History 2220-002: War & Society: Russia, 20th C
Fall 2013, 2:00-2:50 pm, Hellem 201
Dr. Nancy Vavra

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Office hours: MWF, 3-3:30 pm.
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I am also available after class and by appt.

Course Description:
History 2220 explores the character, origins, and social, political, and
intellectual impact of war. The context for this course is Russia in the twentieth
century. We will focus on Russia in two World Wars and their Civil War, but
topics will also include Russia’s internal and external conflicts including
revolutions, Stalin’s “war against the peasantry,” and the Cold War. We end
with the collapse of communism and the end of the USSR.

Throughout the semester, we will read and discuss 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 conflict, such as war.
How the government and the people responded to events of Russia’s twentieth
century will be the theme of our course. During a time where tragedy
outweighed triumph, patriotism, apathy, opposition, self-sacrifice, kindness,
cruelty and barbarism all appeared in this dramatic century.
This course is approved for arts and sciences core curriculum: historical context.

Please read carefully- you are responsible this information:

Course requirements:
- History courses require large amounts of reading; students are expected to complete the assignments on time and attend class regularly.
- There is no specific attendance policy, but I often take attendance and consider attendance when calculating a borderline grade.
- I also place an outline, with images, on the board with every lecture. These outlines and presentations **will NOT be posted on D2L**. Students should attend and copy the outline at the beginning or during class. The outlines contain the themes for the day as well as key terms, events, and individuals that **will be on the exams**.
- I will also make announcements at the beginning of class so prompt attendance is essential.

Please note that checking email and browsing the web will not be tolerated in this course. Open computers with email or social networking, are very distracting to the students around you and infuriating to the instructor.

**GRADES** are assessed on an 100 point scale based on the following breakdown:
95-100 = A, 90-94 = A-, 88-89 = B+, 85-87= B, 80-84 = B-, 78-79 = C+ etc.

20 pts- two short quizzes on assigned primary source books (10 pts each)
50 pts- two midterms, 25 pts each, IDs, essays and/or multiple choice.
30 pts- final exam, IDs, essays and/or multiple choice.
**No make-ups** without prior arrangements or documented excuse.

**Required Books:**
Isaac Babel, *Red Cavalry*
Eduard M Dune, *Notes of a Red Guard*
Geoffrey Hosking, *Russian History: A Very Short Introduction*
Richard Overy, *Russia’s War: A History of the Soviet War Effort: 1941-1945*

**Optional Book:**
Roger R Reese, *The Soviet Military Experience*.

**Required websites and articles:**
To be announced and placed on D2L.
Disability Statement: If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, or a temporary medical condition, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services by the first three weeks of class so that your needs may be addressed. D.S. determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, or email dsinfo@colorado.edu. Also, see (http://disabilityservices.colorado.edu/) for temporary medical conditions and injuries.

Religious observance: Campus policy requires that faculty make every effort to reasonably and fairly deal with all scheduling conflicts due to a religious observance, Please see me prior to the absence to make arrangements.  http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html

Decorum. 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 the instructor with the student’s legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. See policies at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html and at http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code

Online Decorum: Please address your instructors by their titles and last names – not by first name - and use proper grammar and style in your emails.

Discrimination and Harassment: The University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working, and living environment and 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. (Regent Law, Article 10, amended 11/8/2001). CU-Boulder will not tolerate acts of discrimination or harassment based upon Protected Classes or related retaliation against or by any employee or student. For purposes of this CU-Boulder policy, “Protected Classes” refers to race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or veteran status. Individuals who believe they have been discriminated against should contact the Office of Discrimination and Harassment (ODH) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Student Conduct (OSC) at 303-492-5550. Information about the ODH, the above referenced policies, and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at http://hr.colorado.edu/dh/

Honor Code: All students of the University 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 who are 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). Information can be found at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html and at http://honorcode.colorado.edu
Lecture topics and assignments  
(the schedule may change based on class discussions)

Week 1 - Aug 26-30  
Topics:  
Intro to course and to Russia’s imperial past: the development and legacy of Russian autocracy, serfdom, and orthodoxy. Peter the Great and the military.

Assignment:  
Begin Hosking, Russian History for a general background on Russia.  
Read Chapters 1-3, pp 1-59.

Week 2 - Sept 4 and Sept 6 (no class Monday)  
Topics:  
Russian imperial past continued thru Nicholas II. The Crimean and Russo-Japanese wars, Russian military defeat and events of 1905.

Assignment:  
Read Hosking, Russian History, Chapters 4-5, pp 60-96.  
Consider beginning the next reading assignment this week (Dune).

Week 3 - Sept 9-13  
Topics:  
Pre-war politics: Pan Slavism, tensions, Nicholas I & Wilhelm II. The empire and people prepare for, and respond to, the Great War.

Assignment:  
Begin Dune, Notes of a Red Guard, read Part One, pp. 3-114.

Week 4 - Sept 16-20  
Topics:  
WWI continued. War and consequences: the February revolution.  
How did war contribute to revolution? Was revolution inevitable?

Assignment:  
Finish Dune, Notes of a Red Guard, read Chapters, Part II, pp. 117-230.  
1st QUIZ, Sept 20 – on Dune, revolution and Civil War, 10 pts. (10%).
Week 5- Sept 23-27

Topics:
The October Revolution and begin the Russian Civil War, 1918-1921. From documentary, “Red Empire” – Vol. 2: “Winners & Losers.”

Assignment:
Read Dune, Notes of a Red Guard, Chapters Seven-Eleven, pp 137-212.

Week 6- Sept 30- Oct 4

Topics:
Civil War continued.

Assignment:
From Babel’s Red Cavalry, (Norton ed.) read the “Red Cavalry Stories,” pp 33-101, ending with “The Story of a Horse.”

Week 7- Oct 7-11

Topics:
Stalin’s war against the peasantry. What were the short term and long term results?

Assignments:
Second QUIZ, on Babel and war in Poland, Oct 7- 10 pts. (10%). Begin Overy, Russia’s War, Chapters 1-2, pp. 1-72.

Week 8- Oct 14-18

Topics:
Prelude to The Great Patriotic War: Russia, Poland and Germany in 1939. The Nazi Soviet pact. Operation Barbarossa, Hitler and Stalin.

Assignment:
Read Russia’s War, Chapters 3-5, pp. 73-153. First MIDTERM- Oct, 18 war and society thru 1941, -20 pts

Week 9- Oct 21-25

Topics:
The “Great Patriotic War” and Soviet Society. Gender and War. From “Red Empire” – Vol. 5: “Patriots.”
Assignment:

Week 10- Oct 28- Nov 1

Topics:
The Great War cont. The Red Army in Germany: victory or vengeance? Retribution or reconstruction?

Assignments:
Read *Russia’s War*, Chapters 8 -9, pp 223-289.
From Grossman’s *A Writer at War*, read Chapter 24, “Treblinka.”

Week 11- Nov 4-8

Topics:

Assignments:
Read from *Russia’s War*, Chapter 10 – epilogue, pp 290- 330.

Week 12- Nov 11-15

Topics:
The legacy of war cont. NATO and Warsaw Pact.
From “Red Empire”– Vols. 6-7: “Survivors” & “Prisoners of the Past.”

Assignment:
Second **MIDTERM, Nov 11**, on World War II - 20 pts. (20%).

Week 13- Nov 18-22

Topics:
Cold War heats up. Khrushchev, Kennedy and the Cuban Missile Crisis.

Assignment:
Week 14- Nov 25-29
No classes, Fall Break & Thanksgiving

Week 15- Dec 2-6
Topics:
Russian stagnation and aggression. Afghan war.
From documentary, “Red Empire” – Vol. 7: “Prisoners of the Past.”

Assignment:
Read Hosking, Russian History, Chapter 7 & Conclusion, pp. 112-130.

Week 16- Dec 9-13
Topics:
Gorbachev: perestroika and glasnost. Collapse of communism and Cold War
Discuss the new Russia: Will there be another Cold War?

Assignment:
Study for final exam

Final exam in class
Monday, Dec 16, 7:30 - 10 PM