

Russian and Slavonic Studies

Module descriptors for Inbound Students.

Name	The Unintended Empire: Communism and Sovietisation in Eastern Europe
Code	RUU33092
Semester	2
ECTS credits	5
Pre-requisite	B1 Level of Russian
Module Coordinator	Contact Inbound Russian/Slavonic Study Abroad Coordinator.

Module Content

The module explores various aspects of the history of Communist Eastern Europe from the establishment of the Soviet Union until the disintegration of the Soviet bloc. The topics to be discussed include the Russian revolution, Stalinism, the Sovietisation of Eastern Europe, communist nationalism, anti-Soviet uprisings, the emergence of “real existing socialism”, as well as the long-term consequences of the Soviet project in the region. The module will discuss the dynamics of Soviet imperialism and will contrast developments in the “centre” (Moscow) with political, social and cultural processes in the “peripheries” (Central and Eastern Europe).



Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the module, students should be able to:

- approach the history of the Soviet bloc with critical awareness
- demonstrate the ability to critically reflect on relevant historical sources
- assess the consequences of the communist experience in Eastern Europe
- demonstrate the ability to develop an argument in the framework of a research essay

Assessment

Weekly study journal (40%)

2,500 - 3,000-word research essay (60%)