



ERASMUS+ INCOMING STUDENTS COURSE CATALOGUE

Department of History

General information		
Course instructor	dr. sc. Goran Bilogrivić, assistant professor	
Name of the course	History and Culture of the Viking Age	
Study programme	Undergraduate study programme in History	
Status of the course	Elective	
Year of study	1st/2nd/3rd	
ECTS credits and manner of instruction	ECTS credits	3
	Number of class hours (Lectures + Exercises + Seminars)	30+0+0

1. COURSE DESCRIPTION

1.1. Course objectives

The aim is to familiarise students with the Viking Age and the contemporary history of the areas which the Vikings reached by their raids, trade, and settlement. Through the presentation and consideration of written sources and their rich cultural heritage, they will get to know the inhabitants of 8th–11th-century Scandinavia, their society, ways of life, customs, and beliefs. In this way a geographically peripheral European region, but whose inhabitants in the said period played an exceptionally important role in European history and also left significant heritage for the following centuries, will be brought closer to the students. Likewise, one of the aims is to clearly distinguish existing data from numerous myths about the Vikings and the Viking Age by encouraging critical thinking about the sources and historiography.

1.2. Course enrolment requirements and entry competences required for the course

None.

1.3. Expected course learning outcomes

Having passed the course the students will be capable of:

- recounting findings on the Viking Age, the Vikings, and the areas the Vikings reached
- using basic terminology, recognising and defining various problems of the period
- explaining certain aspects of the Viking Age, Viking society and culture, and independently engaging in argument-based discussions on them

1.4. Course content

Some of the course's topics include:

- Scandinavia before the Viking Age; preconditions and causes of the first Viking raids
- Viking Age England until the Norman Conquest
- Carolingian Empire and the Vikings; the beginnings of Normandy
- Vikings in Ireland, Scotland, and the neighbouring islands
- settlement of Iceland and its political and social organisation through to the 11th century
- expanding horizons in the West – Greenland and Vinland
- Austrvegr – Vikings in the Eastern Baltic, Russia, and Byzantium
- Viking Age Scandinavia
- Nordic pre-Christian beliefs and religion; Christianisation of Scandinavia
- culture, art, literacy
- Viking ships

1.5. Manner of instruction

- ✓ Lectures
- ✓ Essay
- ✓ Distance Learning
- ✓ Individual assignments
- ✓ Other: research