HIST 2220-002: History of War and Society
The Soviet Union and World War Two
Fall 2018
Instructor: John Hatch

MUEN E064
Lectures: MWF 4:00-4:50
Phone: 303-492-5845

Office: Hellems 337
Hours: MW 1:340-3:00 and by appt.
email: john.hatch@colorado.edu

Course Description:

History 2220-002 examines the impact of war on the shaping of the Soviet Union, with emphasis on WWII. In answering the question, “How was the Soviet Union able to emerge victorious in WWII when, roughly twenty years earlier, its predecessor state, Imperial Russia, was defeated in WWI?” we will address the political, social, economic and cultural developments under communism that presaged this outcome, and which together comprise the “Stalinist” system created of the 1930s, and the impact of WWII on Soviet society (including gender roles), the military, and the Soviet Union’s international standing.

Learning Goals:

1. Students will be able to describe and explain what happened in the past, and how historians use primary sources as evidence.
2. Students will be able to describe and explain change and continuity over time, as well as the complexity and contingency of historical processes and outcomes.
3. Students will develop cultural literacy: a knowledge and understanding of human diversity in the past and present.
4. Students will develop a historical view of the present world and will be able to apply their training in historical thinking to their lived experience.

Required Texts: (Available for purchase at the CU Bookstore. Copies also have been placed on reserve in Norlin Library):

Richard Overy, Russia’s War.
John Scott, Behind the Urals.
Vasily Grossman, A Writer at War.
Svetlana Alexievich, The Unwomanly Face of War.

Film: The Ascent.

Requirements:

Grades will be based on the following:
(1) Two 3-4 pp. papers (200 pts. each); (2) Midterm (200 points); (3) non-cumulative Final Exam (200 points); (4) Participation* (100 points). Total points: 900. A= 93.1%; A- =90-93%; B+=87%-89.9%; B=83%-86.9%; B-=80%-82.9%; etc.
*The participation component of your grade will be based on the following: (1) film assignment (20 pts.); (2) four discussion statement assignments: (10 pts. each, for a total of 40 pts.) (3) attendance (40 pts). Specific guidelines for each written assignment will be provided in class.

**Attendance:** Attendance will be taken on lecture, discussion, and review dates, as signified in the “Lecture/discussion schedule” (below) with a “@” symbol. There are forty-one such dates. One point per. You can miss one class without penalty. Absences beyond that can be excused with proper documentation. **You are strongly encouraged to attend all lectures, as much of the content of the exams will be based on them.**

**Extra credit:** There is no extra-credit assignment for this class. However, participation in our periodic discussions will be recorded and can positively affect the grade you receive at the end of the semester. Non-participation in class discussions will **not** negatively affect your grade.

**D2L:** This is a mostly paperless course. Class handouts and assignments will be posted on the Desire2Learn course website. Lecture outlines and slides will also be posted there.

**Extensions** will be granted only by prior arrangement and only due to a documented family or medical emergency which makes it impossible to meet the class schedule. Exams cannot otherwise be made up. An exception to this policy will be made should an exam conflict with religious observances. **Papers must be turned in to the instructor in class on their due date. Papers turned in late without prior arrangement lose one full grade per day; papers emailed or turned in after class on the due date will lose 1/3 grade. Emailed submissions must be followed up with a hardcopy submission within 48 hours to avoid additional penalties. NO ASSIGNMENT MAY BE MADE UP MORE THAN ONE WEEK AFTER THE ORIGINAL DUE DATE.**

**Lecture Schedule**

8.27 Introduction.
8.28 @War and the Rise of the Russian Autocratic State.
8.30 @War and Social Change: The Crimean War and the Great Reforms.

**Readings:** Overy, xiii-xxi.

**9.3 Labor Day Holiday**
9.5 @War and Social Change: The Russo-Japanese War and the 1905 Revolution.
9.7 @War and Social Change: WWI and the Bolshevik Revolution.

**Readings:** Overy, chap. 1.
9.10 @The Russian Civil War and the Bolshevik Dictatorship.
9.12 @Overcoming semi-failed modernization.
9.14 @Stalin’s Rise to Power.

**Readings:** Scott, parts 1-5.
9.17 @Showdown with the Peasantry: collectivization.
9.19 @Bootstrap Industrialization and the “Planned Economy”.
9.21 @The Stalin Purges and the Red Army.

**Readings:** Scott, parts 6-10.
9.24 @World Revolution and International Isolation.
9.26 @The Great Depression and the Rise of European Fascism.
9.28 @The Search for Collective Security.

**Readings:** Overy, chap. 2.

10.1 @Appeasing Hitler.

10.3 @The Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact.

10.5 @The Destruction of Poland.

**Readings:** Overy, Chap. 3; Grossman, chaps. 1-5.

10.8 @Occupying Poland and The Winter War. **First paper due**

10.10 @Operation Barbarossa.

10.12 @Midterm Review.

**Readings:** Overy, chap. 4; Grossman, chaps. 6-7.

10.15 **Midterm**

10.17 @The Battle of Moscow and Siege of Leningrad.

10.19 @The “Hunger Plan” and German Occupation Policies.

**Readings:** Overy, chap. 5; Grossman, chaps. 8-12; Alexievich, pp. xi-xlili.

10.22 @The Holocaust in the East.

10.24 @Partisan Warfare.

10.26 @The Home Front.

**Readings:** Overy, chap. 6; Grossman, chaps. 13-17; Alexievich, 1-184.

10.29 @Disaster on the Southern Front.

10.31 @Stalingrad: The Turning Point.

11.2 @Collaboration and Deportation.

**Readings:** Overy, chap. 7; Grossman, chaps. 18-20; Alexievich, 185-331.

11.5 @Mobilizing State and Society.

11.7 @Why Men and Women Fought.

11.9 @The Battle of Kursk.

**Readings:** Grossman, chaps. 21-24.

11.12 @Documenting the Holocaust.

11.14 @Film: *The Ascent*

11.16 @Film: *The Ascent*

**11.19-11.23 Thanksgiving Holiday and Fall Break**

**Readings:** Overy, chaps. 8-9; Grossman, 25-27.

11.26 @The Destruction of Army Group Center.

11.28 @The “Liberation” of Nazi-controlled eastern Europe.

11.30 @The Battle of Berlin.

**Readings:** Overy, chap. 1.

12.3 @Soviet War Crimes and German Women

12.5 @The Grand Alliance and Lend Lease

12.7 @Spheres of Influence: Wartime Diplomacy

**Readings:** Overy, Epilogue; Grossman, Afterward.

12.10 @The End of an Alliance. **Second Paper Due**

12.12 @Final Exam Review.

12.14 No Class (reading day)

**12.19 (WEDNESDAY)** **FINAL EXAM**, in class, MUEN E064, 7:30-9:00 PM.
University Policies

Accommodation for Disabilities

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit your accommodation letter from Disability Services to your faculty member in a timely manner so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities in the academic environment. Information on requesting accommodations is located on the Disability Services website. Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or dsinfo@colorado.edu for further assistance. If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see Temporary Medical Conditions under the Students tab on the Disability Services website.

Religious Holidays

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. In this class, please let the instructor know no later (if possible) than a week in advance of the conflict.

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 race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. 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 of Conduct.

Sexual Misconduct, Discrimination, Harassment and/or Related Retaliation

The University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder) is committed to fostering a positive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. CU Boulder will not tolerate acts of sexual misconduct (including sexual assault, exploitation, harassment, dating or domestic violence, and stalking), discrimination, and harassment by members of our community. Individuals who believe they have been subject to misconduct or retaliatory actions for reporting a concern should contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) at 303-492-2127 or cureport@colorado.edu. Information about the OIEC, university policies, anonymous reporting, and the campus resources can be found on the OIEC website.
Please know that faculty and instructors have a responsibility to inform OIEC when made aware of incidents of sexual misconduct, discrimination, harassment and/or related retaliation, to ensure that individuals impacted receive information about options for reporting and support resources.

**Honor Code**

All students enrolled in a University of Colorado Boulder course are responsible for knowing and adhering to the Honor Code. Violations of the policy may include: plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, lying, bribery, threat, unauthorized access to academic materials, clicker fraud, submitting the same or similar work in more than one course without permission from all course instructors involved, and aiding academic dishonesty. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Honor Code (honor@colorado.edu; 303-492-5550). Students who are found responsible for violating the academic integrity policy will be subject to nonacademic sanctions from the Honor Code as well as academic sanctions from the faculty member. Additional information regarding the Honor Code academic integrity policy can be found at the [Honor Code Office website](#).