History 2220-002: War & Society: Russia in the Twentieth Century
Fall 2014, 4:00-4:50 pm, Hellems 201

Instructor: Dr Vavra
email: nancy.vavra@colorado.edu - email preferred to phone
Office: Hellems 337
Mailbox: Hellems 204
Office hours: MWF, 1-1:30 in Kittredge Central N211B
W & F, 3:00-3:30 in Hellems 337 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. Topics will include the 1917 revolution and Civil War that followed, Russia’s involvement in two world wars, and the Cold War era and the collapse of the USSR. This semester we may extend our studies into the present to better understand the events in Ukraine and Crimea.

The twentieth century began and ended with dramatic change in Russia; by century’s end both the Imperial and Soviet eras were gone. For the people, it was a century of transformation, triumph and tragedy. Revolution, war, Stalinism, and government control drove events from one decade to the next, but war played a fundamental role in generating an atmosphere of hardship and crisis. All wars impact a battlefront and a home front, but in Russia the line between fronts barely existed. Civilian and soldier felt the violence and destruction of war alike. This semester we focus on how the government and the people responded to the challenges brought on by hot war and cold war.

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.

Reading assignments include a textbook, two additional textbook chapters for background, one primary source on WWII, a secondary source based on interviews on the Cold War, and additional primary sources online or D2L.

**Required Books:**
David R Marples, *Russia in the Twentieth Century*
Donald L Raleigh, *Soviet Baby Boomers: An Oral History of Russia’s Cold War Generation*

**Optional Books, (great for background on Russia’s military history):**
Richard Overy, *Russia’s War: A History of the Soviet War Effort: 1941-1945*
Roger R Reese, *The Soviet Military Experience*

**Reserve**
The three required books can be purchased at the CU Bookstore. Other options include renting books or buying used copies. I have also placed a copy of each book on reserve at Norlin Library circulation desk – you may borrow a book for a 2-hour period with your CU Buff card anytime the library is open.

**Course structure:**
Most of the course is presented through lectures and I provide an outline and images for each lecture. Most days, I email the outline to the “class list” prior to 4 pm. (Check the email address that CU has on file for you.) The outlines contain themes, events, and key terms that we focus on that day. Attendance is still essential. **Knowledge of class lectures is required for the exams.**

**Attendance and participation**
Students are expected to keep up with the assignments and attend regularly. Attendance is taken at the start of most classes and attendance and will be factored into grades. When a grade falls on the border of two grades, students with more than three unexcused absences will receive the lower grade; missing more than 10 classes will result in the drop of a full grade. Students who arrive ten minutes late will lose the opportunity to sign the attendance sheet for that day. **Important announcements also occur at the beginning of class.** Talk to me if you have a reason for repeatedly arriving late.
**Technology**
Phones, tablets and laptops are allowed, but **NOT encouraged** in this course. Students who repeatedly use technology for anything besides taking notes will be requested to stop and may lose attendance points for that day. Abusing laptop privileges is rude and distracting. I am unwavering on this issue.

**Tracking Grades and emails**
I post assignments and review on D2L but I do not post attendance or grades. All assignments will be clearly marked and returned to you. Keep track of them.

Please email or talk to me with any questions regarding the course, the content, or other history-related questions or comments. However, note that I may not answer emails requesting information that is available to you (grade totals) or found on this syllabus (office number or office hours). I will answer all other emails within a 24 hr. period of receiving them.

When in doubt, address emails to Prof or Dr. rather than a first name.

**GRADES** are assessed on a **300-point** scale based on the following:
120 pts- two midterms on lectures and readings:
   short essay and terms or multiple choice, 60 pts each.
120 pts- four reader response quizzes or papers on primary sources, 30 pts.
   60 pts- final exam – essay, terms.

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**No make-ups without prior arrangements or documented excuse.**

Late papers are accepted, up to one week past the due date, but incur a 2 pt deduction per day late, including weekends.

**The final exam is Tuesday Dec 16, 1:30-4:00 pm.** Early finals are not offered without documented or medical excuse. The university is very firm on this policy and **early finals are not given to accommodate travel.**
Campus Policies

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 at least two weeks prior to any exams 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.

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

Classroom behavior. 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

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
Proposed lecture topics and assignments
(The schedule & reading assignments may change slightly due to class discussions.)

Week 1- Aug 25-29

Topics:
Intro to course and to Russia’s imperial past: the development of Russian autocracy, serfdom, expansion and orthodoxy. Peter the Great and the military.

Assignment:
Read Chapter 1, “Tradition and Change in Imperial Russia” from A Vision Unfulfilled, pp 19-61- by John M Thompson, found on D2L.
This chapter will provide you will a background on Imperial Russia.

Week 2- Sept 3 -5 (no class Monday)

Topics:
Russian imperial past continued, a century of Russian victory and Russia defeat: Alexander I and Napoleon, the Crimean war, and Russo-Japanese war.

Assignment:
Read Chapter VII, “A Small Victorious War,” from In War’s Dark Shadow, pp 227-271, by W Bruce Lincoln for background on Russian military, found on D2L.
Begin reading Marples’, Russia in the Twentieth Century, Chapter 1, pp 1-13.

Week 3- Sept 8-12

Topics:
1905-1914: Pre-war politics: Pan Slavism, tensions, Nicholas I & Wilhelm II. The Great War begins.

Assignment:
Read Russia in the Twentieth Century, Chapter 1, pp 13- 18.
Read online @ www.firstworldwar.com go to “Dear Willy, Dear Nicky” and read the letters between Nicholas II and Wilhelm II beginning with 29 July 1914 1 a.m. from Tsar to Kaiser- through 1 August 1914, Kaiser to Tsar.

Week 4- Sept 15-19

Topics:
World War I continued: war and the February revolution.
How did war contribute to revolution? Was revolution inevitable?
Assignment:
**Monday, Sept 15- first response quiz** on the letters and outbreak of WWI. 30 pts
Read *Russia in the Twentieth Century*, Chapter 2, pp 18 - 54.

**Week 5- Sept 22-26**

**Topics:**
Lenin, Trotsky and the October Bolshevik revolution. The Treaty of Brest Litovsk and begin the Russian Civil War, 1918-1921.

Assignment:
Read Two Isaac Babel stories from *Red Cavalry*: “My First Goose” and “The Story of a Horse” and read Zamyatin’s “The Cave” – all found on D2L.
**Friday, Sept 26 second response quiz** on Babel and Zamyatin, 30pts.

**Week 6- Sept 29- Oct 3**

**Topics:**

Assignment:
**Wed, Oct 1 first MIDTERM, 60 pts.**
Read *Russia in the Twentieth Century*, Chapter 3, pp 58-89.

**Week 7- Oct 6-10**

**Topics:**
Stalin’s war against the peasantry. What were the short term and long term results? Documentary, “Red Empire” – Vol. 3, Collectivization.

**Assignments:**
Read *Russia in the Twentieth Century*, Chapter 4, pp 91-119.

**Week 8- Oct 13-17**

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

Assignment:
Read *Russia in the Twentieth Century*, Chapter 4, pp 120-130 & Chapter 5 pp 135-144. Begin Grossman, *A Writer at War*, read Part One, pp. 3-64.
Week 9- Oct 20-24

Topics:
The “Great Patriotic War” and Soviet Society. The siege of Leningrad and holding Moscow. Stalingrad and Kursk.

Assignment:
**Wed, Oct 22-third response quiz** on Grossman readings so far.

Week 10- Oct 27- 31

Topics:
The Great War cont. Women and War. (If time- “Red Empire” – Vol. 5: “Patriots.”)

Assignments:
From Grossman’s *A Writer at War*, read Parts Three and Four, pp 203-306.

Week 11- Nov 3-7

Topics:
The Red Army in Germany: victory and vengeance. The Big Three and the Conferences. The legacy of war, Stalin and sacrifice, triumph and tragedy. Cold war chill

Assignments:
**Mon, Nov 3, second MIDTERM.**
Read *Russia in the Twentieth Century*, Chapter 5, pp 145-167.

Week 12- Nov 10-14

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

Assignment:
After midterm, begin *Soviet Baby Boomers*, read Chapter 1.
Week 13- Nov 17-21

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

Assignment:
**Week, Nov 19, forth and last response QUIZ** on “Soviet Baby Boomers” reading so far (you may bring a 3 X 5 card with you- with notes and quotes from “Boomers”
Read *Russia in the Twentieth Century*, Skim 6.
From *Soviet Baby Boomers*, read Chapter 3.

Week 14- Nov 24-28
No classes, Fall Break & Thanksgiving

Week 15- Dec 1-5

Topics:
Russia, stagnation and aggression. The Afghan war and Chechnya
I Recommend watching the film “Prisoner of the Mountain”

Assignment:
From *Soviet Baby Boomers*, read Chapter 4.
**Dec 1- The review sheet for the final will be posted on D2L**

Week 16- Dec 8-12

Topics:
Gorbachev: perestroika and glasnost. Collapse of communism and Cold War Discuss the new Russia, Putin, Odessa, and Ukraine.

Assignment:
From *Russia in the Twentieth Century*, skim Chapters 8-9.
From *Soviet Baby Boomers*, read Chapter 6 and the Conclusion.
Study for final exam

**Final exam in classroom (60 pts)**
Tuesday, Dec 16, 1:30-4 pm in Hellems 201.