HIST 3325 Russia to 1917

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Office Hours: Mondays and Fridays 12:00-1:00 pm, or by appointment

Course Description
This course explores the history of Russia across eleven centuries, from Kievan Rus to the revolutions of 1917. It traces the history of the unification of the eastern Slavic lands into a single, consolidated state, introducing students to key Russian rulers, like Ivan the Terrible and Catherine the Great, and to the diverse groups of peoples who inhabited the Russian landmass from the medieval to the modern periods. Major themes explored in the course include: empire, nationality, autocracy, and revolution.

Course Readings
Required books:
1. Daniel Kaiser, Reinterpreting Russian History, (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1994);
3. Leo Tolstoy, Hadji Murad, (any edition, also sometimes spelled “Hadji Murat”).

All three texts are available for purchase at the UALR bookstore. I recommend that you purchase Reinterpreting Russian History, since we will be working with this text together in class. The Kaiser (RRH) and Tolstoy texts have been placed on short-term course reserve at Ottenheimer Library. The above books can also be found second-hand online or at various libraries. A Life under Russian Serfdom is available for free online: http://books.openedition.org/ceup/506

All other required readings are posted on Blackboard. There you will also find an online version of this syllabus, writing manuals, as well as images, music, and maps from each week’s lectures.

Course Requirements
:: Attendance in lectures and active participation in discussions …………………18%
:: Take-Home Map Quiz (due Jan 13).………………………………………………2%
:: Primary Source Analysis Paper, 3-4 pages (due Feb 3).…………………………15%
:: Academic Book Review Paper, 3-4 pages (due Apr 21).…………………………15%
:: Midterm (Feb 10)……………………………………………………………………20%
:: In-Class Document Analysis Quiz (Mar 29)………………………………………10%
:: Final Exam (May 5)…………………………………………………………………20%

A Note on Format
The format of this course alternates between lectures and seminar-style discussions, as marked on the course schedule. On days reserved for discussion, you are expected to come to class prepared to discuss the assigned readings listed for that day in the syllabus.
Attendance, Active Participation, and Punctuality
Your attendance and active participation in our discussions are essential components of your final grade. Please avoid being late, since this is disruptive to the class. You may miss up to four class meetings without penalty. Please save these permitted absences for unavoidable situations, such as sickness or emergencies. Exceptions will, of course, be made for extenuating circumstances. Be sure to discuss your situation with me if such circumstances arise.

A note on participation
Different people have different ways they best participate, all of which are valid: active listening, thoughtful preparation, sharing a well-formulated idea or question after a long pause, helping a classmate understand a concept, coming to office hours. Speaking up in class is the single best way to boost your participation grade. If you do not regularly speak in class, please find other ways to make contributions that demonstrate your understanding of the course material.

Writing Assignment Specs
Papers are due on Blackboard on the date specified in the syllabus. All papers must be double-spaced, typed in Times New Roman 12-point font, with 1-inch margins. Your papers should be carefully written and closely proofread. If you require an extension on a paper deadline, please speak with me at least one week ahead of time to request and arrange this.

Grading Scale
A: 90-100%; B: 80-89%; C: 70-79%; D: 60-69%; F: 59% and below

Academic Integrity
All assignments are required to reflect original and independent work. Plagiarism—not acceptable under any circumstance—is the use of intellectual material produced by another person without acknowledging its source. A good rule of thumb is: when in doubt, cite. If you have any questions do not hesitate to see me. Please consult the university’s policies on academic integrity, available at http://ualr.edu/deanofstudents/academic-integrity/. Another good source on plagiarism and how to avoid it can be found at Purdue’s Online Writing Lab (https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/2/). When referencing books, articles, and other sources in the papers you write for this class, please include citations in Chicago Style, unless otherwise stated. We will spend time in class before papers are due talking about why, when, and how to cite.

Students with Disabilities
Your success in this class is important to me, and it is the policy and practice of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock to create inclusive learning environments consistent with federal and state law. If you have a documented disability (or need to have a disability documented), and need an accommodation, please contact me privately as soon as possible, so that we can discuss with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) how to meet your specific needs and the requirements of the course. The DRC offers resources and coordinates reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process among you, your instructor(s), and the DRC. Thus, if you have a disability, please contact me and/or the DRC, at 501.569.3143 (TTY) or 501.683.7629 (VP). For more information, please visit http://ualr.edu/disability/
Course Objectives
In this course, students will:
- Learn the key events and major figures of Russian history from 860 to 1917;
- Consider how the Russian case speaks to the broader historical questions of state formation, empire, religion, nationalism, industrialization, and revolution;
- Use evidence from textual and visual sources to draw conclusions and support arguments about the past in both verbal and written form;
- Use critical thinking and analytical skills to examine and discuss both primary and secondary sources;
- Learn Russian history from a variety of approaches, including political, social, gender, cultural, transnational, and economic histories;
- Learn and discuss key debates and questions of Russian historiography;
- Write well-crafted papers summarizing and analyzing primary and secondary sources using quotations and Chicago Style citations.

COURSE SCHEDULE
† Indicates a reading that is available on Blackboard.

Part 1: Medieval Russia from Kievan Rus to Muscovy

Week 1 January 9 (M) Introduction
January 11 (W) Early Rus: The Place and the People
Reading: Reinterpreting Russian History, 3-20.
January 13 (F) Foundations of the Medieval State
Reading: Reinterpreting Russian History, 21-48.
Assignment: Take-home Map Quiz due today

Week 2 January 16 (M) No Class (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)
January 18 (W) Discussion
January 20 (F) Kievian Culture and Society
Reading: Reinterpreting Russian History, 49-78.
Week 3 January 23 (M) Discussion

January 25 (W) The Mongol Conquest
Reading: Reinterpreting Russian History, 79-107.

January 27 (F) Lord Novgorod the Great
Reading: Reinterpreting Russian History, 108-146.

Week 4 January 30 (M) Discussion

February 1 (W) The Rise of Moscow
Reading: Reinterpreting Russian History, 147-180.

February 3 (F) Ivan the Terrible and the Making of Autocracy
Assignment: Primary Source paper due today

Week 5 February 6 (M) Discussion
Readings: All the primary documents and secondary source essays in Reinterpreting Russian History, on pages 193-222. Our conversation will focus on Muscovite society and culture.

February 8 (W) Russia Disunited: The Time of Troubles and the Schism
Reading: † “Archpriest Avvakum Describes his Struggle,” 1673.

February 10 (F) Midterm

Part 2: The Russian Empire from Peter the Great to the Great Reforms (1682-1860s)

Week 6 February 13 (M) Discussion
February 15 (W)  Peter the Great
Reading: *Reinterpreting Russian History*, 223-236.

February 17 (F)  Russia and the West
Reading: *Reinterpreting Russian History*, 268-289.

Week 7  February 20 (M)  Discussion

February 22 (W)  Catherine the Great
Reading: *Reinterpreting Russian History*, 242-250.

February 24 (F)  The Russian Nobility

Week 8  February 27 (M)  Discussion

March 1 (W)  Russian Society and Culture in the 18th Century
Reading: *Reinterpreting Russian History*, 312-350, 362-365, 386-408.

March 3 (F)  Alexander I and Nicholas I: Russia from Napoleon to the Decembrists

Week 9  March 6 (M)  Discussion
Readings: All primary and secondary sources on pages 255-267 in *Reinterpreting Russian History*. Our discussion will focus on the question of how Russia’s nineteenth-century Tsars governed.

March 8 (W)  The Russian Intelligentsia
Reading: *Reinterpreting Russian History*, 412-427.

March 10 (F)  Alexander II and Crimea
Reading: Start reading Tolstoy, *Hadji Murat*.

Week 10  March 13 (M)  Discussion
Reading: Tolstoy, *Hadji Murat*.

March 15 (W)  The Great Reforms
March 17 (F)  The Emancipation of the Serfs
Readings: † Alexander II’s Manifesto Emancipating the Serfs, 1861

Week 11  March 20-24  No Class (Spring Break)

Week 12  March 27 (M)  Discussion

March 29 (W)  In-Class Document Analysis Quiz
March 31 (F)  Writing Workshop: Writing an Academic Book Review

Part 3: The Road to Revolution

Week 13  April 3 (M)  Discussion

April 5 (W)  Terrorism, the Secret Police, and Alexander III’s Counter-Reforms
Readings: Get started on Wortman reading for April 10

April 7 (F)  No Class (Zubovich at conference)

Week 14  April 10 (M)  Discussion

April 12 (W)  Industrialization and the Rise of the Working Class
Readings: † Victoria Bonnell, “The Labor Force.”

April 14 (F)  Nicholas II and the 1905 Revolution
Readings: † Gary M. Hamburg, “The Nobility in Crisis.”
Week 15  April 17 (M)  Discussion

April 19 (W)  The Stolypin Reforms
Reading: † Leonard Schapiro, “Stolypin.”

April 21 (F)  Russia and the First World War
Assignment: Secondary Source (Book Review) paper due today

Week 16  April 24 (M)  Discussion

April 26 (W)  1917: The February Revolution and the End of Autocracy

April 28 (F)  1917: The October Revolution and Russian Communism

Week 17  May 1 (M)  Review

Final Exam  May 5 (F) from 10:30am-12:30pm