History 2220-001: War & Society: War in Twentieth Century Russia
Fall 2016, Hellems 229, MWF 10-10:50 am

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Course Description:
History 2220 explores the character, origins, and social, political, and intellectual impact of war. This semester we will study war and society in modern Russia.
In the twentieth century, the people of Russia endured revolutions, civil war, world wars, and cold war. War impacted all society. In Russia the line between battlefront and home front barely existed, civilian and soldier suffered alike. This semester, questions we will ask include: What conditions precipitated events? How did the leaders contribute to and influence the outcomes? How did the people respond? What were the legacies of war on society? How does a culture of sacrifice shape a nation? How did events influence Russia today?

This course is approved for A & S core curriculum, Historical Context.
Note that only one 2000 level history course can be applied to History Major Requirements. If considering a History major, take only one 2000 level course.

Required Books
Eduard Dune, Notes of a Red Guard
Orlando Figes, Revolutionary Russia 1891-1991, A History
V Grossman, A Writer at War: A Soviet Journalist with the Red Army, 1941-‘45
Vladislav Tamarov, Afghanistan: A Russian Soldier’s Story

Additional readings are listed on the syllabus and posted on D2L.
Course structure and requirements
History courses require much reading. Students are expected to complete the assignments and attend class regularly. Most classes include lectures and slides with time allowed for discussion. Attendance is required; lectures and class discussions include material not found in the readings and lectures are essential for both engaging in the reading material and doing well on exams.

Attendance policy
- After two absences, I deduct two points per absence. Multiple absences can lead to a drop in your grade.
- Do not email me to tell me that you do not feel well. An email does not qualify as an excused absence.
- Please be on time. I begin class on time, make announcements, and on most days, I pass out an attendance sheet that will circulate for the first 5 minutes.

Assignments and grades WILL be posted on D2L, but while outlines and slides are displayed in every class; they ARE NOT posted on D2L.

Electronic devices
Tablets and laptops are only permitted for taking notes; all other screens are distracting to those around you and rude to those speaking. If problems with technology persist, I may deduct from your attendance grade.

Grades are assessed on a 300-point scale:
100 pts. - 4 quizzes, attendance, participation. Note that quizzes are listed for specific weeks, but not specific days of that week. They will be given when they best fit the discussion. You must be in class to take a quiz.
60 pts. - one short paper, assessment of readings.
70 pts. - one midterm: essay and significance of terms.
70 pts. - final exam: essays and significance of terms.

No make-ups without prior arrangements or documented excuse.

Grading scale:
A 300-279  B 249-260  C 219-230  D 189-200
A- 270-278  B- 240-248  C- 210-218  D- 180-188
B+ 261-269  C+ 231-239  D+ 201-209  F 179
The breakdown grade equivalent:
A 93-100  B  83-86.5  C  73-76.5  D  63-66.5
A- 90-92.5  B- 80-82.5  C- 70-72.5  D- 60-62.5
B+ 87-89.5  C+ 77-79.5  D+ 67-69.5  F 59-0
Campus Policies:

Disability Statement: If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to your professor a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner (for exam accommodations provide your letter at least one week prior to the 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. If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see Temporary Injuries guidelines under the Quick Links at the Disability Services website and discuss your needs with your professor.

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 two weeks 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, 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. For more information, see the policies on classroom behavior and the student code.

Discrimination and Harassment: The University of Colorado Boulder (CU-Boulder) is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working, and living environment. 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, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. Individuals who believe they have been discriminated against should contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) at 303-492-2127 or the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSC) at 303-492-5550. Information about the OIEC, the above referenced policies, and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding discrimination or harassment can be found at the OIEC website. The full policy on discrimination and harassment contains additional information.

Honor Code: All students of the University of Colorado at 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 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). Additional information regarding the Honor Code policy can be found online and at the Honor Code Office.
Weekly schedule and assignments
Readings should be completed by the end of the week listed. The reading schedule may change slightly due to class discussions.

Week 1: August 22-26
Topics:
Intro to course and intro to Russia’s imperial past: the development and significance of Russian autocracy, serfdom and orthodoxy. Begin the background to the Russian military and Peter the Great, 1700.

Week 2: Aug 29- Sept 2
Topics:
Cont. background and a century of Russian victory and defeat: Alexander I and Napoleon, 1813 and Nicholas I and the Crimean war, 1854.

Assignment:
For an overview of modern Russia, read Chapter 7, “A Small Victorious War,” from In War's Dark Shadow by W Bruce Lincoln, found on D2L.

Week 3, (no class Monday, Sept 5) Sept 7 & 9
Topics:
The last days of the 19th century and autocratic Russia: Nicholas II, the last tsar. war with Japan, and popular opposition to autocracy. Events of 1905.

Assignment:
Begin Figes, Revolutionary Russia 1891-1991 A History, Chapters 1-2, pp 7-38.

Week 4: September 12-16
Topics:
An introduction to Marxism and to Russia’s political and oppositional parties. International tensions leading to the Great War/World War One.

Assignment:

Week 5: September 19-23
Topics:
World War and revolution, 1917 and the Russian Revolution.
Assignment:
Read Figes, *Revolutionary Russia*, read Chapter 4-5, pp 54-67.
Read Dune, *Notes of a Red Guard*, Chapters 2-5, pp. 27-114.

**Week 6: September 26-30**

**Topics:**
The results of 1917 and the beginning of the Russian Civil War.
If time, or recommended: Documentary: *Red Empire, Vol I: Revolutionaries*.

Assignment:
Read Figes, *Revolutionary Russia*, read Chapters 5, pp 68-88 & Chapter 7, pp 108-124. (You may skim or skip Chapters 6, and 8-11).

**Week 7: October 3-7**

**Topics:**
Civil War continued and the legacy of war on the new Soviet Union.
If time, or recommended: Documentary: *Red Empire, Vol II: Winners and Losers*.

Assignment:
Read Isaac Babel’s short story, “My First Goose,” from *Red Cavalry*, on D2L.
2nd quiz on Dune readings so far, (25 pts).

**Week 8: October 10-14**

**Topics:**
Introduction to Stalin and his first Five Year plan: collectivization, industrialization and war against the peasantry.
If time, or recommended: Documentary: *Red Empire: Vol III: Class Warriors*.

Assignment:
Finish Dune, *Notes of a Red Guard*, Chapters 9-12, pp 171-230 (these chapters will not be on the exam).

Midterm EXAM, Wednesday, October 12, covers 1917-1921, world war and civil war, (70 pts.).

**Week 9: October 17-21**

**Topics:**
Into to Fascism and the road to war: Operation Barbarossa, the Germans invade.
Assignment:

**Week 10: October 24-28**

Topics:
The Great Patriotic War: Operation Barbarossa: Leningrad and Moscow.

Assignments:
3rd quiz on Grossman and the war (25 pts).

**Week 11: October 31- November 4**

Topics:
The Great Patriotic War cont., the battle for Stalingrad, the tanks at Kursk, women warriors, and partisan war.

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

**Week 12: November 7-11**

Topics:
Begin post-war legacy: the big Three and the diplomatic conferences.
The Red Army in Germany: victory and vengeance. The iron curtain descends.

Assignment:
**Nov 11, Paper due**, assessment of War and Society during WWII (60 pts).

**Week 13: November 14-18**

Topics:
High Stalinism and the “Sovietization” of Eastern Europe.
Cold War heats up. Introduction to Khrushchev and the “thaw.”

Assignment:
**4th quiz** on Cold War, (25 pts).
**Week 14- Nov 21-25**

NO CLASSES, Fall Break and Thanksgiving

**Week 15: November 28- December 2**

**Topics:**
Khrushchev to Brezhnev. Détente, stagnation, aggression, human rights and MAD. War in Afghanistan.
Recommended film - “Prisoner of the Mountain”

**Assignment:**
Read Vladislav, Tamarov, Afghanistan, A Russian Soldier’s Story

**Week 16: December 5-9**

**Topics:**

**Assignment:**
Read short excerpts from Slavenka Drakulic, *How We Survived Communism and Even Laughed*, found on D2L. Study for final exam.

**Final exam -70 pts.**
Sunday, December 11, 7:30-10:00 pm