**2 Практический раздел**

**2.1 Практические руководства для проведения семинарских занятий по дисциплине «Страноведение»**

**2.1.1 «Страноведение Великобритании»**

**Seminar 1**

**The British Melting Pot: Stages in the Formation of the British Nation.**

1. The most ancient population of the British Isles: Iberian, Beaker Folk, Celtic.
   * The Iberian or Neolithic men who reached and peopled Britain between 3000 and 2000 B.C., megalithic monuments;
   * The Beaker people, a new race of Alpine stock which arrived after 2400 B.C.:
   * Invasions of Celtic tribes – the Goidels, the Brythons, the Belgae; their level of civilization
2. Roman conquest and occupation.
   * The area of Roman occupation, the civil district and the military district;
   * Roman life, Roman towns and villas;
   * Permanent traces of Roman high civilization
3. Nordic invasions: the Anglo-Saxon conquest, the Viking invasions, settlement and influence.
   * Early Anglo-Saxon kingdoms;
   * Institutions of government;
   * Conversion to Christianity;
   * The Danish invasions, the Danelaw, the Danegeld
4. The Norman conquest and its consequences – military, political, economic, linguistic.
   * Causes of the Norman conquest;
   * The political system developed under the Normans;
   * The Domesday Book.

**Literature**

1. Baranovsky, Kozikis. Panorama of Great Britain.
2. G.M.Trevelyan. A Shortened History of England.
3. Zaitseva. Early Britain.
4. Campbell. Anglo-Saxons.
5. N.Chadwick. Celts.
6. I.A.Richmond. Roman Britain.
7. D.McDowall. An Illustrated History of England.
8. D. Howard. 1066. The Year of the Conquest.

**SEMINAR 2**

**Population of the U.K.**

1.Ethnic and cultural diversity of the British population

- ethnic composition :indigenous population and non-indigenous ethnic minorities;

- effects of immigration on ethnic transformation of the British population;

- position of indigenous languages, English and Celtic, as well as languages spoken by ethnic minorities.

2. Demographic trends

-population composition, birth rates, mortality, age and sex structure, life expectancy, distribution of population, population density, census statistics.

3. Social hierarchy:

- socio-economic classification of the three basic grades – upper, middle and working class;

- changing class attitudes;

- a concept of social mobility.

4. Family:

- patterns of family formation and family structure;

- changing family roles and relationships;

-attitudes towards marriage and cohabitation, divorce rates;

- gender/ the status of women.

LITERATURE

1. J.O’Driscoll. Britain.
2. P.Bromhead. British Life and institutions.
3. D.McDowall. Britain in Close-up.
4. Baranovsry, Kozikis. Panorama of Great Britain.
5. Britain 1991. An Official Handbook.

**SEMINAR 3**

**U.K. CONSTITUTION AND SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT.**

1. The British constitutional system:

- gradual evolution of the constitution over centuries, important constitutional documents on which it is based;

-elements of the constitution: statute law, common law, conventions;

-the separation of powers: legislative, executive, judicial, concentration of power and responsibility in the legislature in the British system.

2.The Monarchy

- the monarch’s role in government, the royal prerogative, executive and legislative duties;

-the social role of the monarchy;

- the value of the monarchy, the Civil List;

- the future of the monarchy, evolving constitutional role of the monarchy.

3. Parliament

- the origins of Parliament, the three elements of Parliament;

- the powers and the main functions of Parliamrnt;

- composition of the two chambers of Parliament, officers of the House of Commons and the House of Lords;

- reforms of the House of Lords;

- parliamentary business, parliamentary procedure, the law-making process.

4. The electoral and party system

-parliamentary electoral system, simple majority voting system versus proportional representation;

- voters, voting eligibility, qualifications of candidates;

- recent general election results.

- the nature of the two-party system;

- major political parties- the Conservative, Labour,Liberal-Democratic: their origins, ideologies and policies, their support and strongholds;

-the party system in Parliament, the Government and the Opposition parties.

5. Government and the Civil Service

- the Prime Minister and the Cabinet, government ministers, the Privy council and other government departments responsible for national policies and administration;

- ministerial responsibility – collective and individual;

-the Civil Service – the permanent bureaucracy of the Crown employees that supports U.K. government ministers.

LITERATURE

1. O’Driscoll. Britain.

2. P.Bromhead. British life and Institutions.

3.D.McDowall. Britain in Close-up.

4. Baranovsky, Kozikis. Panorama of Great Britain.

**SEMINAR 4**

**SYSTEM OF EDUCATION IN THE U.K.**

1. British school history

* the history of school education from the 6th century onwards;
* state involvement in the provision of education for everybody;
* replacement of the tripartite selective school system by comprehensive schools forpupils of all abilities, a setting up of the National Curriculum.

1. The system of primary and secondary education

* state school system: control and management, education structure-pre-school(3-4), compulsory school education(5 – 16), further education/ 6th form (16-18);
* types of schools: comprehensive, grammar, secondary modern, specialist, special,City Technology colleges, community, foundation, voluntary;
* the independent schools sector, sources of funding, school fees, academic selection of pupils, education structure – pre-preparatory - preparatory school – senior/public school;
* features distinguishing private education: traditional aims of education, distinctive school traditions, modern tendencies – emphasis on individual teaching, organized sports and extra-curricular activities and high academic achievement;
* types of independent schools, major public schools.

1. The school curriculum, academic qualifications and examinations

* the National Curriculum: 4 key stages and pupil ages, aims and purposes, attainment targets, formal assessment of progress, statutory subjects – core and foundation;
* types of academic qualifications: GCSE, GCE A level and AS level examinations.

1. Further and higher education

* vocational courses in further education colleges;
* higher education institutions, categories of British universities: ancient/medieval,the 19th century civic/redbrick universities, the 20th century new/ plate-glass, newer/former polytechnics, the Open University;
* admission to universities, their general organization, methods of instruction, academic programme, degree courses- undergraduate –postgraduate-doctorate; traditions.

LITERATURE

1.Baranovsky, Kozikis. Panorama of Great Britain

2. J.O’Driscoll. Britain.

3. Britain 1991. An Official Handbook.

**2.1.2 «СТРАНОВЕДЕНИЕ США»**

**SEMINAR 1**

**POPULATION OF THE USA**

1. Patterns of immigration and assimilation

- general and particular causes of the massive influx of immigrants, political, economic and personal;

- American immigration history throughout the colonial period; an influx from northern Europe until the mid-19th century, immigration mainly from southern and eastern Europe at the turn of the 20th century, immigration mainly from Latin America post 1965, contemporary immigration;

- public attitudes towards immigration in the USA, US immigration policy, history of laws restricting immigration;

- Three dominant models of how immigrants are assimilated into U.S. culture: Anglo-conformity, the melting pot, cultural pluralism.

2. Demographics of the USA

- total population, population growth, ethnic composition, population density, age structure, median age, birth rate, mortality, sex ratio, life expectancy.

3. Patterns of settlement

- major internal migrations: east to west movement, movement from rural to urban areas, movement between metropolitan areas, sun-belt migration;

- regions of America: New England, the Middle Atlantic, the South, the Midwest, the Southwest, the West;

- urbanization, leading population centres.

4. Ethnic minorities

- African Americans, Native Americans, Asian Americans, Hispanics; civil rights’ movement, the struggle for social justice; Affirmative Action policies.

LITERATURE

1. About the USA
2. D.K.Stevenson.American Life and Institutions
3. Colombo, Cullen,Lisle. Rereading America.
4. An Outline of American History.
5. Portrait of the USA.
6. H.Brogan. American History.
7. J.A.Garraty.The Story of America.
8. Bragdon. History of a Free Nation.

**SEMINAR 2**

**AMERICAN SOCIETY AND VALUES**

1. Value system

- America’s traditional core values: an activist approach to life, emphasis on achievement and success, a moral character oriented to Puritan virtues of duty, industry, sobriety, rationality; equality, competitive individualism, self-reliance, efficiency and practicality, freedom, democracy, nationalism and patriotism, materialism, mobility and change;

- the concept of the American Dream which builds on the system of American values.

2. Status and social class

- standards of living, median income levels by household, sex, race, educational attainment, causes of inequality of income distribution;

- the stratification of American society, criteria of social class: occupation, education, income, manners, ownership, power, social prestige etc.; three categories of social class – upper, middle, lower/working; social/upward mobility.

3. American family

- changes and continuity in family structure, types of families traditional/nuclear, blended, one-parent, childless; greater tolerance of pre-marital sex, increase in cohabitation and temporary relationships, rise in non-marital births, increase in divorce rate;

- changing family values and functions.

4. Women and American society

- gender, sexism, history of women’s rights movement in the USA, the idea of equal opportunity.

LITERATURE

1.J.Patterson . The American Democracy.

2. An Outline of American History.

3. About the USA.

4. Portrait of the USA.

5.H.Brogan. American History.

**SEMINAR 3**

**THE AMERICAN POLITICAL SYSTEM**

1. The Constitution

- the U.S. Constitution as the supreme law of the land; historical background of its drafting and ratification;

- six basic principles of government on which the Constitution is built: popular sovereignty, limited government, separation of powers, checks and balances, judicial review, federalism;

- provisions for the amendment of the Constitution, the Bill of Rights – vital protection for individual liberties, the development of the Constitution.

2. The legislative branch

- bicameral Congress – structure, organization, composition, major powers, functions and duties, leadership and officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives, committee system;

- legislative procedure – the law-making process.

3. The executive branch

- the Presidency, presidential powers – executive, legislative, judicial, powers in foreign affairs;

- presidential institutions the Executive Office of the president, the executive departments;

- requirements for becoming president, presidential election: presidential primaries and caucases, presidential nominating conventions, winning a majority of the electoral college.

4. Political parties

- party politics, the two-party system dominating U.S. politics, major political parties – Democratic and Republican, the role of third parties.

**LITERATURE**

1.Janda, Berry. The Challenge of Democracy. Government in America.

2. McClenaghan. Magruder’s American Government.

3.R.Pious.American Politics and Government.

4. J.M.Burns. Government by the People

**SEMINAR 4**

**SYSTEM OF EDUCATION IN THE USA**

1. Control of education

* control, administration and funding of education at three levels – federal, state and local; goals of education, the ideal of equal opportunity in education, the principle of mass education for all;
* history of American schools.

1. Primary and secondary education

* grades/levels of schooling – pre-school, elementary/primary school, middle school, high school, public schools and private schools;
* basic curriculum structure: a core curriculum of required basic subjects, common types of electives; types of high school diploma.

1. Standardized tests

* nationally administered standardized tests to measure a high school student’s chance of academic success in the first year of college – the SAT and ACT.

1. Higher education

* categories of higher education institutions : the university, consisting of several undergraduate colleges, and graduate and professional schools; the 4-year college, the 2-year community college;
* public and private institutions, the Ivy League universities, religiously affiliated universities;
* types of degree courses: core courses, major courses, minor courses, elective courses; types of academic degrees; the credit system.

**LITERATURE**

1. Portrait of the USA.
2. About the USA.
3. D.K.Stevenson. American Life and Institutions.
4. World Book Encyclopedia.
5. American Heritage Encyclopedia.

**SEMINAR 5**

**SOCIAL WELFARE SYSTEM IN THE USA**

1. History of American welfare

* welfare – traditionally a matter for private charity and local government; 1930s – the development of the U.S. modern welfare in the wake of the Great Depression, 1935 – the Social Security Program, 1953 – the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, 1965 – Medicaid and Medicare, AFDC program, 1996 – Welfare Reform Act, TANF program, controversies over welfare.

1. Health and medical care

* a mixed system of government an private responsibility, medical insurance plans, different forms of health insurance coverage – group, individual, HMO; health care spending; health care providers and institutions, hospitals and clinics, physician’s duties.

3. Medicaid and Medicare

* government insurance programs: health coverage for elderly, disabled, and poor through Medicaid and Medicare; different eligibility categories for Medicare and Medicaid.

4. Social Security

- benefit programs – OASDI (old age, survivors and disability insurance),RSDI (retirement, survivors and disability insurance), TANF(temporary assistance for needy families), unemployment insurance; social security programs’ cost.

**LITERATURE**

1. About the USA.
2. Portrait of the USA.
3. D.K.Stevenson. American Life and Institutions.
4. World Book Encyclopedia.

**SEMINAR 6**

**RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY IN THE USA**

1. Religious history of the USA

-major religious traditions: the Puritans, Roman Catholics, the Quakers;

-Evangelical religion of 18th – early 19th centuries, the Great Awakenings;

-Freedom of religion: the First Amendment

2. Religious preferences in the USA

- belief in God

-church attendance

3. The Restoration Movement

-major denominations and sects founded in the USA: Mormonism/ the latter-day saints; the Jehova’s Witness Movement; Pentecostalism; Adventism: Scientology; the Nation of Islam

4. Non-Christian religious communities in the USA

-Judaism

-Hinduism

-Buddhism

-Islam

-Native American religious Practice

**Literature:**

1. World Book Encyclopedia

2. About the USA

3. Todd,Curtis. Rise of the American Nation.

4. Bragdon, MCcutcheon, Ritchie. History of a Free Nation.