

The University of Texas at Tyler
Spring Semester 2022
HIST 3395 – History of Russia
Professor: Dr. Edward Tabri
Office: CAS 121
Office Hours: T, H 9:15 to 10:45 am
Email: 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 to 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 28

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. 11 and 13

Introduction

Reading: Bushkovitch, chapters 1 and 2

Week 2: Jan. 18 and 20

The Origins of Russia

Reading: Bushkovitch, chapters 3 and 4

Week 3: Jan. 25 and 28

Peter the Great

Reading: Bushkovitch, chapters 5 and 6

Week 4: Feb. 1 and 3

Catherine the Great

Reading: Bushkovitch, chapters 7 and 8

Week 5: Feb. 8 and 10

Russia, the French Revolution and Reactionary Autocracy

Reading: Bushkovitch, chapters 9 and 10

Week 6: Feb. 15 and 17

Culture and Reform in Czarist Russia

Reading: Bushkovitch, chapters 11-13

Week 7: Feb. 22 and 24

Reading: Bushkovitch, chapters 14 and 15

The Russian Empire: Autocracy and Decline

Week 8: March 1 and 3

Midterm Exam, Thursday, March 3

Week 9: March 8 and 10

No Meetings – Spring Break

Week 10: March 15 and 17

The First World War and the Russian Revolution

Reading: Bushkovitch, chapters 16 and 17

Week 11: March 22 and 24

Lenin, Stalin and Soviet Totalitarianism

Reading: Bushkovitch, chapters 18 and 19

Week 12: March 29 and 31

The Soviet Union and the Second World War

Reading: Bushkovitch, chapter 20 and Harris, pages 1-79

Week 13: April 5 and 7

The Soviet Union and the Cold War

Reading: Harris, pages 81-192 and Solzhenitsyn (entire book).

Week 14: April 12 and 14

The Decline of the Soviet Union

Reading: Bushkovitch, chapter 21

Week 15: April 19 and 21

The Fall of the Soviet Union and its Aftermath

Reading: Bushkovitch, chapters 22, 23 and Epilogue

Term Paper due Tuesday, April 19

Week 15: April 26 and 28

Final Exam, TBA

Additional University Policies:

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

<https://www.uttyler.edu/coronavirus/>