HISTORY 390R (330), SECTION 3: RUSSIAN EMPIRE TO 1917

Brigham Young University, Fall 2011

Instructor: Jeff Hardy
Room: 231 MARB
Time: 2:00-3:15 pm Tues/Thurs
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Office Hours:

Course Description:

From Tsars to Tolstoy, Chekhov to the Caucasus, and serfdom to Siberia, this course will provide an overview of the major political, economic, social, and cultural trends and events in Russian history up to 1917. Starting with the baptism of Old Rus in the tenth century and ending with the fall of Old Regime in the midst of World War I, we will explore a series of major themes including religion, autocracy, serfdom, empire, and Westernization.

Writing Assignments:

1. Write an 800-1200 word (around 3-pages double-spaced) essay on religion in pre-Petrine Russian society, using only material from the readings and lectures. Do not give a broad survey, but rather focus narrowly on a particular aspect of religious life or worship that you find interesting. Your discussion must be grounded in at least two of our non-textbook readings. Worth 10 percent of final grade. Due September 27 at beginning of class.

2. Write a 500-700 word book review on a book of your choosing (prior approval necessary), which will preferably tie into your research project. Worth 5 percent of final grade. Due October 27 at beginning of class.

3. Write a research paper of at least 2000 words based on at minimum two primary sources (one of which may be assigned reading) and two secondary sources (not including the textbook). The topic should be sufficiently narrow to allow for depth, you should put forward an arguable thesis, and you should relate your thesis to what other historians have already written. Worth 30 percent of final grade. Due December 8 at beginning of class.

4. For extra credit you may either write a second book review on a book unrelated to your research paper OR you may watch two films that portray life in tsarist Russia and write a 500-700 word review discussing how their interpretations of Russia differ. Worth up to 2 percent added to your final grade. Due December 8 at beginning of class.

Late papers will be penalized at the rate of 5 percent per 24 hour period.
Examinations:

1. Map Quiz. Worth 5 percent of final grade. In class, September 8.


4. Final Comprehensive Examination. Worth 20 percent of final grade. In class, December.

The three examinations will include a brief chronology section which will ask you to place events in order (but not provide their dates), identifications, and essays (one essay for the first midterm, two for the second midterm and final exam). The final examination will be comprehensive, although most of the identifications and one of the essays will focus solely on the last section of the course. You will be provided with a study guide for each exam.

Grading:

Grading for individual assignments and for the course as a whole will not be curved. The following grading scale will be used:

A: 93-100 percent
A-: 90-92 percent
B+: 87-89 percent
B: 83-86 percent
B-: 80-82 percent
C+: 77-79 percent
C: 73-76 percent
C-: 70-72 percent
D: 60-69 percent
F: Under 60 percent

Course Policies:

Honor Code Standards

In keeping with the principles of the BYU Honor Code, students are expected to be honest in all of their academic work. Academic honesty means, most fundamentally, that any work you present as your own must in fact be your own work and not that of another. Violations of this principle may result in a failing grade in the course and additional disciplinary action by the university.

Students are also expected to adhere to the Dress and Grooming Standards. Adherence demonstrates respect for yourself and others and ensures an effective learning and working
environment. It is the university's expectation, and my own expectation in class, that each student will abide by all Honor Code standards. Please call the Honor Code Office at 422-2847 if you have questions about those standards.

**Preventing Sexual Discrimination or Harassment**

Sexual discrimination or harassment (including student-to-student harassment) is prohibited both by the law and by Brigham Young University policy. If you feel you are being subjected to sexual discrimination or harassment, please bring your concerns to the professor. Alternatively, you may lodge a complaint with the Equal Employment Office (D-240C ASB) or with the Honor Code Office.

**Students with Disabilities**

If you have a disability that may affect your performance in this course, you should get in touch with the office of Services for Students with Disabilities (1520 WSC). This office can evaluate your disability and assist the professor in arranging for reasonable accommodations.

**Reading Assignments**

Readings are to be completed before each class meeting and students should come to class prepared to discuss them. The history department requires a minimum of 1,500 pages of reading for upper-division history courses. To put it quite simply, reading (and writing) is what historians do. The best reader of Tsarist Russian history is $89, which we will be boycotting in favor of some 400 pages of primary source documents and articles that can be found on Blackboard or elsewhere online. In addition, the following textbook, which has around 550 pages of reading, is mandatory: Walter G. Moss, *History of Russia, Volume 1: To 1917* (Anthem, 2003). This will be referred to as “M” in the class schedule below. The remaining 600 or more pages of reading for this course will come in independent research for your term paper.

**Class Schedule**

Aug 30: Introduction  
- No readings

Sep 1: The Kievan State  
- M 1-33

Sep 6: The Kievan State Part II  
- M 34-64; “Vladimir”; “Theodosius”; and “Father Sergius”

Sep 8: The Mongol-Tatar Yoke and the Rise of Muscovy  
- M 65-100  
- MAP QUIZ
Sep 13: Medieval Culture
   -M 101-125; “Myth of the Tsaritsa’s Blessed Womb”

Sep 15: Ivan the Terrible
   -M 127-145; “Life of Yuliania Lazarevsky”

Sep 20: The Time of Troubles and the Romanov Dynasty
   -M 146-183; “Life of Archpriest Avvakum”

Sep 22: Society and Culture under the Tsars
   -M 184-221; “Muscovite Lay Society and Dissent”; “Excerpts from the Domostroi”

Sep 27: Wrap-Up and Review
   -RELIGION ESSAY DUE AT BEGINNING OF CLASS

Sep 29-30: FIRST MIDTERM

Oct 4: Peter the Great
   -M 224-250

Oct 6: Between Peter and Catherine
   -M 251-266; “Conditions of Anna Ivanovna”; “Peter III’s Manifesto”

Oct 11: Catherine the Great
   -M 267-290; “Catherine’s Instructions”

Oct 13: Society in 18th-Century Russia

Oct 18: Religion and Culture plus Paul
   -M 313-334

Oct 20: Alexander I
   -M 334-355, Karamzin, 147-167

Oct 25: Nicholas I
   -M 356-375

Oct 27: Economics, Society, and Culture from Catherine II to Nicholas I
   -M 376-418; “Everyday Forms of Resistance”

Nov 1: Wrap-Up and Review
   -BOOK REVIEW DUE AT BEGINNING OF CLASS
Nov 3-4: SECOND MIDTERM

Nov 8: The Spirit of Reform
- M 419-423; “Aksakov”; “Belinsky”; and “Chaadaev”

Nov 10: The Reforms of Alexander II
- M 424-440; “Alexander II’s Manifesto”; “Reaction to the Manifesto”

Nov 15: Politics of Reaction?
- M 441-463; “Pobedonostsev”; Sergei Witte, The Memoirs of Count Witte, 3-47
  (available online at www.archive.org)

Nov 17: The Russian Empire

Nov 29: From Bloody Sunday to World War I
- M 491-516; “Bloody Sunday Petition”; “1905 Manifesto”; “1907 Manifesto”; “Durnovo Memorandum”

Dec 1: Late Imperial Society

Dec 6: Late Imperial Religion
- M 552-577; “Mixed Marriages”; “Paradoxes of Piety”

Dec 8: Wrap-Up and Review
- RESEARCH PAPER AND EXTRA CREDIT DUE AT BEGINNING OF CLASS

Dec 15: FINAL EXAM IN CLASS, 3:00-6:00 PM