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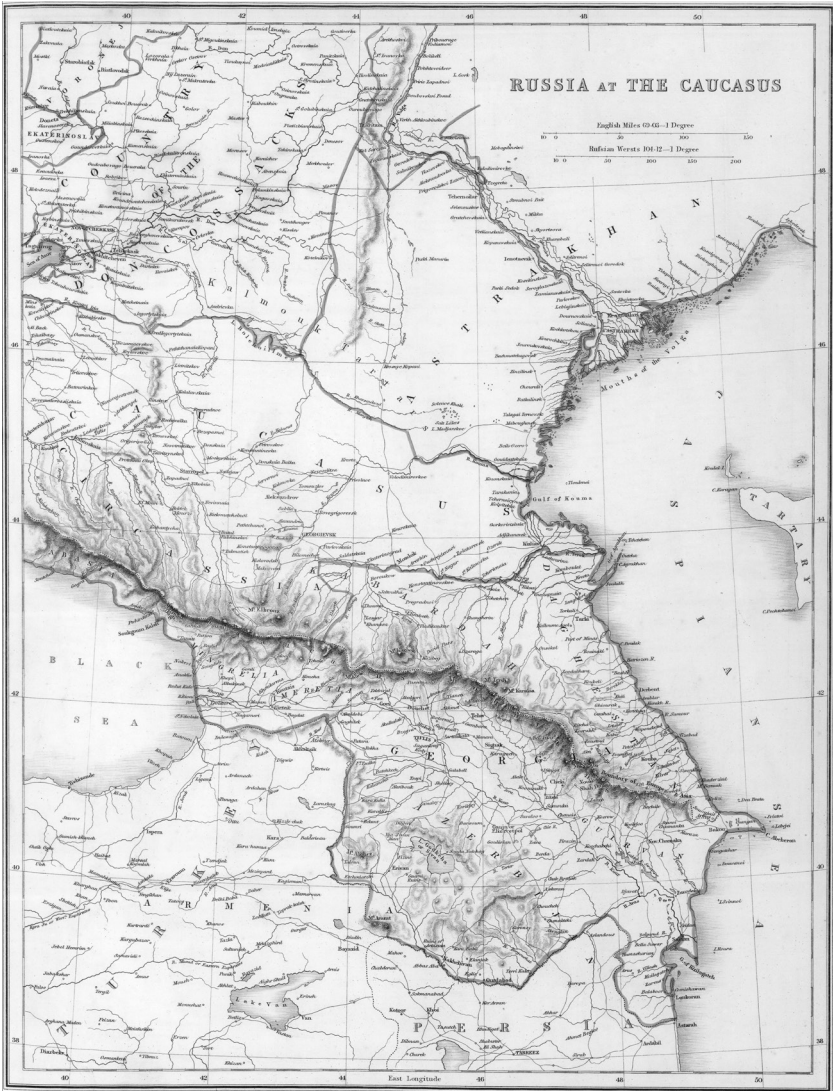
FOREWORD

The aim of this graduate-level optional course is to consider the history of the North Caucasus from the earliest centuries (approximately the IV c. B.C.) to the beginning of the XX c. A.D. Developing the course structure, we came into consideration that the students were in some extent familiar either with the teaching subject or with the basic structures of the second language. The course is focused on no-native speakers, who had General English knowledge in the level of no less than A2 grade in the Common Reference Levels (CEFR).

We suggest they should enrich their base knowledge of the discipline with some original concepts and ideas of foreign scientists by examining the excerpts of English primary and secondary sources. These texts can provide good addition to the topics, which undergraduate students studied in their native tongue – to their awareness with history, ethnic traditions, cultural and political issues of the North Caucasus. All of them were taught to undergraduate students beforehand from the point of view of Russian historical tradition that had left aside a vague mass of facts and ideas the Western historians are concern with. Developing the course the author either came in consideration that a lot of primary sources – especially narrations and notes of the British travellers – have not ever been translated into Russian. Nevertheless, their studying is available via the CLIL (Content and language integrated learning) approach.

The textbook consists of ten sections, concern with specific regional historical, ethnic or cultural issues. Each section is divided into two logical parts, which contribute to the final result of studying. A lecture attempts to bring in a number of general questions from the point of Russian scientific tradition. It is appended by related to its issues primary or secondary source, performed by a native-speaker from the European viewpoint. Some themes address ideas looks very familiar for its native investigators, but sounds weird in the shade of Russian scientific approach and need some additional explanation. It is performed, considering British historical or cultural realities, which gave major impact on the movement of West intellectual thought.

Each lecture and additional source section contains content vocabularies, collected historical and cultural terms mostly unfamiliar for the students. Some of them has rather different meaning in Russian and English oriented scientific tradition. For checking up the theme understanding a list of questions is applied to every topic. The results of a theme studying are emphasized in an “Assignments” section. Whilst performing the tasks, students should compare English and Russian scientific sectors of the topic, making critical assessment of their advantages and disadvantages; prepare an essay, table or a scratch-map, making their stance on the problem. We have just spotted potential subjects of their own scientific research. It is essential that everyone should consider Russian original sources, major works on the Caucasus history and contemporary politics in his study.



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