Europe and The Politics of History
His 9409G

Winter 2014
BRIEF SYLLABUS

Time: Thurs 9:30 – 11:30
Classroom: 2270C
Office Hours: Wed 2:30 – 4:00
Or by appointment

Instructor: Prof. Marta Dyczok
Office: LH 2246
tel: 661-2111 x4982
e:mail: mdyczok@uwo.ca

Course Description

The lifting of the iron curtain in Europe in 1989-1991 began a new era in the historical enquiry into Russian and European modern history. New interpretations and approaches appeared to old questions such as, What is Europe? Where are its boundaries? What is the historical relationship between its Western, Central and Eastern areas? How do we study Russian and Soviet history? This course looks at both the traditional and recent historiography on the changing views on imperialism, nationalism, socialism and globalization, and explores how they shaped the history of the European continent. Particular attention will be focused on the Eastern regions. Students will be encouraged to explore both theoretical and empirical dimensions of the changing historiography, the new themes and approaches.

Course Requirements

Students are expected to attend all classes and participate in the discussion based on the weekly readings. Once or more during the semester each student will be asked to make a seminar presentation and lead discussion of the week’s readings. The presentations should bring out the diverse perspectives of the various authors but not in the form on book reports or summaries of the week’s readings. Rather they ought to bring out the main points, issues and problems of each subject and wherever possible, should be linked to other weeks’ themes and readings. Oral presentations should be no more than 30 minutes in length. Students will be asked to write one book review (due in week 5), and one analytical essay, 5-6,000 words in length, due on the last day of term. A brief topic proposal for the research paper (including some indication of sources) should be submitted by late February.
Grades

Grades will be assigned according to the following breakdown:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar Presentation</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book Reviews/essay</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(due week 5, 6 Feb)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(due week 11, 27 Mar)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Seminar Discussion Topics:

Week 1. Introduction (9 January 2014)

Week 2. What is Europe? The debates (16 January 2014)

Week 3. Europe and Russia (23 January 2014)

Week 4. Empire and Imperialism (30 January 2014)

Week 5. Empires in Eastern Europe: Habsburg, Ottoman, Russian, Soviet (6 February 2014) BOOK REVIEW DUE IN CLASS

Week 6. Empire Reconsidered After Collapse of Communism (13 February 2014)

20 February 2014 No Class – Reading Week

Week 7. Nations and Nationalism (27 February 2014)

Week 8. Nationalism in Eastern Europe (6 March 2014)

Week 9. Nationalism Reconsidered After the Collapse of Communism (13 March 2014)

Week 10. Communism (20 March 2014)

Week 11. The Communist Experience in Eastern Europe (27 March 2014) RESEARCH PAPER DUE IN CLASS

Week 12. Globalization (3 April 2014)
Readings

The collapse of communism and the Soviet Union has caused historians and social scientists to look at Europe, history, politics, and the post-communist countries in a new light. New sources are regularly appearing, especially on the 20th anniversary of 1989. Readings will be posted on the course webpage regularly, the first two weeks are provided below, along with specialized scholarly journals and electronic resources.

Week 1. Introduction
(9 January 2014)
There are no readings for this week.

Week 2. What is Europe? The debates
(16 January 2014)

Required:

Davies, Norman, *Europe East and West* (London: Jonathan Cape, 2006), Prologue, Chapters 1, 2, 3 (D7 D38 2006)


Rupnick, Jaques, “Central Europe or Mitteleuropa?” in *Daedalus.* Special Issue: *Eastern Europe… Central Europe… Europe* Vol. 119, No. 1 (Winter 1990): 249-278 (on-line)


Recommended:

Pond, Elizabeth, *The Rebirth of Europe* (Washington, DC: Brookings, 2002), Chapter 1

Todorova, Maria, *Imagining the Balkans* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1997)

Introduction (DR34.T63 1997)

Week 3. Europe and Russia
(23 January 2014)

Required:


Recommended:


Selected Journals

Ab Imperio
American Historical Review
Canadian Slavonic Papers
Central Asian Survey
Central European History
Communist and Post-Communist Studies (formerly Studies in Comparative Communism)
Communist Economies and Economic Transformation
Daedalus
Demokratizatsiia
East European Constitutional Review
East European Politics and Societies
Europe-Asia Studies (formerly Soviet Studies)
Journal of Communist Studies
Journal of Democracy
Journal of Ukrainian Studies
Journal of World History
Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History
National Identities
Nationalities Papers
Nations and Nationalism
Post-Soviet Affairs (formerly Soviet Economy)
Problems of Post-Communism
Russian History
Russian Review
Slavic Review
Social Research
Theory and Society

**Selected Electronic Resources**

The American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS)
[http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~aaass/](http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~aaass/)

Centre for Russian and East European Studies, University of Birmingham,
[http://www.crees.bham.ac.uk/](http://www.crees.bham.ac.uk/)

Russian and East European Studies, University of Oxford,
[http://www.rees.ox.ac.uk/](http://www.rees.ox.ac.uk/)

Center for Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies at Stanford University

Center for Eurasian, Russian and East European Studies (CERES) at Georgetown University
[http://ceres.georgetown.edu/](http://ceres.georgetown.edu/)

Herbert J. Ellison Center for Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies, University of Washington
Russian and East European Studies, Yale University
http://www.yale.edu/yalecollege/publications/ycps/chapter_iv/russian.html

The Centre for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies (CERES) at the University of Toronto
http://www.utoronto.ca/ceres/

Russian, Eurasian & East European Studies, Columbia University,

University of Pittsburgh Russian and East European Studies
http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/crees/

RFE/RL NEWSLINE. A daily report of developments in Eastern and Southeastern Europe, Russia, the Caucasus and Central Asia prepared by the staff of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty. 
Web-site: http://www.rferl.org/newsline/search/

Institute for the Study of Conflict, Ideology and Policy, Boston University
http://www.bu.edu/iscip/index.html

Johnson's Russia List - provides twice daily transmissions of articles on Russia from the press worldwide. To subscribe send a message to davidjohnson@erols.com informing him that you are a student and would like to subscribe free of charge

The CDI Russia Weekly an e-mail newsletter that carries news and analysis on all aspects of today's Russia. With funding from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, CDI Russia Weekly is a project of the Washington-based Center for Defense Information (CDI), a nonprofit research and education organization.

Central Europe Review. A weekly on-line journal of Central and East European politics, society and culture.
http://www.ce-review.org/_about.html

bibliography compiled by Andrea Graziosi

www.fas.harvard.edu/~hpcws/biblioguide.htm
Statement on Academic Offences:

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:
http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_grad.pdf

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 for such checking 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).