History 2220-003: War & Society, Russia, 20th C
Fall 2012, 2:00-2:50 pm, Hellems 201
Dr Nancy Vavra

Phone: 303-492-5845 (email preferred)  Office: Hellems 337
nancy.vavra@colorado.edu  Mailbox: Hellems 204
Emails will be answered within 24 hours; phone messages may take days.
Office Hours: Wed & Fri 9-9:30 am, Mon & Wed 3-3:30 pm, and by appt.

Course Description:
History 2220 focuses on war in European and/or American history with a
general exploration of the character, origins, and social, political, and intellectual
impact of war. The context for this course is Russia in the twentieth
century. Topics will include Russia’s internal and external conflicts including
two world wars, revolutions, Stalin’s “war against the peasantry,” and the Cold
War and collapse of the USSR.
Throughout the semester, we will spend time reading and discussing the
impact of war on the individual. Historians suggest that Russia’s great tragedy
has been the governments’ failure to value the individual over the objectives of
the state. This failure is most pronounced during times of extreme internal and
external conflict such as war. How the government and the people responded to
the events of Russia’s twentieth century will be the focus of our course.

This course is approved for arts and sciences core curriculum, historical context.
Note that only one 2000-level HIST course can be applied to History major
requirements. Potential history majors should take only one 2000 level HIST course.
**Course requirements:**
History courses require a great deal of reading. Students are expected to keep up with the assignments and attend class regularly.

**GRADES** are assessed on a 200 point scale based on the following breakdown:

50 pts. Midterm essay on Dune's, "Notes of a Red Guard" and general IDs.
50 pts. one paper comparing the memoirs of Timofeyeva-Yegorova & Grossman.
50 pts. Midterm general essay and IDs.
50 pts. Final exam - essay and IDs.

No make ups without documented excuse. Late papers are accepted, but incur a 2 pt. deduction per day late. Papers must be submitted to me; do not email papers or place them in my mailbox or office door without my prior approval.

**Attendance Policy:**
An attendance list will be passed around at the beginning of each class and students who miss more than two classes will lose 2 points per absence. Students arriving after ten minutes will lose the opportunity to sign the attendance list.

**Required Books:**
Eduard M Dune, *Notes of a Red Guard*
Peter Kenez, *A History of the Soviet Union from the Beginning to the End.*
Anna Timofeyeva-Yegorova, *Red Sky, Black Death: a Soviet Woman Pilot’s memoir of the Eastern Front*

**Optional Books:**
Sheila Fitzpatrick, *The Russian Revolution*

**Required websites:**
Leon Trotsky on the Russian Revolution:
www.marxists.org/archive/trotsky/1930/hrr/index.htm
George Kennan’s telegram, published as The Sources of Soviet Conduct,” 1947
www.historyguide.org/europe/Kennan.html
Proposed lecture topics and assignments
These dates are subject to change based on our class discussions

Week 1, August 27-31

Topics: Intro to course and to Russia; understanding Russia’s imperial past and the development and legacy of Russian autocracy, serfdom, and orthodoxy.

Assignment: Read Chapter 1 (the Introduction), from “A History of the Soviet Union from the Beginning to the End” by Kenez – referred to as the “text.”

Week 2, Sept 5 & 7 (no class Monday)

Topics: Russian imperial past continued thru Nicholas II. The Russo-Japanese war, Russian military defeat, and events of 1905.

Assignment: Read Chapter One, from Volume I, Leon Trotsky, “The History of the Russian Revolution,” Chapter 1, “Peculiarities of Russia’s Development” @ http://www.marxists.org/archive/trotsky/1930/hrr/ch01.htm

Week 3, Sept 10-14

Topics: Pre-war politics: Pan Slavism, Nicholas & Wilhelm. The empire and the people prepare for and respond to the Great War.

Assignment: Begin “Notes of a Red Guard”

Week 4, Sept 17-21

Topics: WWI continued The legacy of opposition and the February revolution. How did war contribute to revolution? Was revolution inevitable?

Assignment: Read Chapter Two in the text and continue “Notes of a Red Guard.”

Week 5, Sept 24-28

Topics: The October Revolution and the Russian Civil War, 1918-1921

Assignment: Finish “Notes of a Red Guard,” prepare for midterm.
Week 6, Oct 1-5

Topics: Civil War continued; begin Stalin’s rise to power

Assignment:
In class exam: IDs & Dune- Monday, Sept 24.
Read Chapters Three and Four in the text.

Week 7, Oct 8-12

Topics: War against the peasantry. Why did Stalin turn on the peasants? What were the short term and long term results? Discuss collectivization.

Assignment: Read Chapter Five in the text. Begin “Red Sky: Black Death.”

Week 8, Oct 15-19

Topics: Begin prelude to The Great Patriotic War: Russia, Poland and Germany in 1939. Who believed in the Nazi Soviet pact? Operation Barbarossa. Where was Stalin in June 1941?

Assignment: Read Chapter Six in the text. Continue “Red Sky: Black Death”

Week 9, Oct 22-26

Topics: World War cont. Russian women & their participation in war. The Red Army in Germany: victory or vengeance?

Assignment: Read “A Writer at War” and prepare for paper.

Week 10, Oct 29-Nov 2

Topics: Watch documentary and assess Russia in two wars.

Assignment:
Paper due on Wed, Oct 31, on “Red Sky” and “Writer at War.”
Week 11, Nov 5-9

Topics: Origins of the Cold War, Stalin, the Marshall Plan, NATO and the Warsaw Pact.
Assignment:
Read Chapter Seven in the text.

Week 12, Nov 12-16

Topics: Post-Stalin Russia: assessing cold war, avoiding hot war.
Assignment:
Read George Kennan's telegram, published as “The Sources of Soviet Conduct,”
www.historyguide.org/europe/Kennan.html. 1947

Midterm, Nov 14- one essay and four IDs.

Week 13, No Classes, Fall Break & Thanksgiving

Week 14, Nov 26-30

Topics: Khrushchev and the Cold War
Assignment:
Read Chapter Eight in the text.

Week 15, Dec 3-7

Topics: Gorbachev: perestroika and glasnost. The second “thaw.” and the fall of
the Soviet Union.
Assignment: Read Chapters Nine and Ten in the text.

Week 16, Dec 10-14

Topics: The fall of the USSR and the new Russia: Is there hope for democracy in
Russia? This topic will be determined by events of 2012. Review for final.

Dec 17, 4:30-7:30 pm
Final exam in class
Disability Statement: If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit a letter from Disability Services at least one week prior to the first exam so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or by e-mail at dsinfo@colorado.edu.

Religious Observance: Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. Please talk to me and email your schedule to me if you will need to miss class. See full details at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html

Decorum Statement: Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, color, culture, religion, creed, politics, veteran's status, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity and gender expression, age, disability, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to faculty with the student's legal name. Please advise me of any requests to address you by alternate names or gender pronouns early in the semester. See policies at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html and at http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code

Discrimination and Harassment: CU-Boulder is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working, and living environment. The University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status in admission and access to, and treatment and employment in, its educational programs and activities. CU-Boulder will not tolerate acts of discrimination or harassment based upon Protected Classes or related retaliation against or by any employee or student. Individuals who believe they have been discriminated against should contact ODH at 303-492-2127 or OSC at 303-492-5550. Information and campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at http://www.colorado.edu/odh

Student Honor Code: All students at CU-Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu; 303-735-2273). Students found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Other information on the Honor Code can be found at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html and at http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/