Julia Yao Roig – Midterm Assignment

Literature examined: God’s Playground: A History of Poland, vol 2 1795 to the Present.

The approach histoire croisee is of particular interest when discussing Poland. The date for the founding of Poland is 966, when Mieszko I accepted the baptism of Poland by the Roman catholic church.[[1]](#footnote-1) Polish historiography tends to discuss Poland as an independent entity from 966 until the final partition in 1795.[[2]](#footnote-2) However its worth pointing out foreign partitions were not new, with the first partition occurring in 1772, followed by the partition in 1793.[[3]](#footnote-3) Unique about the polish case is that it is the only major European state that disappeared and then reemerged.[[4]](#footnote-4) The endurance of a national identity without its state is of particular interest, especially because, as a result of its geographical position, Poland was always influenced by foreign concepts and nations. To explore the issue of national identity this mid-term wants to explore the issue of polish nationalism. The chosen literature traces the history of Poland after 1795. Particularly, when discussing polish nationalism, culture, Christianity[[5]](#footnote-5) and literature[[6]](#footnote-6) are worth examining. Therefore for this particular essay I will analyze how the author interweaves these three elements in his narrative and how these are influenced by the occupying nations, making the case that the author throughout his narrative employs a

under influences from Russia, Prussia and Austria[[7]](#footnote-7)

1. (Biskupski 2018, 8) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. *see* (Davies 2005, 2:5) *and* (Biskupski 2018, 20) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. (Biskupski 2018, 19) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. (Biskupski 2018, 39) [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. *See chapter 7 of* (Davies 2005) (Zubrzycki 2013; Hruby 1982) [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. (Chrostowski 1991, 5; Hess 2019) [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. *See chapters 1-3 in* (Davies 2005)*.*  [↑](#footnote-ref-7)