

History 329, Section 001
Modern Russia and The Soviet Union
Spring 2012
Sci-Tech - 1

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SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

Jan. 24 Introduction to course; Land and People
Jan. 26 Russia's heritage
Jan. 31 Russian Society and the Era of the Great Reforms
Feb. 2 Dilemmas of Modernization and Industrialization (Sholokhov, 3-186)
Feb. 7 Development of the Revolutionary Movement
Feb. 9 1904-1906: war & revolution.
Feb. 14 1907-1917: partial reform & war (Sholokhov, 187-328)
Feb. 16 FIRST QUIZ
Feb. 21 The Russian Revolution of 1917 (Sholokhov, 329-413)
Feb. 23 The Bolsheviks come to Power
Feb. 28 The Civil War (Sholokhov, 415-end)
Mar. 1 Establishment of the Soviet State and Struggles of the 1920 (Aksyonov, 1-118)
Mar. 6 The Stalin Revolution (Aksyonov, 118-176)
Mar. 8 SECOND QUIZ
Mar 13 & 15 – SPRING BREAK
Mar 20 Soviet Foreign policy and World War II
Mar 22 The Soviet Political System, I - Party and State (Volodina; Aksyonov, 177-349)
Mar 27 The Soviet Political System, II - Terror and Legality (Aksyonov, to end)
Mar 29 TBA
Apr. 3 The Soviet Economic System – I
Apr. 5 The Soviet Economic System – II
Apr. 10 Soviet Society - I (Volodina)
Apr. 12 THIRD QUIZ
Apr. 17 Soviet Society - II (Baranskaia, Sorokin)
Apr. 19 Soviet Society - III (Polevoi)
Apr. 24 Khrushchev and Brezhnev: Reform, Prosperity, Stagnation - I
Apr. 26 Khrushchev and Brezhnev: Reform, Prosperity, Stagnation – II (PAPERS DUE)
May 3 The Gorbachev Era: Reform and Disintegration
May 5 After the Soviet Union: The Search for Identity and a Future

May 15 FINAL QUIZ – 8:00 or 9:00

READINGS - Books and electronic reserve items articles are to be read by the time indicated on the lecture outline and are included on exams, and also form the basis for your term paper.

Mikhail Sholokhov, And Quiet Flows the Don.

Vassily Aksyonov, Generations of Winter.

Short stories, – Polevoi, “His Bit”

– Volodina, “Election Day”

-- Sorokin, “The Queue”

-- Baranskaia (Baranskaya), “A Week Like Any Other”

The short stories are on Electronic Reserve under HIST 329. Access to Electronic Reserve requires a password, which is: modernrussia Do not use spaces or caps.

No “textbook” is assigned. If you wish to have a standard text to read, good ones, easily located online, are by Nicholas Riasanovsky and Mark Steinberg, by Catherine Evtuhov and Richard Stites, and by Walter Moss.

GRADES: Four Quizzes--22% each; Paper--12%. Bring “blue” book (or “green”). Exams must be written in pen; use of pencil will be penalized.

OFFICE HOURS: Immediately after class and by appointment.

DIABILITIES: If you have a disability and need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS) at 703-993-2474; <http://ods.gmu.edu>

TERM PAPER: Two novels and shorter pieces have been assigned. Using them as your sources, write a paper discussing what they tell us about family structures and social values in Russia and the Soviet Union, including change over time. Both novels must be discussed and discussion of the short stories is desirable for the best grade. Length 1,500-2,000 words (5-6 pages).

Papers must be typed, double-spaced, paginated, and stapled, and with your name.

Proofread for grammar, clarity, typos, etc. If you know that you have problems in writing, consult the Writing Center early in the semester—it is your last chance to get free counseling on what is a very important skill in life. Contact: WRITING CENTER: A114 Robinson Hall; (703) 993-1200; <http://writingcenter.gmu.edu>

Plagiarism: It is assumed that all written work submitted is entirely your own. If you obtain ideas, data, phrases, etc. from elsewhere, you must cite the source. Given the nature of the paper to be written in this course, there is no expectation that you will use sources other than those books and stories assigned, nor is there any reason for doing so. Plagiarism will be taken seriously and result either in an F on the paper (for very minor infractions) or an F for the course (for most infractions). Be safe: do the readings and don’t consult outside sources, web or other.

COMPUTERS AND CELL PHONES: Computers may be used for note-taking. Use of them for other purposes, and any use of cell-phones or similar devices, will result in the item being confiscated on the spot, to be reclaimed later in my office. It may lead to expulsion from class.

EMAIL: make sure that you can receive email via your official GMU account.