History 3220

Russia in the 20th Century

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This course surveys the history of Russia in the Soviet period. Included are the Revolutions of 1917 and civil war, the creation of the USSR, the triumphant of Stalin and Stalinism, World War Two, the Cold War and the last years of the Soviet Regime. Attention will also be given to Soviet foreign policy and the world communist movement.

There are no prerequisites, although History 1120 is recommended.

Texts:

M. K. Dziewanowski, Russia in the Twentieth century

David R. Marples, Lenin's Revolution: Russia, 1917 - 1921

Miron Dolot, Execution By Hunger

Grading:

Mid – term 20%

Book Review (1500 words) 20%(due Nov 3) Major essay 40 %(due Dec 8)

End of term test: 20%

Topics:

Week one (Sept. 8) Introduction: The Russia: An Overview

- a) From Kiev to Moscow
- b) From Peter the Great to Nicholas 11.

Readings: Dziewanowski (Dz) Chapter 1 & Chapter 2.

Week two (Sept. 15): Russian Revolutionary Tradition

Readings: Dz. Chapter 3.

Week three (Sept. 22): Nicholas 11 and the Collapse of Tsardom

- a) Russo Japanese War
- b) Revolution of 1905
- c) Failure of the Dumas, 1906 1917 Readings: Dz. Chapter 4 & Chapter 5

Week four (Sept. 29) The Revolutions of 1917

- a) Marx and Lenin: Marxism the Improbable Doctrine
- b) The Provisional Government
- c) The Bolshevik Revolution

Readings: Dz. Chapter 6 & Chapter 7.

D. Marples, Lenin's Revolution (begin reading)

Week Five (Oct. 6) Consolidating the Revolution

a) Civil War: White Challenge, Red victory

b) Discussion - Marple's book

Readings: Dz. Chapter 8

Week Six (Oct. 20) War Communism & the NEP

Readings: Dz. Chapter 9 & Chapter 10

Week Seven (Oct. 27) The Struggle for Power and the Rise of Stalin

- a) Stalin: a profile
- b) Stalin vs Trotsky
- c) Stalin vs Bukharin

Readings:Dz.Chapter 11 & Chapter 12

Week Eight (Nov. 3) Stalin's Revolution Part One

- a) Industrialization
- b) Collectivization

Readings: Dz.Chapter 13

Begin reading Dolot, Execution by Hunger

Week Nine (Nov. 10) Stalin's Revolution Part Two

- a) Minorities
- b) Purges
- c) Soviet Realism
- d) Discussion of Dolot's book (book review due)

Readings:Dz. Chapter 14 & Chapter 15

Week Ten (Nov 17) Stalin and WW 11

Readings: Dz. Chapter 16; Chapter 17 & Chapter 18.

Week Eleven (Nov. 24) Stalin and the Cold War

Readings: Dz. Chapter 19 & Chapter 20

Week Twelve (Dec. 1) The Khruschev Years 1954 – 64

- a) Industry and Agriculture
- b) Thaw and Dissent
- c) Fall

Readings: Dz. Chapter 21 & Chapter 22

Week Thirteen (Dec. 8)The Brezhnev Era 1964 – 81

Readings: Dz. Chapter 23 (essay due)

Week Fourteen (Dec.15) From Gorbachev to Disintegration

- a) Gorbachev
- b) Yeltsin
- c) Putin

Readings: Dz. Chapter 24; Chapter 25 & Chapter 26