

# BA History, Politics and Economics

Below are some suggested readings to introduce you to the history of Russia and Eastern Europe, to the key disciplines of Economics and Politics academics on important issues in the region. You are **not** expected to read them all before you arrive, but you may find it useful to familiarise yourself with some of the key issues and debates especially in areas you may not have studied before.

## Summer Reading List 2023 for new students

### Politics

**(Particularly recommended to students who have not studied Politics at A levels)**

- Bale, T. 2017. European Politics: a Comparative Introduction, 4th Edition Red Globe Press.
- Wolff, J. 2015. An Introduction to Political Philosophy. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

### Sociology

- Alatas, Syed Farid and Sinha, Vineeta. 2017. Sociological Theory Beyond the Canon, Basingstoke: Palgrave (available in full text online here - UCL username and password required).
- Giddens, A. et al. 2021. Introduction to Sociology. New York: W. W. Norton and Company.

### History

- Crampton, R. 1997. Eastern Europe in the Twentieth Century and After. London: Routledge
- Hosking, G. 2017. A History of the Soviet Union, 1917-1991. 3rd Edition. London: William Collins.
- Ash, Timothy Garton. 2019. Magic Lantern: Revolution of '89. Atlantic Books.
- Hungary and the Habsburgs, 1765-1800: an experiment in enlightened absolutism Éva H Balázsc1997 © Central European University, LLC – please note this will be provided online to you. You are not required to buy this text.
- Maria Todorova, Imagining the Balkans (Oxford University Press 1997)
- Larry Wolff, Inventing Eastern Europe: The Map of Civilization on the Mind of the Enlightenment (Stanford University Press, 1994)
- James Mark & all. Eds, 1989: A Global History of Eastern Europe (Cambridge University Press, 2019)
- Melissa Feinberg, Communism in Eastern Europe, Milton: Taylor and Francis, 2021 (available online via UCL Explore)
- James Mark, The unfinished revolution : making sense of the communist past in Central-Eastern Europe, New Haven : Yale University Press, 2010 (available online via UCL Explore)

- Kristin Roth-Ey, Socialist Internationalism and the Gritty Politics of the Particular: Second-Third World Spaces in the Cold War, London: Bloomsbury Publishing Plc, 2023 (available online via UCL Explore)
- Ghodsee, Kristen ; Orenstein, Mitchell, Taking Stock of Shock: Social Consequences of the 1989 Revolutions, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2021 (available online via UCL Explore)

## **Economics:**

- Aghion, P., Antonin, C., and Bunel, S. (2021) *The Power of Creative Destruction: Economic Upheaval and the Wealth of Nations*, Belknap Press.
- Angrist, J. D., & Pischke, J. S. (2014). *Mastering metrics: The path from cause to effect*. Princeton University Press.
- Banerjee, A. and Duflo, E. (2011) *Poor Economics: A Radical Rethinking of the Way to Fight Global Poverty*, Public Affairs.
- Bank of England (2022) *Can't We Just Print More Money? Economics in Ten Simple Questions*, Cornerstone Press.
- Chancel, L. (2020) *Unsustainable Inequalities: Social Justice and the Environment*, Belknap Press.
- Havrylyshyn, O. (2020) *Present at the Transition: An Inside Look at the Role of History, Politics, and Personalities in Post-Communist Countries*. GB: Cambridge University Press.
- Kahneman, D. (2012) *Thinking, fast and slow*, Penguin Books.
- Kay, J. (2003) *The Truth about Markets: their Genius, their Limits, their Follies*, Allen Lane.
- Mazzucato, M. (2013) *The Entrepreneurial State*, Anthem Press.
- Milanovic, B. (2018) *Global Inequality: A New Approach for the Age of Globalization*, Belknap press.
- Pickett, K. and Wilkinson, R. (2009) *The Spirit Level: Why More Equal Societies Almost Always Do Better*, The Equality Trust.
- Piketty, T. (2013) *Capital in the XXI Century*, Harvard University Press.
- Raworth, K. (2017) *Doughnut economics: seven ways to think like a 21st-century economist*, Chelsea Green Publishing.
- Stiglitz, J. (2016) *The Euro and its Threat to the future of Europe*, Allen Lane.
- Zucman, G. (2013) *The Hidden Wealth of Nation*, University of Chicago Press.

**International relations: Please note this is an option for HPE and not obligatory. If you are interested, please select as your elective.**

- Baylis, J. and Smith, S. and Owens, P. (eds). 2019. *The Globalization of World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations*. 8th edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press

### **Selected works by SSEES Politics academics**

- [Seán Hanley](#) on why we must go beyond the “backsliding paradigm” ([link](#)) and the fading mirage of the liberal consensus ([link](#)).
- [Agnieszka Kubal](#) on immigration and refugee law in Russia ([link](#)) and women’s rights in Poland ([link](#)).
- [Alena Ledeneva](#) on ‘How Russia Really Works’ ([link](#))
- [Richard Mole](#) on how Putin’s constitutional ban on same-sex marriage will increase homophobia in Russia ([link](#)).
- [Michał Murawski](#) on the antagonistic relationship between a Stalinist skyscraper and the right-wing PiS regime in Poland ([link](#)), on the continuing role of monumentality in the 21st century city (see Introduction, [link](#)) and on post-socialist pyramids ([link](#)).
- [Ben Noble](#): on the 2020 “nationwide vote” in Russia on constitutional changes ([link](#)) and on elite conflict and law-making in contemporary Russia ([link](#)).
- [Allan Sikk](#) on parties and party organisations in Eastern Europe. ([link](#))
- [Anne White](#) on migration networks and cultures, why migration cannot be ‘turned off and on like a tap’, and gendered aspects of family reunification from Poland ([link](#))
- [Andrew Wilson](#) on the August 2020 events in Belarus ([link](#)), covered in detail in his [new book on](#) Belarus, and on the Ryanir [hijacking](#); plus on the Zelensky presidency in Ukraine, after one year ([link](#)).
- [Richard Mole](#) - [Putin’s constitutional ban on same-sex marriage will increase homophobia in Russia](#)
- [Agneska Snetkov](#) - <https://archive.discoversociety.org/2020/11/04/on-the-frontline-what-does-the-decision-of-the-constitutional-court-mean-for-womens-human-rights-in-poland/>
- <http://www.cambridgeblog.org/2019/05/immigration-and-refugee-law-in-russia/>