songs, etc.), and attempts to construct the Soviet identity and the Soviet human can be captured through everyday life experience. In contrast, one can identify different forms of everyday resistance (by J. Scott): Soviet political anecdotes, deviant styles of clothing, musical subculture etc.</p> <p>The process of demythologization of the Communist ideas and the deconstruction of Soviet identity started in the second half of the 1980s. To define Ukrainian society after 1991, researchers mostly use the term "Postsoviet". But it is obvious, that many things in everyday life are still done in the "Soviet style" in the former Soviet republics: celebrating holidays, serving in the army, voting etc. This means that the deconstruction of Homo Sovieticus are still in progress.</p> |
| 3 | <i>Requirements:</i> | History, Sociology, Political Science, Anthropology |
| 4 | <i>Lecturer</i> | Volodymyr Kulikov |
| 5 | <i>Number of academic hours</i> | 32 academichours |
| 6 | <i>Forms and teaching methods of the course</i> | Lectures, seminars, discussions |
| 7 | <i>System of assessment</i> | Credit, 100 accumulative points (analytical reports, reports based on reading materials, participation in discussions, tests) |
| 8 | <i>Language</i> | English |