

JAGIELLONIAN UNIVERSITY

POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT IN POST-COMMUNIST RUSSIA

Day/Time: Monday, 15.15 - 17.00

Room: Auditorium Maximum, Conference Room, (Level 2)

Instructor: Waldemar A. Skrobacki, PhD

Office Hours: by appointment

E-mail: w.skrobacki@uj.edu.pl

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Russia is a fascinating country to study. It is rich, but its people are quite poor. It is able to explore outer space and incapable of producing high-quality consumer goods. It has enjoyed the status of a world power, but its economy is underdeveloped. However, the most important paradox for the political development of the country is the fact that Russia for centuries has struggled to build a modern state, and for centuries it has had a backward authoritarian one. We will explore the paradoxes of Russia and analyze the urgent problems confronting its people.

This course is about Russian politics and government. In Part One, it will cover the pre-Soviet attempts to reform the country's political system and the Soviet period. In particular, we will analyze the main tenets of the Stalin government; the 1956-1991 period of systemic decay; Gorbachev's *Perestroika*; and the events leading to the dismantling of the Soviet Union. In Part Two, the core of the course, the emphasis will be placed on the post-1991 developments in Russia and the policies of Yeltsin, Medvedev and Putin.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

The **marking scheme** will be:

Critical Book Review (not book report!) (4-5 pages, dbl-space) 30%: **DUE:** April 13, 2015 (Week 5)

Essay 30% (about 10-12 pages, dbl-space) **DUE:** May 4, 2015 (Week 8)

Final Exam 40% (example included!)

ECTS credits

Class participation: 30 hours of lectures

Studying for the course: 30 hours

Research and writing of the essays/reviews: 30 hours

Preparations for the final exam: 22.5 hours

TOTAL: 112.5 hours = 4.5 ECTS

1. Critical Book Review:

What is a critical book review? "A critical book review requires that you identify, summarize and, most importantly, evaluate the ideas and information the author has presented. A critical book review is not a book report. Reports discuss content, while reviews evaluate the book's strengths, weaknesses and validity through explanation, interpretation and analysis. Critical reviews can be

positive or negative, based on your assessment of the book."

www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/specific-types-of-writing/book-review and
<http://library.queensu.ca/research/guide/book-reviews/how-write>

Here the meaning of "critical" means analytical. You do not have to criticize the book! You have to review it, however. Please consult the websites (links included) for more explanation and examples. You can select for review any book you wish as long as it is on the subject of the course. You can also select any book from the course outline, except for the mandatory readings. All academic standards apply.

2. Essay: A list of topics is provided. All academic standards apply.

NOTE 1: Students agree that by taking this course all required papers may be subject to textual similarity reviews for the detection of plagiarism.

NOTE 2: Please keep your research notes, draft work, etc. until your work has been returned.

NOTE 3: Your work is due at the beginning of class.

3. Final Exam, 2 hours, An example of the final exam is provided. All academic standards apply.

COURSE READINGS:

Readings marked with an asterisk (*) are required.

NOTE: other titles are included to provide bibliographic assistance with essay topics

- Thomas F. Remington, *Politics in Russia*, Longman, 2012, 7th edition, ISBN: 978-0-205-00579-6
- Geoffrey Hosking, *Russian History. A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford, 2012, ISBN: 978-0-19-958098-9
- Leslie Holmes, *Communism A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford, 2009, ISBN: 0-19-955154-5

Some readings may be available online through the university's electronic resources

INTERNET SOURCES:

Students are encouraged to use Internet resources on Russia and the CIS

School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University College, London:

<http://www.ssees.ac.uk/russia.htm>

CIA site on Russia: <http://www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/rs.html>

Russia on the Web: <http://www.valley.net/~transnat>

Russian National Tourist Office: <http://www.russia-travel.com>

Governments on the WWW: Russian Federation: <http://www.gksoft.com/govt/en/ru.html>

NUPI Centre for Russian Studies' Database: <http://www.nupi.no/russland/database/start.htm>

The Jamestown Foundation: <http://www.jamestown.org>

Political Resources on the Net-Russian Federation: <http://www.politicalresources.net/russia.htm>

Music under Soviet Rule: <http://www.siue.edu/~aho/musov/musov.html>

Jazz in Russia: <http://www.jazz.ru/eng/default.htm>

Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe:	http://www.osce.org
BBC News:	http://news.bbc.co.uk
Radio Free Europe (good news site):	http://www.rferl.org
Strana (news in Russian):	http://www.strana.ru
The St. Petersburg Times (Russian newspaper in English)	http://www.times.spb.ru/
All Things Russian (software, humour, things)	http://www.siber.com/sib/
Russia on the Net	http://www.ru/eng/index.html
State Hermitage Museum - official site WOW!	http://www.hermitagemuseum.org/

(SOME) ACADEMIC JOURNALS (GREAT FOR RESEARCH!):

[E] available on line (Electronic form)

Canadian Slavonic Papers [E]

Communist and Post-Communist Studies [E]

East European Quarterly [E]

Europe-Asia Studies [E]

Journal of Democracy [E]

Journal of Modern History [E]

Nationalities Papers [E]

Orbis [E]

Post-Communist Economies [E]

Problems of Economic Transition [E]

Problems of Post-Communism [E]

Russian Politics and Law

Russian Review [E]

Russian Social Science Review [E]

Slavic Review [E]

AT A GLANCE

PART ONE: Past in the Past

Week 1, March 2, 2015: Social and Political Life under Czars (Collectivism of Subjects; Imperial Expansion and Centralization) and the Bolshevik Period (October 1917 events; Role of Marxism; Leninism and Traditionalism “What is to be Done?”)

Week 2, March 9, 2015: Stalinism and Traditionalism (Soviet Union and Stalin’s Rule: Purges, Gulags, Collectivization, (Counter-) Revolution, Industrialization and Command Economy)

Week 3, March 23, 2015: Post-Stalin Years: Khrushchev’s Thaw, Brezhnev’s Stagnation and Gorbachev’s Perestroika

PART TWO: Past in the Present?

Week 4, March 30, 2015: The End of the Soviet Empire and the Beginning of the Russian Federation. What Kind of Russia?

Week 5, April 13, 2015: Constitutional Order

Week 6, April 20, 2015: Political Participation and Political Culture

Weeks 7, April 27, 2015: Political Parties, Electoral Politics, Interest Groups, NGOs

Week 8, May 4, 2015: The Economy, Economic Policy and Markets

Week 9, May 11, 2015: Russian Foreign Policy

Week 10, May 18, 2015: Russia and the European Union

(*) Required reading

[E] Available on line (Electronic form)

PART ONE: Past in the Past

Week 1, March 2, 2015: Social and Political Life under Czars (Collectivism of Subjects; Imperial Expansion and Centralization) and the Bolshevik Period (October 1917 events; Role of Marxism; Leninism and Traditionalism “What is to be Done?”)

(*)Geoffrey Hosking, *Russian History. A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford, 2012, Chapters 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7

(*) Leslie Holmes, *Communism A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford, 2009, Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5

(*)[E] A.M. Kuznets, “Russia in Search of a National Idea,” *Russian Social Science Review*, 48:3 (May–June 2007), pp. 4–7

OPTIONAL AND HELPFUL:

[E] Wolfgang Leonhard, “The Bolshevik Revolution Turns 70”, *Foreign Affairs*, 66:2 (Winter 1987/1988), 389-409

[E] Ralph Miliband and Marcel Liebman., “Reflections on Anti-Communism”, *Monthly Review* 37 (July-August 1985): 1(29)

[E] L.A. Sedov, “Traditional Features of Russian Political Culture in Their Current Perspective,” *Russian Social Science Review*, 48:6 (November–December 2007), 47–63

[E] Anne Hruska, Love and Slavery: Serfdom, Emancipation, and Family in Tolstoy’s Fiction, *The Russian Review*, 66 (October 2007), 627–46

Peter Waldron, *Governing Tsarist Russia* (Houndmills: Palgrave, 2007)

Orlando Figes, *Natasha’s Dance: A Cultural History of Russia* (New York: St. Martin’s Press, 2003)

Bernard Pares, *A History of Russia* (New York: Dorset Press, 1953 [1991]), Chapters 19, 20, 21

Leopold H. Haimson (ed.), *The Politics of Rural Russia, 1905-1914* (Bloomington, Ind.: Indiana University Press, 1979)

Priscilla Roosevelt, *Life on the Russian Country Estate: a Social and Cultural History* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1995)

Geoffrey Hosking, *The Russian Constitutional Experiment: Government and Duma, 1907-1914* (Cambridge, [Eng.]: University Press 1973)

[E] Lewis E. Hill and Eleanor T. von Ende, “Michael Polanyi’s Interpretation of History: Three Revolutions That Changed the World,” *International Journal of Social Economics*, 24: 6 (1997), 643-651

S. A. Smith, *The Russian Revolution A Very Short Introduction*, (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2002)

Ronald Grigor Suny, *The Soviet Experiment. Russia, the USSR, and the Successor States* (New York, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1997), Chapter 1, 2 and 4

Nicholas V. Riasanovsky, *A History of Russia* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1984)

John H. L. Keep, *The Russian Revolution: A Study in Mass Mobilization* (New York: Norton, 1976)

Daniel H. Kaiser (ed.), *The Workers’ Revolution in Russia 1917: The View from Below* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1987)

Orlando Figes, *Peasant Russia, Civil War: The Volga Countryside in Revolution, 1917-1921* (Oxford: Clarendon Press; Oxford; New York: Oxford University Press, 1989)

Robert C. Tucker (ed.), *The Marx-Engels Reader* (New York and London: W. W. Norton and Company, 1978), 2nd edition

Oskar Anweiler, *The Soviets: The Russian Workers, Peasants, and Soldiers Councils 1905-1921* (New York: Pantheon Books, 1974)
 Walker Connor, *The National Question in Marxist-Leninist Theory and Strategy* (Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 1984)
 T. H. Rigby, *Lenin's Government: Sovnarkom 1917-1979* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1979)
 Silvana Malle, *The Economic Organization of War Communism, 1918-1921* (Cambridge and New York: Cambridge University Press, 1985)
 Hélène Carrère d'Encausse, *The Great Challenge. Nationalities and the Bolshevik State 1917-1930* (New York and London: Holmes and Meier, 1991)
 Richard Pipes, *The Formation of the Soviet Union. Communism and Nationalism 1917-1923* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1964), 2nd edition

Week 2, March 9, 2015: Stalinism and Traditionalism (Soviet Union and Stalin's Rule: Purges, Gulags, Collectivization, (Counter-) Revolution, Industrialization and Command Economy)

- (*) Thomas F. Remington, *Politics in Russia*, Longman, 2012, 7th edition, Chapter 2
 [E] James Heinzen, "Informers and the State under late Stalinism Informant Networks and Crimes against 'Socialist Property' 1940-53", *Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History*, 8:4 (2007), 789-815
 (*)[E] Malte Rolf, "Hall of Mirrors: Sovietizing Culture under Stalinism", *Slavic Review*, 68:3 (Fall 2009), 601-630

OPTIONAL AND HELPFUL:

[E] David Morse, "'Enemies of the people' Poetry and Politics in the Time of Stalin", *Social Education*, 65:4 (2001), 198-207
 [E] Veljko Vujacic, "Stalinism and Russian Nationalism: A Reconceptualization", *Post-Soviet Affairs*, 23: 2 (2007), 156-183
 Evan Mawdsley, *The Stalin Years The Soviet Union 1929-1953* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2003)
 Geoffrey Hosking, *A History of the Soviet Union* (London: Fontana Press/Collins, 1985)
 Moshe Lewin, *Russian Peasants and Soviet Power: A Study of Collectivization* (New York: Norton, 1975)
 Dimitri Antonovich Volkogonov, *Stalin: Triumph and Tragedy* (Rocklin, CA: Prima Pub., Forum, 1996)
 Alex De Jonge, *Stalin, and the Shaping of the Soviet Union* (New York: Morrow, 1986)
 Robert Vincent Daniels (ed.), *The Stalin Revolution: Foundations of the Totalitarian Era* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1997), 4th edition
 Alex Nove, *An Economic History of the USSR* (London: Allen Lane, 1970), Chapters 3, 4, 5, 6 (if you like the topic)
 Alexander Erlich, *The Soviet Industrialization Debate, 1924-1928* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1960)
 Sheila Fitzpatrick, Alexander Rabinowitch and Richard Stites (eds.), *Russia in the Era of NEP: Explorations in Soviet Society and Culture* (Bloomington, Ind.: Indiana University Press, 1991)
 William G. Rosenberg and Lewis H. Siegelbaum (eds.), *Social Dimensions of Soviet Industrialization* (Bloomington, Ind.: Indiana University Press, 1993)
 Eugene Zaleski, *Stalinist Planning for Economic Growth, 1933-1952* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1980)
 Michal Reiman, *The Birth of Stalinism: The USSR on the Eve of the "Second Revolution"* (Bloomington, Ind.: Indiana University Press, 1987)
 Roy Medvedev, *Let History Judge: The Origins and Consequences of Stalinism* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1989)

James von Geldern and Richard Stites (eds.) *Mass Culture in Soviet Russia: Tales, Poems, Songs, Movies, Plays, and Folklore, 1917-1953* (Bloomington, Ind.: Indiana University Press, 1995)

Week 3, March 23, 2015: Post-Stalin Years: Khrushchev's Thaw, Brezhnev's Stagnation and Gorbachev's Perestroika

(*)[E] John Rettie, "How Khrushchev Leaked his Secret Speech to the World", *History Workshop Journal Issue*, 62 (2006), 187-193

(*)[E] Lidiia Brusilovskaia, "The Culture of Everyday Life during the Thaw", *Russian Studies in History*, 48:1 (Summer 2009), 10-32

(*)[E] Fredo Arias-King, "From Brezhnev Doctrine to Sinatra Doctrine", *Demokratizatsiya*, 13:2 (Spring 2005), 289-296

David Laibman, "The Soviet Demise: Revisionist Betrayal, Structural Defect, or Authoritarian Distortion?", *Science & Society*, 69: 4 (Oct 2005), 594-606

OPTIONAL AND HELPFUL:

Robert J. McMahon, *The Cold War A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford: Oxford University Press), 2003

Archie Brown, *The Gorbachev Factor* (Oxford, England; New York: Oxford University Press, 1996)

Mikhail S. Gorbachev, *Perestroika: New Thinking for Our Country and the World* (New York: Harper & Row, 1988)

Seweryn Bialer and Michael Mendelbaum (eds.), *Gorbachev's Russia and American Foreign Policy* (Boulder: Westview Press, 1988)

Martin McCauley (ed.), *Khrushchev and Khrushchevism* (Bloomington, Ind.: Indiana University Press, 1987)

Alexander Yanov, *The Drama of the Soviet 1960s: A Lost Reform* (Berkeley: Institute of International Studies, University of California, 1984)

George W. Breslauer, *Khrushchev and Brezhnev as Leaders: Building Authority in Soviet Politics* (London and Boston: Allen & Unwin, 1982)

Gabriel Gorodetsky (ed.), *Soviet Foreign Policy, 1917-1991: A Retrospective* (London; Portland, Or.: F. Cass, 1994)

Roger E. Kanet (ed.), *Soviet Foreign Policy and East-West Relations* (New York: Pergamon Press, 1982)

Robert L. Hutchings, *Soviet-East European Relations: Consolidation and Conflict, 1968-1980* (Madison, Wis.: University of Wisconsin Press, 1983)

Paul Zinner (ed.), *National Communism and Popular Revolt in Eastern Europe: A Selection of Documents on Events in Poland and Hungary, February-November, 1956* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1956)

Abbott Gleason, *Totalitarianism: The Inner History of the Cold War* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1995)

Lyman H. Legters, *Eastern Europe. Transformation and Revolution, 1945-1991* (Lexington, Mass. and Toronto: D.C. Heath and Company, 1991), pp. 50-61

Richard D. Vine (ed.), *Soviet-East European Relations as a Problem for the West* (London; New York: Croom Helm, 1987)

PART TWO: Past in the Present?

Week 4, March 30, 2015: The End of the Soviet Empire and the Beginning of the Russian Federation. What Kind of Russia?

- (*)(E) Rosalind Marsh, "The Nature of Russia's Identity: The Theme of 'Russia and the West' in Post-Soviet Culture", *Nationalities Papers*, 35: 3 (July 2007), 555 – 578
- (*)(E) Adam Meiowitz and Joshua A. Tucker, "Run Boris Run: Strategic Voting in Sequential Elections", *The Journal of Politics*, 69:1 (February 2007), 88–99
- (*)(E) Y. E. Fedorov, "Continuity and Change in Russia's Policy toward Central and Eastern Europe", *Communist and Post-Communist Studies* 46:3 (2013), 315-326

OPTIONAL AND HELPFUL:

- Martin McCauley, *Bandits, Gangsters and the Mafia: Russia, the Baltic States and the CIS since 1991* (Harlow: Longman, 2001)
- Ian Bremmer and Ray Taras, (eds.) *New States, New Politics: Building the Post-Soviet Nations* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1997)
- Christopher Williams, Thanasis D. Sfikas (eds.) *Ethnicity and Nationalism in Russia, the CIS and the Baltic States* (Aldershot, England, Brookfield, Vt.: Ashgate, 1999)
- Mark Webber, *CIS Integration Trends: Russia and the Former Soviet South* (London: Royal Institute of International Affairs and Washington, DC: The Brookings Institution, 1997)
- Diane Shaver Clemens, *Yalta* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1970)
- Lubomyr Hajda and Mark Beissinger (eds.), *The Nationalities Factor in Soviet Politics and Society* (Boulder: Westview Press, 1990)
- Alexander Dallin and Gail W. Lapidus (eds.), *The Soviet System: from Crisis to Collapse* (Boulder: Westview Press, 1995), 2nd edition
- Boris Yeltsin, *The Struggle for Russia* (New York: Times Books, 1997)
- Linda J. Cook, *The Soviet Social Contract and Why it Failed: Welfare Policy and Workers' Politics from Brezhnev to Yeltsin* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1993)
- Boris Yeltsin, *Midnight Diaries* (London: Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 2000)
- Geoffrey Hosking and Robert Service, *Reinterpreting Russia* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1999)
- Thane Gustafson, *Capitalism Russian-Style* (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 1999)

Week 5, April 13, 2015: Constitutional Order

- (*) Thomas F. Remington, *Politics in Russia*, Longman, 2012, 7th edition, Chapter 3
- (*)[E] Alexander Libman, "Russian Federalism and Post-Soviet Integration: Divergence of Development Path", *Europe-Asia Studies* 63:8 (October 2011), 1323-1355

OPTIONAL AND HELPFUL:

- Richard Sakwa, *Putin's Choice* (London: Routledge, 2008)
- Andrey N. Medushevsky, *Russian Constitutionalism Historical and Contemporary Development* (London: Routledge, 2006)
- [E] Paul Chaisty, "Russian Constitutionalism: Historical and Contemporary Development by Andrey N. Medushevsky", *The Slavonic and East European Review*, 86:3 (Jul., 2008), 583-584
- [E] W. Tompson, "Putin's Challenge: The Politics of Structural Reform in Russia", *Europe-Asia Studies* 54:6 (2002), 933-957

Critical Book Review DUE

Week 6: April 20, 2015: Political Participation and Political Culture

- (*) Thomas F. Remington, *Politics in Russia*, Longman, 2012, 7th edition, Chapters 4 and 5
- (*)(E) Vladislav Surkov, "Russian Political Culture: The View from Utopia", *Russian Social Science Review* 49:6 (November–December 2008), 81–97
- (*)(E) Mariia Ordzhonikidze, "Russians' Perceptions of Western Values", *Russian Social Science Review*, 49:6 (November–December 2008), 4–29

OPTIONAL AND HELPFUL:

- (E) K. Dawisha, "Communism as A Lived System of Ideas in Contemporary Russia", *East European Politics and Societies* 19:3 (2005), 463-493
- (E) A. Lukin, "Russia's New Authoritarianism and the Post-Soviet Political Ideal", *Post-Soviet Affairs* 25:1 (2009), 66-92
- Peter Baker and Susan Glasser, *Kremlin Rising: Vladimir Putin's Russia and the End of Revolution* (Scribner, 2005)
- (E) Jonathan Becker, "Lessons from Russia A Neo-Authoritarian Media System," *European Journal of Communication*, 19:2 (2004), 139–163

Weeks 7, April 27, 2015: Political Parties, Electoral Politics, Interest Groups, NGOs

- (*) Thomas F. Remington, *Politics in Russia*, Longman, 2012, 7th edition, Chapter 6
- (*)(E) Stephen Sestanovich, "Another Russia? Putin's Invented Opposition", *Journal of Democracy*, 18:2 (April 2007), 122-124
- (*)(E) S. Ljubownikow et al., "The State and Civil Society in Post-Soviet Russia: The Development of a Russian-style Civil Society", *Progress in Development Studies* 13:2 (2013), 153-166
- (*)(E) E. Levintova, "Being the Opposition in Contemporary Russia: The Communist Party of the Russian Federation (KPRF) Among Social-democratic, Marxist-Leninist and Nationalist-socialist Discourses", *Party Politics* 18:5 (2012), 727-747

OPTIONAL AND HELPFUL:

- [E] G. Gill, "The Decline of a Dominant Party and the Destabilization of Electoral Authoritarianism?", *Post-Soviet Affairs* 28:4 (2012), 449-471
- [E] J. Paul Goode, "The Puzzle of Putin's Gubernatorial Appointments," *Europe-Asia Studies*, 59: 3 (May 2007), 365-399
- [E] K. Wilson, "Party-system Development under Putin", *Post-Soviet Affairs* 22:4 (2006), 314-348
- [E] T. R. Remington, "Patronage and Power: Russia's Dominant Party Regime", *Politische Vierteljahresschrift* 49:2 (2008), 213-228
- [E] T. D. Lee et al., "Media Independence and Trust in NGOs: The Case of Postcommunist Countries", *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly* 41:1 (2012), 8-35
- [E] L. A. Henry, "Between Transnationalism and State Power: The Development of Russia's Post-Soviet Environmental Movement", *Environmental Politics* 19:5 (2010), 756-781
- [E] B. D. Taylor, "Law enforcement and civil society in Russia", *Europe-Asia Studies* 58:2 (2006), 193-213
- [E] J. Hemment, "The Riddle of the Third Sector: Civil Society, International Aid, and NGOs in Russia." *Anthropological Quarterly* 77:2 (2004), 215-241
- [E] P. K. Mbasalaki, "Empowering Women in Russia - Activism, AID, and NGOs." *Women's Studies International Forum* 34:2 (2011), 163-164
- [E] J. Fortin-Rittberger, "Explaining Post-Communist Founding Elections Results through Initial State Capacity", *East European Politics and Societies* 26:4 (2012), 724-742

Week 8, May 4, 2015: The Economy, Economic Policy and Markets

- (*) Thomas F. Remington, *Politics in Russia*, Longman, 2012, 7th edition, Chapter 7
- (*)(E) I. Denisova et al., "Who Wants To Revise Privatization? The Complementarity of Market Skills and Institutions", *American Political Science Review* 103:2 (2009), 284-304
- (*)(E) T. Larsson, "Reform, Corruption, and Growth: Why Corruption is More Devastating in Russia than in China", *Communist and Post-Communist Studies* 39:2 (2006), 265-281

OPTIONAL AND HELPFUL:

- (E) P. Rutland, "Putin's Economic Record: Is the Oil Boom Sustainable?", *Europe-Asia Studies* 60:6 ((2008), 1051-1072
- (E) S. Malle, "The Policy Challenges of Russia's Post-Crisis Economy", *Post-Soviet Affairs* 28:1 (2012), 66-110
- (E) H. Balzer, "The Putin Thesis and Russian Energy Policy", *Post-Soviet Affairs* 21:3 (2005), 210-225
- (E) S. K. Wegren, "Private Farming in Russia: An Emerging Success?", *Post-Soviet Affairs* 27:3 (2011), 211-240
- (E) M. S. Fish and O. Choudhry "Democratization and Economic Liberalization in the Postcommunist World", *Comparative Political Studies* 40:3 (2007), 254-282

Essay DUE

Week 9, May 11, 2015: Russian Foreign Policy

- (*) Thomas F. Remington, *Politics in Russia*, Longman, 2012, 7th edition, Chapter 9
- (*)(E) Dmitri Trenin, "Russia Redefines Itself and Its Relations with the West," *The Washington Quarterly*, 30:2 (2007), 95–105
- (*)(E) C. R. Saivetz, "Medvedev's and Putin's Foreign Policies. Introduction", *Communist and Post-Communist Studies* 45:3-4 (2012), 375-377

OPTIONAL AND HELPFUL:

- [E] V. G. Makarov, "Pax Rossica The History of the Eurasianist Movement and the Fate of the Eurasianists", *Russian Social Science Review* 49:6 (November–December 2008), 49-72
- [E] D. Lutterbeck and G. Engelbrecht, "The West and Russia in the Mediterranean: Towards a Renewed Rivalry?", *Mediterranean Politics* 14:3 (2009), 385-406
- [E] J. O'Loughlin et al. "Russian Geopolitical Storylines and Public Opinion in the Wake of 9-11: A Critical Geopolitical Analysis and National Survey", *Communist and Post-Communist Studies* 37:3 (2004), 281-318
- George W. Breslauer, "Russia, the Baltic States and East-West Relations in Europe," in Vello Pettai and Jan Zielonka (eds.), *The Road to the European Union. Volume 2 Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2003), pp. 25-45
- Dimitry Polikanov and Graham Timmins, "Russian Foreign Policy under Putin," in Cameron Ross (ed.), *Russian Politics under Putin* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2004), pp. 223-235
- Jackie Gower, "Russian Foreign Policy towards the European Union," in Cameron Ross (ed.), *Russian Politics under Putin*, pp. 236-254

Week 10, May 18, 2015: Russia and the European Union

- (*)(E) Godfrey Hodgson, "Putin and Europe: a Media Sampler", *World Policy Journal* 24:1 (Spring 2007), 33-38
- (*)(E) Michael Emerson, "The EU-Russia-US Tringle," *CEPS Policy Brief* 52: (June 2004), 1-8

OPTIONAL AND HELPFUL:

[E] M. Bilgin, M, "Energy security and Russia's gas strategy: The symbiotic relationship between the state and firms," *Communist and Post-Communist Studies* 44:2 (2011), 119-127.

Heinz Timmermann, "Relations Between the EU and Russia: The Agreement on Partnership and Co-operation", *Journal of Communist Studies and Transition Politics*, 12:2, June 1996, pp.196-223

Viktor Kremenyuk, "Russia's Defence Diplomacy in Europe: Containing Threat without Confrontation," in Andrew Cottey & Derek Averre (eds.), *New Security Challenges in Postcommunist Europe: Securing Europe's East* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2002), pp. 98-111

ESSAY TOPICS

1. Analyze the “October 1917 Revolution.”
2. Explain the impact of Marxism on Soviet politics.
3. Explain the nature of Stalinism.
4. Did Stalin have political legitimacy?
5. Explain the impact of the Russian tradition on Soviet politics.
6. Analyze the purges of the 1930s.
7. Explain the impact of *Perestroika* on Soviet politics and society.
8. Why did the Gorbachev reform fail in the USSR? Did it fail?
9. Can Russia be Communist again?
10. Is Russia democratic?
11. Are elections in Russia democratic? Explain.
12. Explain the changes in Russia's foreign policy after the collapse of the Soviet Union.
13. Is Russia an imperial power?
14. Is Russia a superpower?
15. Why was the Soviet Union a superpower?
16. What was the impact of Yeltsin's presidency on Russia's social and political developments after the collapse of the Communist regime?
17. Is Putin a democrat?
18. Is Medvedev a democrat?
19. Does Russia have a market economy? Explain
20. What is the role of the media in Russia?
21. What is the role and nature of federalism in post-Communist Russia?
22. Are Russians a society in crisis? Explain
23. What is the role of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)?

Writing an Academic Essay

The purpose of an academic (scholarly) essay is:

- to debate a topic by constructing an argument (thesis) on that topic
- the argument (thesis) must be based on research
- research is to use academic sources
- academic sources can be either *primary*, such as original documents or governmental sources, or *secondary*, for example, articles published in academic journals

A properly constructed argument (thesis) is:

- Analytically objective: it takes into account both the conclusions of those who agree with the argument and those who disagree with it
- Precise: avoids vague terms and generalizations
- Focused: it clearly states the argument

To develop an argument (thesis):

- Consider the 5 W-W-W-W-W: **Who**, **What**, **When**, **Where** and **Why** when you advance your ideas
- Ensure that you can support the argument (thesis) with research.

For example:

Topic	Globalization in Developing countries	
Poor thesis	Globalization makes life difficult for people who live in developing countries.	<u>The thesis is too general</u> : not <i>all</i> people in developing countries have `difficult` life <u>The thesis is not precise</u> : What does `difficult` actually mean?
Clear thesis	Globalization has had a negative impact on the economies of the developing countries. The local workers can either work for low wages offered by multinational corporations or stay unemployed. Having little or no money makes domestic consumption impossible, which, in turn, stalls economic growth.	This thesis is clear, concise and arguable. What and Where : the negative impact of globalization on the national economies of the developing countries; How : little domestic consumption Why : low wages, high unemployment Who : local workers and multinational corporations

The following is an example of how to summarize an argument (thesis):

Despite a shift in attitudes about women in positions of power, they still have not made significant progress in Canadian provincial politics. Using examples of successful educational programs in local city governments, this paper will argue that one of the best methods to improve the position of women is to create confidence-building programs that are developed specifically for girls.

Jagiellonian University
Examinations
RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF POST-SOVIET RUSSIA
W. Skrobacki, PhD
Duration - 2 hours

No aids allowed

Please write on every other line.

PART ONE (40 POINTS)

Choose only TEN (10) and briefly explain. Answer in complete sentences.
(Each is of equal value)

- | | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Yeltsin | 2. February Revolution | 3. Yezhovshchina |
| 4. August Putsch | 5. SALT | 6. Baltic States |
| 7. Perestroika | 8. Central Committee | 9. Shakhty Trial |
| 10. Secret Speech | 11. Warsaw Treaty | 12. Saakashvili |
| 13. Near Abroad | 14. Comecon | 15. Ribbentrop-Molotov Pact |

PART TWO (60 POINTS)

Answer ONE question in essay form.

16. Was the Soviet regime totalitarian?
17. Explain Stalin's policy of collectivization of the 1930s.
18. What was the Cold War and who won it?
19. Did Khrushchev change Stalinism?
20. Explain the reasons for the terror of the 1930s

Total Marks = 100

THIS IS AN EXAMPLE OF FINAL EXAM