

The University of Texas at Tyler
Spring Semester 2020
HIST 3395 – History of Russia
Professor: Dr. Edward Tabri
Office: CAS 121
Office Hours: T, H 1-3 pm
etabri@uttyler.edu

Course Overview and Course Objectives:

This course is an upper-level survey of Russian History from the origins of Russia to the present day. We will examine the formation of the Russian state, the Czarist Empire, the rise and fall of the Soviet Union and its aftermath. In addition examining the relationship between the Russian state and people we will also explore cultural and economic themes.

Course Requirements:

The course will consist of lectures and discussions; regular attendance and participation in class are essential. There will be a midterm exam, a final exam, and a term paper. Each of these is worth 1/3 of your final grade. The exams will consist of paragraph-long IDs (a choice of 5 out of 10 terms) and a longer essay. The paper will be an analysis of the two books, *The Great Fear* and *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*.

Grading Policy:

Each of the three assignments is worth 100 points for a total of 300 points. Grading scale is
A=270-300
B=240-269
C=210-239
D=180-209
F=0-179

Make up exams will not be given nor will late papers be accepted; the only exceptions being officially documented medical or family emergencies. Plagiarism of any sort will not be tolerated and will result in an F for the course.

Final Withdrawal Date: Monday, March 30

Required Books:

Paul Bushkovitch, *A Concise History of Russia*
James Harris, *The Great Fear*
Alexander Solzhenitsyn, *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*

Calendar of Meetings and Assignments (dates subject to change with advance notice)

Week 1: Jan. 14 and 16

Introduction

Reading: Bushkovitch, prologue

Week 2: Jan. 21 and 23

The Origins of Russia

Reading: Bushkovitch, chapters 1 and 2

Week 3: Jan. 28 and 30

Muscovy and the Growth of the Russian State

Reading: Bushkovitch, chapters 3 and 4

Week 4: Feb. 4 and 6

Peter the Great

Reading: Bushkovitch, chapters 5 and 6

Week 5: Feb. 11 and 13

Catherine the Great

Reading: Bushkovitch, chapters 7 and 8

Week 6: Feb. 18 and 20

Russia, the French Revolution and Reactionary Autocracy

Reading: Bushkovitch, chapters 9 and 10

Week 7: Feb. 25 and 27

Midterm Exam, Thursday, Feb. 27

Week 8: March 2 and 5

Culture and Reform in Czarist Russia

Reading: Bushkovitch, chapters 11-13

Week 9: March 10 and 12

No Meetings – Spring Break

Reading: Bushkovitch, chapters 14 and 15

Week 10: March 17 and 19

The First World War and the Russian Revolution

Reading: Bushkovitch, chapters 16 and 17

Week 11: March 24 and 26

Lenin, Stalin and Soviet Totalitarianism

Reading: Bushkovitch, chapters 18 and 19

Week 12: March 31 and April 2

No Meetings

Reading: Harris, pages 1-79

Week 13: April 7-9

The Soviet Union, the Second World War and the Cold War

Reading: Bushkovitch, chapters 20 and 21

Harris, pages 81-192

Week 14: April 14 and 16

The Soviet Union under Krushchev and Brezhnev, 1953-1982

Reading: Solzhenitsyn (entire book)

Week 15: April 21 and 23

Term Paper due Tuesday, April 21

The Fall of the Soviet Union and its Aftermath

Reading: Bushkovitch, chapter 22, 23 and epilogue

Week 16: April 28

Final Exam, Tuesday, April 28, 11am-1pm

Additional University Policies:

<http://www.utt Tyler.edu/academicaffairs/files/syllabuspolicy.pdf>