

MODERN RUSSIAN HISTORY GST 306

Canadian Bible College

Second Semester 2002-03

Instructor: Mr. Eric de Bruyn

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course is intended as an interpretive survey of modern Russian history. Accordingly, the course will endeavour:

1. To set the modern period--that is, from the reign of Peter the Great onward--within the broader context of Russian history as a whole;
2. To examine the breakdown of Tsarist Russia and the emergence of Soviet rule;
3. To examine Stalinism in all of its various dimensions, and to emphasize its prime role in the shaping of Russian history in the 20th century;
4. To examine the impact of World War II on Russian society;
5. To examine the post-Stalin thaw of the Khrushchev years;
6. To examine the deterioration of the Soviet regime during the Brezhnev years, and the subsequent rise of Gorbachev and his reforms;
7. To examine the fall of communism in 1991, and as a result the new challenges facing today's Russia and also the other former Soviet republics.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Class attendance
2. A careful reading of the course text. **Due at Final Examination time.**
3. Using the course texts, answer the following questions on the sheets to be provided. **Due February 13.**

Readings Assignment	Hosking, pp. 15-34, 261-95
	Smith, pp. 135-66, 320-62, 402-34
4. Write a research paper of about 10 pages, the topic to be determined by consultation between the student and the professor. **Due March 6.**
5. A **Final Examination**, to be held during Final Exam Week.

REFERENCE WORKS ON RESERVE

Basil Dmytryshyn, *USSR: a Concise History*
 Gregory Freeze, *Russia, a History*
 Geoffrey Hosking, *Russia and the Russians: a History*
 David MacKenzie and Michael W. Curran, *A History of Russia, the Soviet Union and Beyond*
 Robert Service, *A History of Twentieth-Century Russia*
 Hedrick Smith, *The Russians (2 copies)*
 Ronald Grigor Suny, *The Soviet Experiment. Russia, the USSR and the Successor States*

DETERMINATION OF THE FINAL GRADE

Readings Assignment	20%
Research Paper	40%
Final Examination	40%

COURSE TEXTS

Geoffrey Hosking, *A History of the Soviet Union 1917-1991*
 Hedrick Smith, *The Russians*. On Reserve (2 copies).

INSTRUCTOR'S POLICIES

1. All late assignments will be penalized 5% for each day late (Saturdays and Sundays count as days late). This will work out as follows: an "A" assignment one day late would be reduced to a "B+".
2. It is expected that the student will adequately document their work, and that they will employ an acceptable documenting format. **Any undocumented work will be severely penalized.**
3. All assignments should exhibit correct spelling and grammar. Heavy amounts of error in one category or the other will result in significant penalization.
4. **In order to receive credit for the course each student must complete and hand in all assignments and the final exam. Failure to do so will automatically result in the failure of the course.**