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|  **UNIVERSITY OF NIŠ** |
| **Course Unit Descriptor** | **Faculty** | **Faculty of Philosophy** |
| **GENERAL INFORMATION** |
| Study program  |  |
| Study Module (if applicable) |  |
| Course title | Cultural History of the Byzantine Empire |
| Level of study | ☑Bachelor ☐ Master’s ☐ Doctoral |
| Type of course | ☐ Obligatory☑ Elective |
| Semester  | ☐ Autumn ☑ Spring |
| Year of study  | II |
| Number of ECTS allocated | 5 |
| Name of lecturer/lecturers | Jasmina D. Šaranac Stamenković |
| Teaching mode | ☑Lectures ☑Group tutorials ☐ Individual tutorials☐Laboratory work ☐ Project work ☐ Seminar☐Distance learning ☐ Blended learning ☐ Other |
| **PURPOSE AND OVERVIEW (max. 5 sentences)** |
| The purpose of the Cultural History of the Byzantine Empire course is to apprehend the numerous remarkable achievements of the Byzantine culture during a thousand years of existence of the Empire on the Bosporus and to illustrate the importance of the Byzantine Empire for preserving and passing on of the classical era knowledge and culture, as well as for the development of modern European thought.  |
| **SYLLABUS (brief outline and summary of topics, max. 10 sentences)** |
| 1) Late antiquity, early Byzantium: the continuity of culture; 2) The beginnings of the Byzantine Empire: ideological, political, and spiritual basis; 3) The emergence of Byzantine culture: the symbiosis of classical scholarship and Christianity in the 4th century; 4) The Greek primacy during the rise of the Roman ideology – Procopius and Justinian; 5) The emergence of “real” Byzantine culture – “dark ages” and iconoclasm; 6) The rise of education – the 9th century changes; 7) The Macedonian dynasty “renaissance”: role models, ideas, authors and works; 8) From Photius to Michael Psellos – the persons and their surroundings; 9) The Comnenus era – greatness and flourishing of rhetoric; 10) The 12th century poetry and its importance; 11) In the aftermath of the fall of Constantinople in 1204: culture in exile; 12) Regionalism and centralism – the issues of late Byzantine culture; 13) The Palaeologus “Renaissance” and the mysticism of Hesychasm; 14) The last sparks of Byzantine Culture in the 15th century – dissemination of culture; 15) The Byzantine culture after the disappearance of the Empire – significance and impact on the development of renaissance thought and aesthetics.*Practical teaching: group tutorials, other teaching modes, a research paper* |
| **LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION** |
| ☑Serbian (complete course) ☐ English (complete course) ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (complete course)☐Serbian with English mentoring ☐Serbian with other mentoring \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| **ASSESSMENT METHODS AND CRITERIA** |
| **Pre exam duties** | **Points** | **Final exam** | **points** |
| **Activity during lectures** |  | **Written examination** | **60** |
| **Practical teaching** | **40** | **Oral examination** |  |
| **Teaching colloquia** |  | **OVERALL SUM** | **100** |
| **\*Final examination mark is formed in accordance with the Institutional documents** |