

HISTORY 2840 (W)

HISTORY OF RUSSIA TO 1917

Instructor: Dr. Oleh W. Gerus

Fall 2010

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course focuses on the making of the Russian Empire, the largest country in the world. Since the time frame is a thousand years, only selective episodes of Russian history will be examined. An effort will be made to balance political, social, ethnic and cultural developments. Special attention will be paid to Russia's love-hate relationship with the West and to the twilight of the imperial period.

REQUIRED TEXT: Walter Moss, *A History of Russia to 1917*.

COURSE OUTLINE

1. Introduction (Moss, chapter 1)
2. Background to modern Russia: The Slavic-Norse state (Kievan Rus', 860-1240); Eastern Christianity; the socio-economic structure; disintegration. (ch. 2-4)
3. The Mongol-Tatar era and the rise of Muscovy. (ch. 5)
4. The tsardom of Musovy, 1533-1689; Ivan III and Ivan IV: the autocratic system; serfdom; church-state relations; territorial expansion. (ch. 6-8)
5. Time of Troubles; The early Romanovs; Ukraine (ch. 9-12)
6. The making of Imperial Russia: modernization of Russia (Peter I and Catherine I); conquest of Poland and the Crimea; enslavement of the peasantry; Russia as a European power. (ch. 13-17)
7. Russia and Europe, 1796-1825; Paul and Alexander I; The French Revolution and Napoleon's invasion of Russia. (ch. 18)
8. Pressures for political and social reforms; the Decembrist uprising, 1825; Nicholas I and despotism; the peasant question; the Crimean war; Alexander II and the Great Reforms. (ch. 19-22)
9. Industrialization and urbanization of Russia. (ch. 23)
10. Political radicalism: populism and Marxism. (ch. 23)

11. The nature of the Russian empire; Central Asia; Russification. (ch. 24)
12. Foreign relations, 1856-1905: the Balkans, Europe, Britain. (ch. 24)
13. The 1905 revolution and the Duma monarchy. (ch. 25)
14. Imperial society and culture. (ch. 26-27)
15. World War I and the Russian Revolution.

A reading list will be provided.

TERM WORK: 70% (Final exam 30%)

Map assignment	10%	Due: September 22
First essay	20%	Due: October 07
Test	20%	Due: November 09
Second essay	20%	Due: November 20

Essays must be 1500-2500 words each in length. Late assignments will be penalized by a full grade. Evaluative feedback will be provided before the VW date of November 17, 2010.

Students who wish to appeal a grade given for term work must do so within 10 working days after the grade for the term work has been made available to them. Uncollected term work will become the property of the Faculty of Arts and will be subject to confidential destruction.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION

A+ 90-100	A 85-89	A- 80-84
B+ 75-79	B 67-74	C+ 60-66
C 51-59	D 49-50	F 48 and less

The university's regulations re: PLAGIARISM, CHEATING AND EXAMINATION IMPERSONATION are found on page 27-28 of the 2010-11 Undergraduate Calendar and the Faculty of Arts regulations which reads: "The common **penalty** in Arts for plagiarism on a written assignment is a grade of **F on the paper and a final grade of F (CW) (for Compulsory Withdrawal), for the course**. For the most serious acts of plagiarism, such as **purchase of an essay** and repeat violations, this penalty can also include a suspension for a period of up to **five (5) years** from registration in courses taught in a particular department/program in Arts or from all courses in this Faculty. The Faculty also reserves the right to submit student work that is suspect of being plagiarized to Internet sites designed to detect plagiarism or to other experts for authentication.

The common penalty in Arts for academic dishonesty on a test or examination is **F** for the paper, **F (CW)** for the course and one-year suspension from courses acceptable for credit in the Faculty. For more serious acts of academic dishonesty on a test or examination, such as repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of **five (5) years from registration** in courses taught in a particular department or program in Arts or from all courses taught in or accepted for credit by this Faculty.