

# Central Eurasian Studies

Ethnic Relations in the Post-Soviet West

Catalog number CEUS-U 520

[Toivo Raun](#)

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This course focuses on ethnic relations in the six post-communist states of the former "Soviet West": Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Belarus, Ukraine, and Moldova. After a brief review of the historical experience of these regions, concentrating on the Soviet period, we will evaluate inter-nationality relations during the first post-Soviet decade.

Among the key questions to be addressed will be the following: (1) how have these six states and societies—with the exception of Moldova—avoided ethnic violence? (2) To what extent have the various ethnic groups—both titular and non-titular—in these states been integrated into a new civic nationality? (3) How has the role and status of the titular nationalities changed since 1991? (4) How has the Russian population adjusted to becoming a "new minority"?

The format of the course will be based on discussion of common readings. The written work will include a 6-7 pp. book review and a 15-20 pp. research paper on a topic of each student's choosing. Members of the course will also be expected to make an oral presentation on the book reviewed and on the subject of their research paper.