

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Subject code	Subject group	Credits	Subject certified	Subject certification valid until	Reg. No.
SPK6003	C	6	2011 06 01	2013 06 01	

Course type (compulsory or optional)	Optional
Course level (study cycle)	Master
Semester the course is delivered	Autumn
Study form (face-to-face or distant)	Face-to-face

Title

MORALINĖ VAIZDUOTĖ IR SOCIALINĖ KRITIKA

Title in English

MORAL IMAGINATION AND SOCIAL CRITICISM

Subject annotation in English

The course gives a short introduction into intellectual history of Eastern and Western Europe, maintaining an aspect of social criticism. Course is concentrated on an influence of social criticism and dissident attitudes on changes of Western democracy. The course presents the main theories and authors of Western social critics, as well.

Study outcomes

The aim of the course is to introduce to intellectual history of Europe by analyzing its influence upon political processes.

Subject contents

The origins and forms of social critique in pre-modern societies. Social criticism and modern political ideologies. Intellectuals and social criticism in the modern Western world. Moral cultures and social criticism. The origins and socio-cultural functions of dissent in early modernity. Heterodoxy, heresy, heretics, and moral and religious dissidents in Western Europe. Political dissent in modern dictatorships. Dissidents in totalitarian regimes. The most eminent social critics of the twentieth century. The differences between Eastern and Western Europe in terms of the concepts of social criticism and dissent. Social critique and its forms in liberal democracy. Individual dissent and individual critics. Social movements.

Study hours

Lectures 30 hours, seminars 15 hours, team work 15 hours, individual work 100 hours.

Evaluation of study results

Attending lectures and seminars, taking part in discussions, timely studying of given literature – 15% of the final grade; colloquium – 35%; final examination – 50%.

Literature

1. Isaiah Berlin, *The Hedgehog and the Fox : an Essay on Tolstoy's View of History* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1970).
2. Leonidas Donskis, *The End of Ideology and Utopia? Moral Imagination and Cultural Criticism in the Twentieth Century* (New York: Peter Lang, 2000).
3. Leonidas Donskis, Honors for the book *Forms of Hatred: The Troubled Imagination in Modern Philosophy and Literature* (Amsterdam/New York: Rodopi, 2003): (1) VIBS-Value Inquiry Book Series Nomination for the Best Book in Social Philosophy in North America, Rodopi (2003); (2) VIBS 2003 Best Book Award: <http://www.valueinquiry.org/prizes.htm>.
4. Leonidas Donskis, *Identity and Freedom: Mapping Nationalism and Social Criticism in Twentieth-Century Lithuania* (London/New York: Routledge, 2002). Translated into Lithuanian as *Tapatybė ir laisvė: trys intelektualiniai portretai* [Identity and Freedom: Three Intellectual Portraits] (Vilnius: Versus Aureus, 2005).
5. Michael Walzer, *The Company of Critics : Social Criticism and Political Commitment in the Twentieth Century* (New York: Basic Books, 1988).
6. Tomas Venclova, *Forms of Hope: Essays* (Riverdale-on-Hudson, NY: The Sheep Meadow Press, 1999), *Studies in East European Thought*, Vol. 54, No. 3 (September 2002).

Programme prepared by

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