

SES 490S

LIFE IN POLAND AND UKRAINE: 1945-2023



An introduction to the multiculturalism and sociopolitical history of two key countries in Eastern Europe -- Poland and Ukraine. Drawing on documentaries, fiction, and literary journalism from the region, we'll examine how the peoples living in Poland and the Ukraine experienced the aftermath of World War II and the onset of the Cold War; the environmental disaster of Chernobyl; the breakup of the Warsaw Pact and the Soviet Union; and growing tensions between Eastern Europe and Putin's Russian Federation. Documentaries include *The Prince and the Dybbuk*, *The Queen of Silence*, and *One Day in Ukraine*. Readings include works by Nobel Prize winner Svetlana Aleksievich, Mikolaj Grynberg, and Oksana Zabuzhko. All films screened with English subtitles, all readings in English translation. **No prerequisites.**

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