

Student Feedback Questionnaire

'Nation-building & Identity Management in Contemporary Russia: Policy Analysis'

Course taught by Dr Guzel Yusupova (January - March 2019)

Strongly agree - 1 Agree - 2 No opinion - 3 Disagree - 4 Strongly disagree - 5

1. Module Content

- Q1 This course has enhanced my overall understanding of the subject **1**
(Nation-building & Identity Politics in Russia)
- Q2 I have obtained some useful practical skills **2**
(how to write a policy paper)

2. Teaching, Learning and Assessment

- Q3 My commitment to this course was high **2**
- Q4 This course has stretched me intellectually **2**
- Q5 The teaching on this course was effective **2**
- Q6 The workload for this course was appropriate **2**
- Q7 This course has helped me to develop skills required for writing a policy paper **2**
- Q8 The feedback enabled me to develop my thinking further **3**
- Q9 The course content equipped me to prepare well for the set coursework **2**

3. Learning Resources

- Q10 The course materials and/or handouts were helpful **1**
- Q11 The learning resources for this course, including library ones were adequate **1**

4. Overall evaluation

- Q12 I would recommend this course to other students. **yes**
(Please specify why 'yes' or 'no' in the section below)

5. Free Text

- Q14 Comments

Please reflect on your experience of this module, highlighting reasons for strong agreement or disagreement in any of your answers and suggesting areas for improvement.

I started the course with very little knowledge of the topic - apart from media commentaries. The course content - both the presentations delivered by Guzel and the readings - allowed me to delve deeper into different aspects of Russian politics, as well as to put them in a wider context of political theory. By this I mean the application of general concepts developed in the scholarship on nationalism, regionalism, minority studies, etc. to a specific situation. It has been very interesting - and enriching - to transform this knowledge into practice, through the production of a policy paper. This has been efficiently and effectively guided in the course of the seminars.

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1. Module Content

Q1 This course has enhanced my overall understanding of the subject (Nation-building & Identity Politics in Russia) 1

Q2 I have obtained some useful practical skills (how to write a policy paper) 1

2. Teaching, Learning and Assessment

Q3 My commitment to this course was high 2

Q4 This course has stretched me intellectually 1

Q5 The teaching on this course was effective 1

Q6 The workload for this course was appropriate 1

Q7 This course has helped me to develop skills required for writing a policy paper 1

Q8 The feedback enabled me to develop my thinking further 1

Q9 The course content equipped me to prepare well for the set coursework 1

3. Learning Resources

Q10 The course materials and/or handouts were helpful 1

Q11 The learning resources for this course, including library ones were adequate 2

4. Overall evaluation

Q12 I would recommend this course to other students. (Please specify why 'yes' or 'no' in the section below) 1

5. Free Text

Q14 Comments

Please reflect on your experience of this module, highlighting reasons for strong agreement or disagreement in any of your answers and suggesting areas for improvement.

I have really enjoyed this module, all the content was interesting and engaging and we were encouraged to think critically about the sources we were using. I have gained a lot of new knowledge and skills through the course and I would recommend it to other students. I would have liked to have access to more material through the library on the specific topic of my policy paper but the internet resources are sufficient.

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Q10 The course materials and/or handouts were helpful 1

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4. Overall evaluation

Q12 I would recommend this course to other students.
(Please specify why 'yes' or 'no' in the section below) yes

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Q14 Comments

Please reflect on your experience of this module, highlighting reasons for strong agreement or disagreement in any of your answers and suggesting areas for improvement.

This course was very interesting and enabled me to think about Russia in a way that I hadn't before.

I found learning how to write a policy paper informative and possibly useful for jobs/applications in the future.

At times, a lot of reading was set, which was time consuming and difficult to juggle whilst having other ~~modules~~ ^{summaries} and readings to do for modules, but this was talked about and adapted for the last few weeks to make the workload slightly less which was helpful.

I would recommend the course as it's always good to expand your knowledge in a way that wasn't offered by the uni.

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1. Module Content

- Q1 This course has enhanced my overall understanding of the subject (Nation-building & Identity Politics in Russia) ①
- Q2 I have obtained some useful practical skills (how to write a policy paper) ②

2. Teaching, Learning and Assessment

- Q3 My commitment to this course was high ②
- Q4 This course has stretched me intellectually ②
- Q5 The teaching on this course was effective ①
- Q6 The workload for this course was appropriate ①
- Q7 This course has helped me to develop skills required for writing a policy paper ②
- Q8 The feedback enabled me to develop my thinking further ③
- Q9 The course content equipped me to prepare well for the set coursework ①

3. Learning Resources

- Q10 The course materials and/or handouts were helpful ①
- Q11 The learning resources for this course, including library ones were adequate ①

4. Overall evaluation

- Q12 I would recommend this course to other students. Yes.
(Please specify why 'yes' or 'no' in the section below)

5. Free Text

- Q14 Comments

Please reflect on your experience of this module, highlighting reasons for strong agreement or disagreement in any of your answers and suggesting areas for improvement.

- course structure and teaching were effective and made it enjoyable - the content was ~~not~~ really interesting and challenging but still manageable, while the practical skills taught were really useful to learn
- have really enjoyed learning about Russia through this course
- ~~perhaps~~ easier than I expected ~~but with~~

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- Q9 The course content equipped me to prepare well for the set coursework 1

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- Q10 The course materials and/or handouts were helpful 1
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4. Overall evaluation

- Q12 I would recommend this course to other students. 1 (Yes)
(Please specify why 'yes' or 'no' in the section below)

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- Q14 Comments

Please reflect on your experience of this module, highlighting reasons for strong agreement or disagreement in any of your answers and suggesting areas for improvement.

I would recommend this course as it is something completely different to what we are taught in Durham. The teaching was passionate and informative, and greatly helped me develop my understanding of the history and issues involved. It also gave me unique insights into my wider understanding of politics and world issues, and employability/research skills.

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4. Overall evaluation

Yes Q12 I would recommend this course to other students.
(Please specify why 'yes' or 'no' in the section below)

5. Free Text

Q14 Comments

Please reflect on your experience of this module, highlighting reasons for strong agreement or disagreement in any of your answers and suggesting areas for improvement.

The course gave me a good understanding on a broad range of issues which form modern day/contemporary Russia. It gave There was always the opportunity to have interesting discussions, the topics were broad, but always left enough space for in-depth analysis. Furthermore, I liked the combination with soft skills for writing the policy papers. It was also a very welcoming atmosphere for international students and always the option to ask questions. Overall, one of the best seminars I took in my three years of studying.

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4. Overall evaluation

- 1 Q12 I would recommend this course to other students.
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Q14 Comments

Please reflect on your experience of this module, highlighting reasons for strong agreement or disagreement in any of your answers and suggesting areas for improvement.

I found this course helpful to understand politics and nationalities policy in Russia. The teaching was effective. I might have found it useful, considering the number of students who have not studied Russian politics before, to have a more introductory lesson on the topic, or perhaps a broader overview of Russian politics. This course would be very well suited to a master's course, however, and I would nonetheless recommend it to anyone interested in nationalism, ethnic studies, and so on.

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1. Module Content

- Q1 This course has enhanced my overall understanding of the subject (Nation-building & Identity Politics in Russia) (7)
- Q2 I have obtained some useful practical skills (how to write a policy paper) (7)

2. Teaching, Learning and Assessment

- Q3 My commitment to this course was high (2)
- Q4 This course has stretched me intellectually (2)
- Q5 The teaching on this course was effective (2)
- Q6 The workload for this course was appropriate (3)
- Q7 This course has helped me to develop skills required for writing a policy paper (1)
- Q8 The feedback enabled me to develop my thinking further (4)
- Q9 The course content equipped me to prepare well for the set coursework (2)

3. Learning Resources

- Q10 The course materials and/or handouts were helpful (2)
- Q11 The learning resources for this course, including library ones were adequate (2)

4. Overall evaluation

- Q12 I would recommend this course to other students.
(Please specify why 'yes' or 'no' in the section below)

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Q14 Comments

→ v. good if wanting to learn about Russia post-Soviet, & writing policy papers.

Please reflect on your experience of this module, highlighting reasons for strong agreement or disagreement in any of your answers and suggesting areas for improvement.

- Good structure from beginning but slightly thrown off when one meeting cancelled (even though this was unavoidable), which is
- Papers interesting - good read!
- ~~I feel that the policy platform~~

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- Q2 I have obtained some useful practical skills (how to write a policy paper) (1)

2. Teaching, Learning and Assessment

- Q3 My commitment to this course was high (2)
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3. Learning Resources

- Q10 The course materials and/or handouts were helpful (2)
- Q11 The learning resources for this course, including library ones were adequate (1)

4. Overall evaluation

- Q12 I would recommend this course to other students. (2)
(Please specify why 'yes' or 'no' in the section below)

5. Free Text

- Q14 Comments

Please reflect on your experience of this module, highlighting reasons for strong agreement or disagreement in any of your answers and suggesting areas for improvement.

*Really enjoyed the size of the class
*enjoyed the focus on nation building
and the readings were helpful in enriching our knowledge from the classes