**Russia in the Changing World** **(Prof. Maxim Bratersky)**

A short 8 – hour course focuses on the political transformation in Russia, emerging civil society, foreign and security policy and the Russian political system. This course is a general introduction into the political, economic, social and historical background of Russian domestic and foreign politics. It will also cover the major issue areas of Russian political life and provide a description of the wide spectrum of political forces currently active on Russian arena.

Participation in this course should help the students to understand the nature and origin of major interest groups and political concepts affecting the political struggle in Russia as well as to learn about the complex interrelationship between politics, economic issues and security matters in Russia itself, in the former republics of the Soviet Union and in the global context.

**Topic 1.**

**RUSSIA’S VISION OF THE WORLD AND OF HERSELF. Challenge of Russian modernization.**

**Literature:**

D. Trenin. Russia’s Conservative Modernization: a Mission Impossible?

**Topic 2.**

**RUSSIA’S EURASIAN STANCE. RUSSIA’S TWO DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN POLICIES**

**Literature:**

N. Morozova. The Politics of Russian Post-Soviet Identity.

Institute of Contemporary Development .**ATTAINING THE FUTURE**

**Topic 3.**

**RUSSIA IN INSECURE WORLD**

**Literature:**

S. Lavrov. Russia in the 21st-Century World of Power

**Topic 4.**

**RUSSIA IN THE WORLD OF MONEY. Political economy of Russian foreign policy**

**Literature:**

V. Putin. Russia and the changing world

**Topic 5.**

**RUSSIA’S EURASIAN PROJECT**

**Literature:**

D. Trenin. The End of Eurasia: Russia on the Border Between Geopolitics and Globalization.

**Topic 6.**

**The Energy Factor in Eurasia: Domestic and International Dimensions**. **The Caspian and Central Asia**

**Literature:**

Matha Olcott. Vladimir Putin and Russia’s Energy Policy.

**Topic 7.**

**RUSSIA IN ASIA AND PACIFIC**

**Literature:**

Sergei Lavrov. The Rise of Asia and Eastern Vector of Russia’s Policy.

**Topic 8.**

**RUSSIA and Islamic world**

**Literature:**

A. Sotnichenko. The Relations Triangle: Islam, Russian Orthodox Church and the State in Post-communist Russia