

I.

Course title	THE VIKINGS
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II.

Course structure (Number of hours per summer school session)				
Level	Lecture	Seminar	Practical course	Summer school year
Beginners	12	-	-	1 st

III.

Optionality category	Imposed	Optional	Freely chosen
		X	

IV.

Supervisor				
	Lecture	Seminar	Applicati on	Project
Name	Costel Coroban	Costel Coroban		
Institution	Valahia Univ. Tirgoviste/ Ovidius Univ. of Constanta	Valahia Univ. Tirgoviste/ Ovidius Univ. of Constanta		
Department	Dept. of History/Doctoral School of Humanities	Dept. of History/Doctoral School of Humanities		
Scientific title	Associate researcher/PhD Student	Associate researcher/PhD Student		
Position	Associate researcher/PhD Student	Associate researcher/PhD Student		

V.

Objectives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To be able to explain and infer information from historical sources belonging to the Viking civilization; - To know and correctly apply historical and linguistic information from the age of the Viking expansion (cVII-XI A.D.); - To manifest a positive and responsible attitude towards the complexity of the phenomenon that is called "the Viking invasions"; - To ascertain, understand and employ the critical viewpoints and theories regarding the mythological and religious aspect of Viking spirituality; - To optimally and creatively capitalize one's own admiration for the Viking civilization.

VI.

Course structure	No. hours
VI.1. Lectures	
Lecture 1: Introduction. The Origins of the Vikings and their Society.	

<p>Lecture 2: Viking Art. Runes.</p> <p>Lecture 3: Viking women.</p> <p>Lecture 4: Religion and Mythology. Rituals, feasts and sacrifices.</p> <p>Lecture 5: Skaldic literature, Saga/sögur.</p> <p>Lecture 6: Weapons and warships. The first invasions.</p> <p>Lecture 7: The Vikings in the Orkneys, Ireland and Scotland.</p> <p>Lecture 8: Medieval Viking Iceland.</p> <p>Lecture 9: The Vikings in Greenland, Vinland and Rus.</p> <p>Lecture 10: The Vikings and Alfred the Great's England. Viking Normandy.</p> <p>Lecture 11: Scandinavian England. The Bayeux tapestry.</p> <p>Lecture 12: The Vikings and Early Christianity. Final evaluation.</p> <p>Total: 12</p>	12 hours
VI.2. Seminar	
VI.3. Application (if the case)	
VI.4. Project topic (if the case)	

VII.

Syllabus outline
<p>Lecture 1: Introduction. The Origins of the Vikings and their Society</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Locating the Old Norse people; the etymology of the word „viking“; -The origins of the Viking society; -The Old Norse community, social classes, <i>Rígsþula</i>: Jarl, Karl, Thrall; -The military classes: Hird, Bondi/Bondar, Vik; Berserker; -Old Norse Law: Thing, Allthing, exile, wergeld, the Runic law; -Egil's Saga, feudal relations, marriage, the importance of good fortune, the royal court. <p>Lecture 2: Viking Art. Runes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Pre-viking ornaments, animal symbols; -ritual masks, motifs, the Borre style, jewelry, the Mammen style; -the Urnes style, mysterious animal symbols; --the Runic alphabet, reading, writing, well-known inscriptions, interpretation of runic texts. <p>Lecture 3: Viking women.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -the role of women and their social position in the Viking society; -women in Saga/sögur; -weddings, fidelity, divorce, children and childhood, royal succession; -sports and games, celebrations, traditions, cooking, holiday recipes, textiles; -women explorers. <p>Lecture 4: Religion and Mythology. Rituals, feasts and sacrifices.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -the Edda, Voluspa, Heimskringla; -Cosmology: Ginnungagap, Audumbla, Ygdrassil, Ymir, Buri and Bor, Bestla, gods and giants, Ask and Embla; -the Pantheon, Odin, Vili and Ve, the artefacts of the gods, Frey and Freyja, Heimdall, Loki, Thor, Baldr, Tyr, Hel; -Midgard, Asgard, Valhalla, Niflheim, Ragnarök;

- The Walkyries, Elves and other spirits, dwarves, gnomes, dragons, trolls, monsters, Beowulf;
- Rituals, celebrations, sacrifices, the cult.

Lecture 5: Skaldic literature, Saga/sögur.

- Söguöld.
- classification of sögur, motifs, locations, images, scenes;
- Egils Saga, Volsungasaga, Heimskringla, Eirik's Saga, Vinland Saga;
- the Skalds, Icelandic sögur.

Lecture 6: Weapons and warships. The first invasions.

- Viking warships, Hjortspring ship, the Sutton Hoo ship, naval technology, the Oseberg ship;
- Knarr and other types of vessels, navigation instruments;
- metalsmiths and weaponsmithing;
- types of weapons, axes, *breidox*, swords, spears;
- archery, shields, armour, war steeds, coifs;
- types of raids, battles, *strandhogg*;
- causes of Viking expansion, the first invasions on the European mainland.

Lecture 7: The Vikings in the Orkneys, Ireland and Scotland.

- Orkneyinga Saga, the invasion in the North Islands and Caithness;
- Haraldr Harfragi, Earl Rognvald of Møre, Rognvald Eysteinnsson, Sigurd the Brave, Olav Tryggvasson;
- the Viking kingdom of Dublin, Longphort, the Battle of Clontarf;
- Laithlind; Soxulfr, Turges, Haakon, the Kingdom of Strathclyde;

Lecture 8: Medieval Viking Iceland.

- historical sources;
- Erik the Red's Saga (Eiríks saga rauða); Íslendingabók;
- the medieval Icelandic civilization (864-1350), „the Icelandic miracle“.

Lecture 9: The Vikings in Greenland, Vinland and Rus.

- Íslendingabók, Eiríks saga rauða; The Primary Chronicle (Povest Vremeniákh Let);
- the first expeditions, Gunnbjörn Ulfsson;
- the colonization of Greenland;
- Vinland, the L'Anse aux Meadows settlement, Helluland, Markland;
- Rus, Rurik, the foundation of Novgorod, the first contacts with the Arabs, Slavs; the Varangians.

Lecture 10: The Vikings and Alfred the Great's England. Viking Normandy.

- the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, *De moribus et actis primorum Normannorum ducum*.
- the conquest of England; the invasion of Guthrum's Danes.
- Alfred the Great's resistance against the Vikings, the defeat of Guthrum, Etheldun battle, Alfred's reforms, the treaty between Alfred and Guthrum, Danelaw;

-Rollo (Hrolf the Ganger), Gesta Danorum, the foundation of Normandy, the Treaty of Saint-Claire-sur-Epte, Normandy to William the Bastard.

Lecture 11: Scandinavian England. The Bayeux tapestry.

-Gesta Normannorum Ducum, the Bayeux Tapestry;

-Harald Hardrada, Knut the Great, Harthacnut, Edward the Confessor, Harald II Godwinson;

-the battles of Fulford, Stamford Bridge, Hastings 1066, the invasion of William the Conqueror; Domesday Booke, the conquest of England and its legacy.

Lecture 12: The Vikings and Early Christianity. Final evaluation.

-early Christian missionaries in Scandinavia;

-Denmark: Harald Bluetooth, relations with the Carolingian Empire and the Holy Roman Empire, Valdemar the Great, Bishop Absalon, Valdemar II.

-Sweden: the monk Ansgar and the missionaries; the Yngling kings, Erik the Victorious, King Olof Skötkonung, Erik the Holy (Saint Eric).

-Norway: King Harald Harfragi, the missionary kings Olav Tryggvasson, Saint Olav, Haakon the Good.

-Final evaluation.

VIII.

References

_____. *Beowulf*, translation by Dan Duțescu și Leon Levițchi, Editura pentru Literatură Universală, București, 1969.

_____. *Cântecul nibelungilor*. Editura de Stat pentru Literatură și Artă: București, 1958. Verse adaptation by Adrian Maniu.

_____. *Cântecul Nibelungilor*. Saeculum: Bucharest, 2008. Translation by Claudiu Paradais.

_____. *Edda*. București: Saeculum I.O., 2005. Translation by Magda Petculescu, Foreword by Dan Grigorescu.

_____. *Egils Saga*. London: Viking Society for Northern Research, 2003. Edited by Bjarni Einarsson.

_____. *The Poetic Edda*. Two Volumes in One. Princeton University Press: Princeton, 1936. Translated with Introduction and Notes by Henry Adams Bellows.

_____. *Walhalla și Thule. Mituri și legende vechi germanice*. Vol. 1, 2. Editura Minerva: București, 1977. Readaptation by Mihai Isbășescu.

Baedeker, Karl. *Civilizația germanică și a vikingilor*. Prietenii Cărții: București, 2006. Translation by Liana Gomboșiu.

Belcin, Cornelia. Popescu, Alexandru. *Vikingii*. Albatros: București, 1976.

Bengtsson, Frans G. *Vikingii. O povestire istorică din vremurile străbune*. Dacia: Cluj, 1974. Translation by Constantin A. Gâdei.

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Hollander, Lee M. *Old Norse Poems*. London: Abela Publishing, 2010.

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Logan, F. Donald, *Vikingii în istorie*. Editura Bălcescu: București, 1990. Translation by Mariana Grancea.

Lorinț, Florica. *Oamenii nordului*. Editura Științifică: București, 1965.

Morogan, Elena-Maria. *Mitologia Nordică. Mituri și legende*. Editura Enciclopedică: București, 1992.

Sawyer, Peter, *The Oxford Illustrated History of the Vikings*, Oxford, OUP, 2001.

Sturlson, Snorri. *Heimskringla or the Chronicles of the Kings of Norway*. 1996. Edited, proofed, and prepared by Douglas B. Killings.

On-line sources:

The poetic Edda in Old Norse and English, <http://www.voluspa.org/>.

Scandinavian Runic-text Data Base, <http://www.nordiska.uu.se/forskn/samnord.htm>.

The Vikings, on-line course by Professor Dr. Sally Vaughn, University of Houston, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GN89xSq9tdo>

IX.

Forms of activity	Methods and techniques used in the teaching process
Lecture	Lecturing, expository, discovery, brainstorming, mind mapping.
Seminar	-
Application	-
Project	-

X.

Type	Assessment system (written, written and oral, oral, others)	
Exam	written	
Colloquium	-	
Continuous assessment	oral	
Project	-	