

Bowie State University
Department of History & Government
History 328, Russia in the Twentieth Century

Spring Semester, 2008

Instructor: Dr. George Sochan

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Important Dates:

Late Registration	January 28 - February 4
Last Day to Add a Class	February 4
Spring Convocation	February 13
Last Day to Drop Without a W	February 4
English Proficiency Examination	February 14 & 15
Mid-Summer Period	March 9 - 15
Last Day to Audit	April 7
Last Day to Drop With a W	April 7

ADA Accommodations:

Students with disabilities who wish to receive ADA accommodations should report to the Office of Special Populations, in the Center for Learning and Technology building, Room 316. The Resource Center is in the same building in Room 104. Contact Michael Hughes at (301) 860-3292.

English Proficiency Exam:

After completing ENGL 101 and 102, Composition and Literature I and II, students must take and successfully pass the Bowie State University English Proficiency Examination. Transfer students who completed their English composition requirements at another university should take the English Proficiency Examination during their first semester of enrollment at the University.

I. Course Prerequisites:

ENGL 101 & HIST 111

II. Course Description:

This course considers World War I, the Versailles Peace Settlement, domestic and international developments, World War II, the Cold War, and their aftermath.

III. Required Readings:

Service, Robert. *A History of Twentieth Century Russia.*

Daniels, Robert V. *A Documentary History of Communism in Russia.*

Service's large book provides the substantive material for the course and the book's content closely coincides with the lectures. The book is in the university bookstore. Daniels' book provides some primary source material for the course. Some of his edited work has been posted on Blackboards. You do not have to purchase Daniels' book.

IV. Curriculum Themes

1. academic scholar: objectives 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8
2. technological applications: objectives 2 & 3
3. multiple forms of assessment: objectives 1, 5, 6, 7
4. special populations perspectives: objective 4
5. multicultural & global perspectives: objectives 1 & 4
6. personal and interpersonal perspectives: objectives 5, 6, 7, 8

V. Course Objectives:

1. To offer members of the class, a thorough overview of 20th century Russia.
2. To encourage and induce students to exercise and refine their critical and analytical skills.
3. To provide a gender, race, and class analysis when appropriate to the course.
4. To acquire the broad, general, humanistic knowledge that may be expected of a college graduate in our country.
5. To enable us to orient ourselves in space (by means of basic geographical knowledge), and in time (by means of an understanding of chronological sequences).
6. To help students to develop their research skills and their writing skills.
7. To give students an opportunity to improve their public-speaking skills.
8. To prepare history majors for the two senior seminar courses in history.

VI. Instructional Modes:

Lectures	Take-home Assignments
Class Discussion	Review Sessions
Audio-Visual Materials	Individual Conferences
Study Guides	Blackboards

VII. Guidelines and Responsibilities:

Members of the class are required to read the text, handouts, and supplemental materials. The assignments are clearly laid out under the **Course Calendar**, and the evaluations for those assignments are given in the next section under **Grading/Evaluation Procedures**. Class attendance is required. As regards the attendance, the rules indicated in the "Handbook" will be applied strictly. Roll is taken at each meeting of the class, usually during the first five minutes of the class period. In other words, given the system of accounting, it becomes impossible for the instructor to distinguish between lateness and absence.

Bowie State University does not recognize academic dishonesty as a legitimate means for fulfilling the requirements of a course. Therefore, cheating on anything in this course results in a grade of zero for that particular assignment. Plagiarism, which will be explained during the course, is a form of cheating. Also, material about plagiarism will be posted on Blackboards. The student is responsible to know what plagiarism is and to avoid using it. Proven plagiarism on a paper results in a ZERO and the work may not be redone.

VIII. Grading/Examination Procedures:

For this class there are two research papers, one midterm, a final exam, and participation in the forum discussions on Blackboards. The format for most of this is essay. Basically, an essay answer requires some clearly expressed, relevant concepts supported by pertinent facts. Classroom reviews, study guides, and other hand-outs will enable you to prepare adequately for the various examinations. Moreover, certain of the lectures have been designed especially to show you how to compose an essay.

During the semester many movies that are held at the circulation desk in the library will be made available for viewing in the classroom. For the course two research papers, which correlate to significant themes derived from the movies and, also, incorporate some research to develop a historical topic pertinent to the course, are required. The papers should be composed of **7 to 8, double-spaced, typed-written** pages of **well-written** English. **With 1 ¼ inch margins and a print size of 10 character per inch (#12 font), there should be approximately 26 lines per page (about 2200 words in the paper).** The paper should contain a **brief bibliography** and adequate references (**a moderate amount of end notes**). **Early in the course a sample research paper will be given to you to use as a model.** To organize the papers properly, forum discussions have been set up on Blackboards for each paper. Participation in these conferences is mandatory and comprises an official part of the course. Since one of the purposes for this exercise is to develop composition skills, one re-write for the paper is permitted. (For more information, see section on Course Participation in the syllabus.) **To correct your re-write, the instructor must have the first copy submitted with the revision.** At the end of the syllabus is a select bibliography of books that may be used in the paper. **A minimum of three books must be used in the paper.** A late paper results in a grade lowered by **ten points. Submitted papers that are incomplete, such as not typed or less than 6 pages (less than 1800 words), or without endnotes & bibliography are considered late papers.** One research paper from the areas below is required for the course. You may **NOT** use the Internet. Also, emailed papers are **NOT** accepted.

Paper Topic I

The Russian Revolution

Paper Topic II

Life under Totalitarianism

The exams will consist of an essay part as well as a multiple-choice part, and they will be based primarily on lectures. For your assistance, at the end of the syllabus there are questions upon which the exams are based. Multiple-choice questions are posted on Blackboards. (For further assistance, forum conferences for the midterm and the final exam will be set up on Blackboards. Participation in these conferences is mandatory and comprises an official part of the course.) The course requirements are as follows:

Participation- 10%
Two Papers- 40%
Midterm Exam- 20%
The Final Exam- 30%

All of your work will be given a numerical grade, which will be converted to a letter grade at the end of the semester. The translation of numerical value into letter value is as follows:

A equals 90-100
B equals 80-89
C equals 70-79
D equals 60-69
F is below 60

Students should not fail this course. Toward that end, a re-write is available on a midterm below 60%, but you must "see me" to redo that exam.

Grading Standards for Quizzes, Tests, Exams, and Papers

- A: The answers on the texts and the exam are presented as an organized, coherent whole that begin and end exceptionally well, and manifest the following characteristics:
- *well-formulated thesis statement
 - *well written, topical paragraphs containing interconnected sentences
 - *nearly flawless in terms of grammar and spelling
 - *substantive content that consists of historical specifics and that is also relevant to question
 - *effective use of explanatory sentences that develop and interpret the factual content
 - *knowledgeable references are made to pertinent course materials
 - *overall, mastery of the subject matter is demonstrated
- B: The answers on the tests and the exam are presented as an organized whole that begin and end very well. The "B" usually has all of the characteristics of the "A", but it lacks the strength of the "A" answer. For instance, the writing quality may have too many flaws that weaken the essay, or the content may not be as substantive as it should be. The latter aspect can result from insufficient use of historical specifics or not fully developed explanations. Overall, while the "B" answer does demonstrate a skillful handling of the material, it does not demonstrate mastery.
- C: The answers on the tests and the exam are presented adequately so that they meet the standards and requirements for the assignment, but adequate is neither exceptional nor very good; hence, the grade of "C" which means acceptable work. This answer usually manifests one or more of the following features:
- *content that is not substantial, such as lacking sufficient detail
 - *incompletely developed explanations, which mean interpretations are only sketchy/partial
 - *lack of clarity in writing
 - *errors in content
 - *too many stylistic errors which negatively affect writing clarity
 - *references to course materials are superficial or overly general
 - *sections of the answer, if not incorrect, are irrelevant to the question asked
- D: The answers on the tests and the exam are presented in a manner that only poorly meet the standards and requirements set for the assignment. Generally, the "D" has many of the following characteristics, but they are not so severe nor are there too many to warrant failure.
- *the entire answer may be weak, or certain sections are incoherent
 - *the answer tends to be short
 - *the content is superficial; often specific factual data is not used
 - *too many stylistic errors so that the essay is difficult to read
 - *virtually no interpretation of history because little use of explanatory sentences in essay
 - *too many factual errors
 - *so much irrelevant content used that a lack of understanding of the question is shown
 - *only meager/and or vague reference to course material
- F: The answers on the tests and the exam are presented in a manner that fail to meet most of or all of the standards and requirements set for the assignment. Certain features that warrant failure are the following:
- *the answer is much too short
 - *the content is so superficial that it is vacuous
 - *much of the content is factually wrong or irrelevant to the question addressed
 - *the essay rambles on without coherence
 - *very little or no reference to course materials
 - *the writing is so poor that the essay is unreadable
 - *plagiarized work
 - *use of the Internet

X. Course Calendar

- 01-28: Introduction to Course
- 01-30: Overview of Russian History
Readings: Service, Introduction
- 02-01: Autocratic Russia
Readings: Service, ch 1
- 02-04: The Revolution of 1905
(A-v Presentation: film clips from *Nicholas and Alexandra*)
- 02-06: Autocratic Russia after 1905
Readings: Daniels, "What Is to Be Done?"
- 02-08: World War I
Readings: Service, ch 2
- 02-11: The Russian Revolution: Part I
(A-V Presentation: film clips from *Nicholas and Alexandra*)
Readings: Service, ch 3
- 02-13: The Russian Revolution: Part II
Readings: Daniels, "On the Dual Power"
- 02-15: The Bolshevik Coup
Readings: Service, ch 4
- 02-18: The Civil War: Part I
Readings: Service, ch 5
Daniels, "Red Terror"
- 02-20: The Civil War: Part II
(A-V Presentation: film clips from *Dr. Zhivago*)
Readings: Service, ch 6
Daniels, "Trotsky on Terror"
- 02-22: It Began with Lenin
Readings: Service, ch 7
Daniels, "The Secret Police"
- 02-25: After Lenin
(A-V Presentation: film clips from *Stalin*)
Readings: Service, ch 8
Daniels, "Lenin's Testament"
- 02-27: Revolution from Above
(A-V Presentation: film clips from *Stalin*)
Readings: Service, ch 9
- 02-29: State-Sponsored Famine
Readings: Daniels, "Liquidation of the Kulaks"
Daniels, "The Famine of 1932-33"
- 03-03: The Great Terror
(A-V Presentation: film clips from *Stalin*)
Readings: Service, ch 11

- 03-05: USSR and the 1930s Crises
Readings: Service, ch 13
- 03-07: USSR and WW II
Readings: Service, ch 14
- 03-10: The Great Patriotic War
(A-V Presentation: film clips from *Enemy at the Gates*)
- 03-12: **Midterm Exam**
- 03-14: **Midterm Exam**
- 03-17: **Spring Break**
- 03-19: **Spring Break**
- 03-21: **Spring Break**
- 03-24: Life under Stalin: Part I
(A-V Presentation: film clips from 1984)
Readings: Service, ch 10
Daniels, "Purges and Torture"
- 03-26: Life under Stalin: Part II
(A-V Presentation: Slides on the Gulag)
Readings: Service, ch 12
Daniels, "The Gulag"
- 03-28: Life under Stalin: Part III
(A-V Presentation: film clips from *A Day in the Life*)
Readings: Service, ch 16
Daniels, "The Revolution Betrayed"
- 03-31: **Paper 1 is due in class by 2 PM.**
Origins of the Cold War
Readings: Service, ch 15
- 04-02: The Cold War: Part I
Readings: Daniels, "The Limits of Stalinism"
- 04-04: De-Stalinization
(A-V Presentation: film clips from *Stalin*)
Readings: Service, ch 17
- 04-07: The Cold War: Part II
(A-V Presentation: film clips from *Dr. Strangelove*)
Readings: Daniels, "Khrushchev's Secret Speech"
- 04-09: Khrushchev's Utopia
Readings: Service, ch 18
Daniels, "The Promise of a Communist Future"
- 04-11: Re-Stalinization
Readings: Service, ch 19
Daniels, "The End of the Thaw"
- 04-14: The Soviet Empire: Part I
Readings: Service, ch 20

- 04-16: The Soviet Empire: Part II
Readings: Daniels, "Developed Socialism"
- 04-18: Soviet Communism and the American Left: Part I
(A-V Presentation: film clips from *Seeing Red*)
- 04-21: Soviet Communism and the American Left: Part II
(A-V Presentation: Slides on the Venona Evidence)
- 04-23: Soviet Communism and the American Left: Part III
- 04-25: USSR's Crisis: Part I
Readings: Service, ch 21
Daniels, "The Gathering Crisis"
- 04-28: USSR's Crisis: Part II
(A-V Presentation: Slides on Life in the USSR)
Readings: Service, ch 22
- 05-02: Collapse of Soviet Communism: Part I
Readings: Service, ch 23
Daniels, "Restructuring"
- 05-05: Collapse of Soviet Communism: Part II
Readings: Service, ch 24
Daniels, "Marxism Rejected"
- 05-07: Collapse of Soviet Communism: Part III
Readings: Service, ch 25
Daniels, "Gorbachev's Resignation"
- 05-09: **Paper 2 is due in class by 2 PM.**
Russia after Communism: Part I
Readings: Service, ch 26
- 05-12: Russia after Communism: Part II
Readings: Service, ch 27
Except for the final exam and the rewrite for Paper Two, which is due either at the final exam or in my office by 5 PM on May 19, this is the deadline for all coursework. Any other item submitted after 5 PM today has its grade reduced by 50%. The 50% reduction applies to late submissions of the rewrite for paper, which is due by 5 PM on May 19.
- 05-14: **Final Exam: 3 PM in regular classroom**

Blackboards:

Blackboards is an important component of this course. It is essential that you obtain access to Blackboards and use Blackboards for this course. Given below are key items posted on Blackboards. Others may be posted and, if something extra is posted on Blackboards for this course, it will be announced in the announcements for this course on Blackboards.

1. The Syllabus
2. The Model Paper
3. Writing a History Essay
4. Making a Research Paper
5. Plagiarism: What It Is and Why It Is Wrong
6. Midterm Exam Review
7. Final Exam Review
8. Bibliography for Papers

For this course Blackboards is also important because of the forum discussions, which constitute 10% of the final grade as course participation. (See next section.)

Course Participation

Class participation is a vital part of this hybrid course (meaning to consist of both face-to-face participation in the classroom and on online involvement on Blackboards) and counts 10% of the final grade. Course participation is based on the student's involvement in the conferences that have been set up for the two papers, the midterm exam, and the final exam. As a minimum, a student should participate in all four conferences by posting at least twice in each of the four conferences. Effective participation provides well-written statements that are pertinent to the topic that has been designated for the conference. In the case of the two papers, participation includes the choice of topic, the choice and the use of sources, the development of the topic, the organization and the presentation of content in the text, etc. In the case of the exams, participation is for review and preparation of the answers for the essay questions in Part A of each exam. The content of the statements posted in conference should be more than mere opinion. (Certainly, posting comments like "cool," "ditto," and "right on" is less than adequate.) Besides being well written, the statements should be factually accurate and coherently expressed. At times, the necessary statement that is posted might only be a few sentences, but on other occasions, a couple of paragraphs of well-written and thoroughly supported content may have to be posted. **Your posts should not be copied from the textbook or from the Internet. Plagiarism that is proven in just one post results in a grade of ZERO for course participation.**

X. Bibliography

Contemporary References:

- Acton, Edward and Tom Stableford. *The Soviet Union: A Documentary History*, 2003.
- Aslund, Anders. *Russia's Capitalist Revolution: Why Market Reform Succeeded and Democracy Failed*, 2007.
- Applebaum, Anne. *Gulag: A History*, 2003.
- Bardach, Janusz. *Man is Wolf to Man: Surviving the Gulag*, 1999.
- Courtois, Stephane, et. al. *The Black Book of Communism: Crimes, Terror, Repression*, 1999.
- Drakulic, Slavenka. *Café Europa: Life after Communism*, 1999.
- Figes, Orlando. *A People's Tragedy: Russian Revolution, 1891-1924*, 1998.
- Fitzpatrick, Sheila. *Everyday Stalinism: Ordinary Life in Extraordinary Times*, 2000.
- Getty, J Arch. *The Road to Terror: Stalin and the Self-Destruction of the Bolsheviks*, 2002.
- Gellately, Robert. *Lenin, Stalin, and Hitler: The Age of Social Catastrophe*, 2007.
- Haynes, John Earl and Harvey Klehr. *In Denial: Historians, Communism, And Espionage*, 2003.
- Kenez, Peter. *History of the Soviet Union from the Beginning to the End*, 1999.
- LaFeber, Walter. *America, Russia and the Cold War, 1945-2006*, 2006.
- Massie, Robert. *Nicholas and Alexandra*, 2000.
- Matlock, Jack. *Reagan and Gorbachev: How the Cold War Ended*, 2005.
- Pipes, Richard. *Communism: A History*, 2003.
- Service, Robert. *Stalin: A Biography*, 2006.
- Service, Robert. *A History of Modern Russia: From Nicholas II to Vladimir Putin*, 2005.
- Siegelbaum, Lewis. *Stalinism as a Way of Life: A Narrative in Documents*, 2004.
- Vinen, Richard. *A History in Fragments: Europe in the Twentieth Century*, 2000.
- Zubok, Vladislav M. *A Failed Empire: The Soviet Union in the Cold War from Stalin to Gorbachev*, 2007.

Classic References:

- Conquest, Robert. *The Great Terror: A Reassessment*, 1991.
- Conquest, Robert. *The Harvest of Sorrow: Soviet Collectivization and the Terror-Famine*, 1987.
- Dolat, Miron and Adam Ulam. *Execution by Hunger: Hidden Holocaust*, 1987.
- Gilbert, Felix. *The End of the European Era, 1890 to the Present*. 1991.
- Laquer, Walter. *The Dream that Failed: Reflections on the Soviet Union*, 1994.
- Malia, Martin. *The Soviet Tragedy: A History of Socialism in Russia, 1917-1991*, 1994.
- Orwell, George. *Animal Farm*, 1946.
- Orwell, George. *Nineteen Eighty-four: A Novel*, 1949.
- Pasternak, Boris, *Dr. Zhivago*, 1968.
- Pipes, Richard. *Russia under the Old Regime*, 1992.
- Rummel, R.J. *Death by Government*, 1994.
- Rummel, R.J. *Lethal Politics: Soviet Genocide and Mass Murder since 1917*, 1996.
- Seton-Watson, Hugh, *The Russian Empire, 1810-1917*, 1967.
- Shalamov, Varlan. *Kolyma Tales*, 1995.
- Solzenitsyn, Alexander. *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*, 1963.
- Solzenitsyn, Alexander. *Gulag Archipelago*, 1974.
- Trotsky, Leon. *The History of the Russian Revolution*, 1932.
- Trotsky, Leon. *The Revolution Betrayed*, 1937.
- Volkogonov, Dmitri. *Lenin: A New Biography*, 1994.

Key Journals:

- American History Review*
- Journal of Modern History*
- Modern History*
- Past and Present*