



ЦЕНТЪР ЗА ОБУЧЕНИЕ – БАН

1000 София
ул. „Сердика“ № 4
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Basic Information:

Course Title: Clavis temporum.

Lecturer: Prof. Slavia Barlieva, PhD

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Total Teaching Hours: 30

Annotation (up to 150 words)

The course presents the historical chronology from Late Antiquity to the Late Middle Ages through its philosophical and cultural-historical dimensions. These are traced through various phenomena of medieval culture, including monuments of archaeology, epigraphy, paleography, and diplomatics; Christian liturgy and church feasts; the works of the Church Fathers and historiographical writings.

Particular attention is devoted to the chronology of medieval Bulgaria and the monuments that attest to it, through a parallel examination of Western and Eastern chronological systems and their specific manifestations.

Course content (brief description by topics or modules)

Topic / Module 1: Definition of history and the chronological system; the position of the historical event within the continuum of time; units of time; technical chronology. Time in the perception of the Western European Middle Ages (Abelard; the birth date of St. Thomas Aquinas; Alfred Crosby; St. Augustine).

Topic / Module 2: The calendar. The civil calendar of the Roman Republic; principal dates. The reform of Julius Caesar; Octavian Augustus; *data chronica* in medieval chronicles. The Church calendar and its reference dates; feasts of Christ and the Virgin Mary, saints' feast days; the introitus as a dating element; the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* (Peterborough manuscript); the pagan element in the Western European calendar – the names of the days of the week; the sigla A–G and *cyclus solaris*. The monastery and time (*Regula S. Benedicti*).

Topic / Module 3: The light and dark parts of time; the variable hour; the daily cycle – military and liturgical practice; etymology of *minuta/secunda*; *horarium* / Book of Hours. The beginning of the year – 1 January; 1 September; 25 December; 25 March – *calculus Pisanus/calculus Florentinus*, Lady Day; Easter – *mos Gallicanus*.

Topic / Module 4: Chronological eras. The Christian era – Dionysius Exiguus; the Diocletian era; *Annus Domini* – Bede and *Historia Ecclesiastica*; the Olympiads and medieval chronography; *Ab Urbe condita* – Orosius; *post consulatum*; the Macedonian Era – 148 BC; the Achaean Era – 146 BC; the Mauritanian Era – AD 40; the Hijra – 16 July 622: conversion of a Hijra date into the Christian era – $3\% (97 \text{ years} = 100 \text{ Hijra years}) + 621.5 =$ the date according to the Christian calendar. *Annus mundi* – Creation – 5509 BC in Byzantium; Eusebius–Jerome: 5198 BC; Alexandria: 5492 BC; the Jewish era – 3761 BC; the Vulgate – 3952 BC.

Coefficients: Byzantine Era – 5509 (for dates from 01.09 to 31.12), 5508 (for dates from 01.01 to 31.08); Alexandrian Era – 5492 (for dates from 25.03 to 31.12), 5491 (for dates from 01.01 to 25.03);



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Moravian-Pannonian Era – 5501 (*On Letters* by Chernorizets Hrabar; *The Life of Constantine-Cyril*); Bulgarian Chronicle Era – 5513 (Tombstone inscription of St. Clement of Ohrid: 6429–5513 = AD 916).

Topic / Module 5: Proto-Bulgarian chronology – 12 cyclical years: *Nominalia of the Bulgarian Khans*; the Chatalar Inscription; the note of Tudor Doksov.

The indiction – the tax year. Introduction and dissemination (AD 312): 15 = 5, 4 i.e. > Indiction 4; beginning of the indiction: 24 September (Bede), 1 September (Byzantium), 25 December (Rome).

Topic / Module 6: The Paschal cycle and the Metonic cycle. Dionysius Exiguus (*Libellus de cyclo magno Paschae*). Easter is the first Sunday after the full moon on or after the vernal equinox (21 March according to the Council of Nicaea): 22 March – 25 April. The Golden Number – the phase of the moon and the date of Easter in the 19-year cycle: AD 532, 551, 570, etc. – Golden Number 1 (22 March, Easter on 5 April). Golden Number = (year + 1):19, the remainder being the Golden Number; with no remainder, the Golden Number = 19.

Topic / Module 7: The reform of Pope Gregory XIII – 1582: the addition of 10 days: Thursday, 4 October > Friday, 15 October, in order to compensate for 12 March as the date of the vernal equinox and to align it with the date prescribed by the Council of Nicaea – 21 March.

Teaching and assessment methods

Lectures, work with primary sources, exercises in normalizing dates from medieval sources. Assessment – term paper.

Competencies acquired as a result of training (3–5 points)

- Mastery of medieval theory and practice concerning the description of historical time.
- Ability to interpret original datings found in historical sources.
- Familiarity with chronological compendia and reference works, and the ability to work with them

Literature:

Borst, A. *Die Karolingische Kalenderreform*. Hannover, 1998.

Finegan, J. *Handbook of Biblical Chronology*.

Grotefend, H. *Taschenbuch der Zeirechnung des deutschen Mittelalters und der Neuzeit*.

Grumel, V. *La chronologie*. Paris, 1958.

Hampson, R. T. *Medii aevi calendarium*. New York, 1978 (repr.)

Heiler, F. *Erscheinungsformen u. Wesen der Religion*. Stuttgart, 1961, 150-161.

Husserl, E. *The Phenomenology of Time – Consciosness*, London, 1964.

Macey, S. *Encyclopedia of Time*, London, 1994.

Were, R.D. *Medieval Chronologie: Theory and Practice*. – In: *Medieval studies*. Ed. James M. Powell. Syracuse, N.Y. 1976, 213-237.

Бешевлиев, В. *Първобългарски надписи*. С. 1979.

Божилов, Ив. *Средновековната българска историопис*. – В: *Исторически съчинения*. С. ,198 , 5-38.

Гюзелев. В. *Домашните извори за историята на средновековна България*. С., 1981, 20-24.



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Добрев, Ив. За александрийското и моравско-панонското летоброене и за някои дати в старата славянска писменост. – ГСУ ФСлФ, 19, 1977, 123-174.

Каймакамова, М. Старобългарското историко-летописно творчество. – ГСУ, Ист. факултет, 72 (1982), 33-91.

Куев, К. Летоброене. – Кирило-Методиевска енциклопедия. Т. 2. София, 1995, 531-535.

Куев, К. Черноризец Храбър. С., 1967, 85-148.

Москов, М. Именник на българските ханове. С., 1988.

Старобългарска литература. Енциклопедичен речник. С. 1992.

Additional information (optional) (e.g., special requirements, laboratory equipment, prior knowledge)

There are no special requirements; basic knowledge of Latin, Ancient Greek, or Old Bulgarian is considered an advantage.