**INTR 299. Preparatory 1-Credit Course for**

**Summer 2023 Study Program in Vilnius, Lithuania**

Meeting dates and times: Sundays, 4 pm. (Start Date: April 23, 2023; End Date: May 21, 2023)

Zoom link: <https://cwm.zoom.us/j/433561195>

Office hours: by appointment

Instructor: Alexander Prokhorov

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**Course Description**

This course prepares you for the Summer Study Abroad Program in Vilnius. We will engage in some activities to get to know each other better, discuss W&M policies and protocols for studying abroad, address your concerns regarding an immersion program, and discuss logistical matters. We will also familiarize ourselves with the history, geography, and culture of Lithuania.

Our one-credit course in Vilnius, "Russia in Context," will build on the material covered in this prep-course.

**Required Texts:**

* *Eyewitness Travel: Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania* (Travel Guide) Section about Lithuania

available through BlackBoard

* Sundry articles available through BlackBoard

# Grading Criteria

* Attendance and participation: 40%
* Active use of Russian Language in class 10%
* Requested responses 25%

(classroom discussion; Flipgrid activity;)

* Site Project Proposal: 10%
* 1-day Field Trip Plan: 10%
* Google map assignment: 05%

**NB:** Instructor reserves the right to introduce minor changes into the general syllabus by adjusting it to the class progress.

# Course requirements

**Attendance and participation:** It is a mandatory course. Students are expected to attend all classes and to participate actively in class discussions and activities. Students will meet in April and May, 5 evenings on Sunday. Therefore, while I recognize that you are all busy at this time of the semester, and have full course schedule, it is important you attend as much as possible and complete the required assignment.

**Use of Russian in class:** Although the class will conduct mainly in English for delivery important messages. Time will be allocated in each class meeting to speak in Russian. Regardless of level, students will be expected speak ONLY Russian during the allocated time. This experience will be good preparation for using Russian in the field.

**Requested responses:** Since we will conduct our class online, so there will be some asynchronous activities. You need to response what the activity asked, and visit each other’s work, and post your comment at others. Deadlines are firm. Late homework is only permitted in exceptional circumstances. Assignments are due the day they appear on the syllabus. If you miss a class meeting, it is your responsibility to inform yourself about what you missed and to be fully prepared for the next class meeting.

**Site project proposal:** This is a preparation for our summer culture course “Russia in Context”. In this culture course, you and your partner will conduct research on an important historical site in Vilnius related to Russian and/or Soviet past and present with your partner. You may spend time on site, engage with materials in Russian about the site, and write a report that discusses the site’s significance in the context of contemporary Vilnius/Lithuania/Russia. In spring, students will pick a site and write a 1 page proposal and you may include:

* Topic: The reason for choosing this site, and/or activities you will be studying.
* What you think is most interesting or significant about this site.
* A review of one article related to your topic.

This proposal will serve as a plan for your site project once you get to Lithuania, so that you will be able to start immediately when you arrive and use your time in the field efficiently. This research will be carried while in Lithuania and will be presented to all at the end of program in July.

**1-day Field Trip Plan:** This is also a group work, and you need to design a 1-day Field Trip Plan in Vilnius (the capital city of Lithuania). This plan needs to include:

* The place(s) you would like to visit.
* Why you would like to visit there.
* What transportation you might use. (Maybe with price)

W&M has had an [**Honor Code**](https://www.wm.edu/honor) since at least 1779. Academic integrity is at the heart of the university, and we all are responsible for upholding the ideals of honor and integrity. The W&M Honor Code is in effect no matter where the course takes place, either on campus or online. The student-led honor system is responsible for resolving any suspected violations of the Honor Code, and I will report all suspected instances of academic dishonesty to the honor system. The [Student Handbook](https://www.wm.edu/studenthandbook) includes your responsibilities as a student and the full Code. Your full participation and observance of the Honor Code is expected.

**Mental and Physical Well-Being:** W&M recognizes that students juggle different responsibilities and can face challenges that make learning difficult. There are many resources available at W&M to help students navigate emotional/psychological, physical/medical, material/accessibility concerns. Asking for help is a sign of courage and strength. If you or someone you know is experiencing any of these challenges, we encourage you to reach out to the following offices:

* For psychological/emotional stress, please consider reaching out to the W&M Counseling Center [https://www.wm.edu/offices/wellness/counselingcenter/](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.wm.edu%2Foffices%2Fwellness%2Fcounselingcenter%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cbrush%40vims.edu%7Caa6d11377d144c26886608d9628e29b5%7C8cbcddd9588d4e3b9c1e2367dbdf1740%7C0%7C1%7C637649185006437601%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=A3%2FZxp%2BLdLvCWAtkljnE5%2F%2BuvoL2iF9n2KrA6lGAPts%3D&reserved=0); or (757) 221-3620, 240 Gooch Dr., 2nd floor. Services are free and confidential.
* For physical/medical concerns, please consider reaching out to the W&M Health Center at [https://www.wm.edu/offices/wellness/healthcenter/](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.wm.edu%2Foffices%2Fwellness%2Fhealthcenter%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cbrush%40vims.edu%7Caa6d11377d144c26886608d9628e29b5%7C8cbcddd9588d4e3b9c1e2367dbdf1740%7C0%7C1%7C637649185006447562%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=tgOjKG3qaSavfqmjL5imNn1kTrJMO7aJJcmX%2F4mzz9k%3D&reserved=0); or (757) 221-4386, 240 Gooch Drive.
* For additional support or resources, please contact the Dean of Students by submitting a Care Report at <https://www.wm.edu/offices/deanofstudents/services/caresupportservices/index.php>; or by calling 757-221-2510, or by emailing deanofstudents@wm.edu.
* For a list of many other resources available to students, see [Health and Wellness Resources for Students](https://www.wm.edu/offices/wellness/resources/index.php)

William & Mary **accommodates** students with disabilities in accordance with federal laws and university policy. Any student who feels they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a learning, psychiatric, physical, or chronic health diagnosis should contact [Student Accessibility Services](https://www.wm.edu/sas) staff at 757-221-2512 or at sas@wm.edu to determine if accommodations are warranted and to obtain an official letter of accommodation.

**Grading**

A 94-100 C 74-76

A- 90-93 C- 70-73

B+ 87-89 D+ 68-69

B 84-86 D 64-67

B- 80-83 D- 60-63

C+ 77-79 F 59 and below

**Schedule of Assignments**

**April 23**

Topics—Introductions of All Kinds!

In this first session we will focus on many kinds of introductions:

introducing the syllabus and texts,

introducing ourselves to one another.

Tests you need to take before the beginning of the program: OPIc, BEVI

After Class Assignment: Задание после класса, for April 30th

1. Go on Flip to do a self-introduction! The link to Flip is ин the BlackBoard site. Post it and visit each other’s video. Try to get to know more about our classmates and find someone to be your partner for the final

“1-day Field Trip Plan”

and

also for your Russian 393 Cultural Site Project Proposal.

Знакомство всех видов На этом первом занятии мы сосредоточимся на многих видах знакомства: знакомство с программой и текстами, знакомство друг с другом.

Зайдите на Flip, чтобы представиться! Разместите его и просмотрите видео друг друга. Постарайтесь узнать больше о наших одноклассниках и найдите кого-нибудь, кто будет вашим партнером для окончательного «Плана однодневной экскурсии»

а также

для вашего Предложения проекта на сайте Rusn 393.

Студенты должны видеть Предложения друг друга, поэтому его необходимо поместить заранее в Пятницу перед занятием

1. Read the Handbook.
2. Download WhatsApp app
3. Download Bolt app.

**30ого апреля**

More Introductions: Who is Sitting Next to You?

Reading a Map: Locating Course-specific Sites on a Map of Vilnius.

Figuring Out Public Transportation.

How to get to the hotel from airport and from the hotel to the university.

Communication in Lithuania (sim cards, international plans)

After Class Assignment for May 7:

1. Read *Eyewitness Travel* *Lithuania* pp. 206-219 (on the Blackboard under Readings)
2. Bring TWO facts to share about Lithuania for our next section. We will share our facts together and do some other introductory activities.
3. Create a google **map** (or other kind of map if you know of a better site) and map key geographical, historical, and cultural sites in Lithuania. Share access to this map with me by **May 6**. This map must include at least the following:
   1. Three major cities, mountains, or lakes of Lithuania
   2. At least one battlefield in Lithuania and its significance
   3. One or two major universities and when they were established
   4. Two major Lithuanian literature icons, where they were born, and a little biographical background
4. Read Adrian Furnham “Foreign Students Education and culture shock” (on the Blackboard under Readings)

**Седьмого мая**

1. Intro to Lithuania and the Russian Empire

Origins and Early History of the Lithuanian State.

the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth.

Lithuania under the Tsars

(Before this section, you need to prepare two facts about Lithuania to share with your classmates.)

1. Culture Shock

After Class Assignment for May 14:

1. Recommended reading: explore *Eyewitness Travel* *Lithuania* pp. 244-89 (on the Blackboard under Readings)

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**Четырнадцатого мая**

Safety and Health Matters Workshop (Nick Vasquez and Susan Manion)

About the cities we will stay: Vilnius, Kaunas, Klaipeda.

After Class Assignment for May 21 (this class will be longer than one hour)

In teams of two prepare your Presentation of the 1-Day Field Trip follow up with Q&A. Each team has 7 mins.

In teams of two prepare a Presentation of Site proposal. Each team one has 5 minutes to introduce your proposal.

**Двадцать первого мая**

Presentations/Доклады