

UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

RUSSIA and UKRAINE. PAST and PRESENT
HIS/POL 2423F

SYLLABUS
Autumn 2017

Time: Wednesday 4:30 – 6:30
Classroom: SSC 2032
Office Hours: TBA
Or by appointment

Instructor: Prof. Marta Dyczok
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Course Description

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Why did Russia's president Putin stealthily invade Crimea and instigate war in eastern Ukraine in March of 2014? How did he narrate these actions in historical terms? What was the international reaction? This course examines the causes and consequences of the recent conflict in Ukraine through a historical lens. It will explore how the past is casting a shadow over the present. By looking at Russian and Ukrainian history, placing it in an international context, and exploring concepts such as state, empire, nation, and the role of mass media, it provides a larger framework for understanding what is happening today. This lecture course meets once a week. Students are required to attend all classes, including the film screening, participate actively in discussion, and will be asked to write one essay on a topic from a list that will be provided by the instructor.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of this class students will be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the main developments in Russian and Ukrainian history;
- Critically evaluate competing historical narratives and sources;
- Explain the inter-connectedness of national and international history;
- Explain the meaning of concepts such as empire, state, nation;
- Explain the role of the mass media in politics; and
- Express themselves clearly and analytically in written assignments.

Evaluation

Film Review	15%
Mid-term in class test	15%
Participation	10%
Essay of 2500-3000 words	30%
Final Exam	30%

COURSE SCHEDULE

I. INTRODUCTION

Week 1: Introduction to course themes and requirements

(13 September 2017)

Week 2. What is History? Empire? State? Nation?

(20 September 2017)

* Carr, E. H., *What Is History?* 2nd. ed. (Basingstoke: Macmillan, 1986) Chapter 1

* Plokhy, Serhii. "History and Territory," Serhii Plokhy, in *Ukraine and Russia: Representations of the past*: (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2007), Chapter 9

Smith, Anthony D., 'Nations and their Pasts'; Gellner, Ernst, 'Do nations have navels?' <http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/gellner/Warwick.html> [The Warwick Debates].

II. A SURVEY of the UKRAINIAN-RUSSIAN HISTORICAL ENCOUNTER

Week 3. The Kyivan-Rus' Era and Muscovy's Imperial Expansion

(27 September 2017)

* Kappeler, Andreas, *The Russian Empire: A Multiethnic History* [translated by Alfred Clayton] (Harlow, England: Longman, 2001), Introduction

* Lieven, Dominic, *Empire. The Russian Empire and Its Rivals* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2001) Chapter 6

* Plokhy, Serhii, *The Gates of Europe* (New York: Basic Books, 2015), Introduction

* Magosci, Paul Robert, *A History of Ukraine. The Land and its Peoples*. 2nd ed. (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2010), Chapter 2

Week 4. The Short Twentieth Century

(4 October 2017)

Suny, Ronald Grigor, "Reading Russia and the Soviet Union in the twentieth century: how the 'West' wrote its history of the USSR," in *The Cambridge History of Russia*, Volume 3 (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008) on-line

9 - 13 October Reading Week – No Class

Week 5. Film: Haytarma (Akhtem Seitablayev, Ukraine, 2013)

(18 October 2017)

Haytarma is a 2013 Crimean Tatar-language film. It portrays Crimean Tatar test pilot and Hero of the Soviet Union Amet-khan Sultan against the background of the 1944 deportation of the Crimean Tatars. The title of the film means "Return"

Week 6. Ukraine and Russia 1991-2014 (ESSAY PROPOSAL DUE IN CLASS)

(25 October 2017)

Larrabee, Stephen F. "Russia, Ukraine, and Central Europe: The Return of Geopolitics," in *Journal of International Affairs*, Vol. 63, No. 2 (Spring 2010)

* White, Stephen and Valentina Feklyunina, *Identities and Foreign Policies in Russia, Ukraine and Belarus: The Other Europes* (Houndmills, Basingstoke: Palgrave/Macmillan, 2014), pp. 55-69, 86-98, 99-110, 229-237 (on-line)

Week 7. Mid-Term Test (FILM REVIEW DUE IN CLASS)

(1 November 2017)

III. THE PRESENT

Week 8. Putin as President

(8 November 2017)

* Dawisha, Karen, *Putin's Kleptocracy. Who Own's Russia?* (New York: Simon & Shuster, 2014), Introduction

* Hill, Fiona and Clifford Gaddy. *Mr. Putin. Operative in the Kremlin* (Washington, DC: Brookings Institution Press, 2015), Chapters 1 and 10

Official Russian Presidential website: <http://en.kremlin.ru/>

Week 9. Contemporary Ukraine: Revolution, Elections, War. GUEST LECTURER, DR. SERHII KVIT, NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF THE KYIV MOHYLA ACADEMY, UKRAINE

(15 November 2017)

Klymenko, Andrii, "Human Rights Abuses in Russian-Occupied Crimea," Atlantic Council Freedom House, March 2015,
<http://www.atlanticcouncil.org/images/publications/20150306-ACCrimeaReport.pdf>

* Sakwa, Richard. *Frontline Ukraine: Crisis in the Borderlands* (London: I.B. Tauris, 2015), Preface

* Yekelchuk, Serhii, *The Conflict in Ukraine. What Everyone Needs to Know* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015) Chapter 5

Week 10. The International Response (ESSAY DUE IN CLASS)

(22 November 2017)

Mearsheimer, John J. "Why the Ukraine Crisis Is the West's Fault. The Liberal Delusions That Provoked Putin," in *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 93, No. 4 (September/October 2014), <https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/russia-fsu/2014-08-18/why-ukraine-crisis-west-s-fault>

Motyl, Alexander J. "The Surrealism of Realism: Misreading the War in Ukraine," in *World Affairs* (January/February 2015),
<http://www.worldaffairsjournal.org/article/surrealism-realism-misreading-war-ukraine>

Pond, Elizabeth and Hans Kundani, "Germany's Real Role in the Ukraine Crisis. Caught Between East and West," in *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 94, No. 2 (March/April 2015),
<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/eastern-europe-caucasus/germany-s-real-role-ukraine-crisis>

International Criminal Court Report, 14 November 2016, https://www.icc-cpi.int/iccdocs/otp/161114-otp-rep-PE_ENG.pdf

United Nations Resolution on Ukraine, 15 November 2016,
<http://www.un.org/press/en/2016/gashc4188.doc.htm>

Toronto Star Report, 15 November 2016,
<https://www.thestar.com/news/world/2016/11/15/un-committee-passes-resolution-on-crimea-condemning-russian-occupation.html>

Week 11. Media Narratives

(29 November 2017)

- Dyczok, Marta, "The Ukraine Story in Western Media," in Agnieszka Pikulicka-Wilczewska and Richard Sakwa (eds.) *Ukraine and Russia: People, Politics, Propaganda, and Perspectives* (London: e-international relations, 2015)
- * Hall, Stuart, "Encoding/Decoding," in *Culture, Media, Language: Working Papers in Cultural Studies, 1972-1979* (London: Hutchinson, 1980): 128-38
- Pomerantsev, Peter, "The Kremlin's Information War," in *Journal of Democracy*, Vo. 26, No. 4 (October 2015): 40-50
- Makarenko, Olena. Crimean history. What you always wanted to know but were afraid to ask. Euromaidan Press, 11 April 2016,
<http://euromaidanpress.com/2016/04/11/crimean-history-what-you-always-wanted-to-know-but-were-afraid-to-ask/>

Week 12. Prospects for Peace

(6 December 2017)

- Berman, Ilan, "Ukraine's Memory Palace. How Kiev is Fighting Russia's Misinformation Campaign," in *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 94, No. 5 (September/October 2015),
<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/ukraine/2015-10-13/ukraines-memory-palace>
- Gressel, Gustav, "The Ukraine-Russia War," European Council on Foreign Relations, 26 January 2015,
http://www.ecfr.eu/article/commentary_the_ukraine_russia_war411
- Karatnycky, Adrian and Alexander Motyl, "How Putin's Ukrainian Dream Turned into a Nightmare. Kiev and the West are winning. Now is not the time to let Moscow off the hook," *Foreign Policy*, 20 October 2015,
<http://foreignpolicy.com/2015/10/20/how-putins-ukrainian-dream-turned-into-a-nightmare/>
- Zhurzhenko, Tatiana. *Hybrid reconciliation*. Eurozine 8 April 2016,
<http://www.eurozine.com/articles/2016-04-08-zhurzhenko-en.html>

Resources

<http://ukraine.csis.org/#501>

<http://libguides.gwu.edu/c.php?g=259119&p=1729307>

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

Prerequisites and Antirequisites:

Unless you have either the requisites for this course, as described in the Academic Calendar description of the course, or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites. The Academic Calendar description of each course also indicates which classes are considered antirequisites, i.e., to cover such similar material that students are not permitted to receive academic credit for both courses.

Academic Offences:

Scholastic Offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitute a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offense (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

The following rules pertain to the acknowledgements necessary in academic papers.

A. In using another writer's words, you must both place the words in quotation marks and acknowledge that the words are those of another writer.

You are plagiarizing if you use a sequence of words, a sentence or a paragraph taken from other writers without acknowledging them to be theirs. Acknowledgement is indicated either by (1) mentioning the author and work from which the words are borrowed in the text of your paper; or by (2) placing a footnote number at the end of the quotation in your text, and including a correspondingly numbered footnote at the bottom of the page (or in a separate reference section at the end of your essay). This footnote should indicate author, title of the work, place and date of Publication and page number. Method (2) given above is usually preferable for academic essays because it provides the reader with more information about your sources and leaves your text uncluttered with parenthetical and tangential references. In either case words taken from another author must be enclosed in quotation marks or set off from your text by single spacing and

indentation in such a way that they cannot be mistaken for your own words. Note that you cannot avoid indicating quotation simply by changing a word or phrase in a sentence or paragraph which is not your own.

B. In adopting other writer's ideas, you must acknowledge that they are theirs.

You are plagiarizing if you adopt, summarize, or paraphrase other writers' trains of argument, ideas or sequences of ideas without acknowledging their authorship according to the method of acknowledgement given in 'A' above. Since the words are your own, they need not be enclosed in quotation marks. Be certain, however, that the words you use are entirely your own; where you must use words or phrases from your source; these should be enclosed in quotation marks, as in 'A' above.

Clearly, it is possible for you to formulate arguments or ideas independently of another writer who has expounded the same ideas, and whom you have not read. Where you got your ideas is the important consideration here. Do not be afraid to present an argument or idea without acknowledgement to another writer, if you have arrived at it entirely independently. Acknowledge it if you have derived it from a source outside your own thinking on the subject.

In short, use of acknowledgements and, when necessary, quotation marks is necessary to distinguish clearly between what is yours and what is not. Since the rules have been explained to you, if you fail to make this distinction, your instructor very likely will do so for you, and they will be forced to regard your omission as intentional literary theft. Plagiarism is a serious offence which may result in a student's receiving an 'F' in a course or, in extreme cases, in their suspension from the University.

Medical Issues:

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Please go to https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_accommodations_link_for_OOR.pdf to read about the University's policy on medical accommodation. This site provides links to the necessary forms. In the event of illness, you should contact Academic Counselling as soon as possible. The Academic Counsellors will determine, in consultation with the student, whether or not accommodation should be requested. They will subsequently contact the instructors in the relevant courses about the accommodation. Once the instructor has made a decision about whether to grant an accommodation, the student should contact his/her instructors to determine a new due date for tests, assignments, and exams.

SUPPORT SERVICES:

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to [Mental Health@Western](mailto:MentalHealth@Western), <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.

If you have any further questions or concerns please contact, Heidi Van Galen, Administrative Officer, Department of History, 519-661-2111 x84963 or vangalen@uwo.ca.