The rise and fall of the Soviet Union had a profound impact on European and global affairs. Yet for many, Russia remains an enigma. This course examines the USSR from a variety of perspectives. It looks at the diverse peoples who lived in the USSR, the politics, ideology, economic and social issues, and foreign dimensions that shaped their lives. Drawing on the rich primary and secondary sources available, including statements of key actors, diary accounts, documents, as well as literary and cinematographic depictions, it explores the controversies that continue to shape this historical phenomenon.

Regulations

Anti-requisite: the former History 439E
Prerequisite: 1.0 history course at the 2200 level or above.

Important Notice Re: Prerequisites/Antirequisites Please Note: You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites, and that you have not taken an antirequisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as a basis for an appeal. If you are found to be ineligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. This decision cannot be appealed. If you find that you do not have the course prerequisites, it is in your best interest to drop the course well before the end of the add/drop period. Your prompt attention to this matter will not only help protect your academic record, but will ensure that spaces become available for students who require the course in question for graduation.
**Plagiarism and Cheating**

Plagiarism and cheating are considered extremely serious academic offences and carry penalties varying from failure in an assignment of exam to debarment from the University. All His 3420F students are expected to familiarise themselves with the definitions of plagiarism and cheating as established in University of Western Ontario before submitting written work or entering the exam (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar). 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 Checking: The University of Western Ontario uses software for plagiarism checking. Students may be required to submit their written work in electronic form for plagiarism checking.

**Course Requirements**

This course is conducted in seminar format. Students are expected to attend all classes and participate in the discussion based on the weekly readings. Once during the semester each student will be asked to make a seminar presentation and lead the class in discussion. The presentations should not be summaries of the week’s readings or book reports. 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, 4,000 - 4,500 words in length, due in class on **week 11**. A brief topic proposal for the research paper (including some indication of sources) should be submitted by **week 6**. A film will be screened during the course, attendance is mandatory.

**Grades**

Grades will be assigned according to the following breakdown:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>seminar</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>selected topic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>book review</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td><strong>week 5: 4 October 2012</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>class participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>weekly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>essay</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>proposal due <strong>week 6: 11 October 2012</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>essay due <strong>week 11: 15 November 2012</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take Home examination</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>December 2012</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Readings

Required:

Kenez, Peter. *A history of the Soviet Union from the beginning to the end* 2nd ed. (Cambridge; New York: Cambridge University Press, 2006)
His 3420F Course Packet of Primary Documents (2010)

Required readings will be available electronically and on reserve at Weldon Library. A course packet of primary sources will be prepared and will be available for purchase at the bookstore. Additional readings may be suggested during the course.

Primary Sources:

Carynnyk, Marco et al (eds.) *The Foreign Office and the Famine* (Kingston: Limestone, 1988)

Recommended:

Daniels, Robert V. *The Rise and Fall of Communism in Russia* (Yale, 2007)


**Selected Journals**

Canadian Slavonic Papers
Central Asian Survey
Communist and Post-Communist Studies (formerly Studies in Comparative Communism)
Communist Economies and Economic Transformation
Demokratizatsiia
East European Constitutional Review
East European Politics and Societies
Europe-Asia Studies (formerly Soviet Studies)
Journal of Communist Studies
Journal of Democracy
Nationalities Papers
Post-Soviet Affairs (formerly Soviet Economy)
Problems of Post-Communism
Russian History
Russian Review
Slavic Review

**Selected Electronic Resources**

The American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS)
http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~aaass/
Centre for Russian and East European Studies, University of Birmingham, http://www.crees.bham.ac.uk/

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

Center for Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies at Stanford University http://creees.stanford.edu/

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

Herbert J. Ellison Center for Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies, University of Washington http://jsis.washington.edu/ellison/

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/


University of Pittsburg 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/](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
Week 1. Introduction to the Study of Soviet History  
(6 September 2012)

Secondary Sources

Kenez, Peter. *A history of the Soviet Union from the beginning to the end* 2nd ed.  
(Cambridge; New York: Cambridge University Press, 2006), Chapter 1
Motyl, Alexander J. "Sovietology in One Country or Comparative Nationality Studies?" in *Slavic Review* Vol. 48, No. 1 (Spring 1989)
Remnick, David. *Lenin’s Tomb. The Last Days of the Soviet Empire* (New York: Random House, 1993), Chapter 1

Primary Sources

See discussion in *Slavic Review*, April 1993

Week 2. Library Instruction Session  
(13 September 2012)
Please meet at the Reference Desk of Weldon Library

Week 3. The Russian Empire on the Eve of Revolution and the 1917 Revolutions  
(20 September 2012)

Secondary Sources

Kenez, Peter. *A history of the Soviet Union from the beginning to the end* 2nd ed.  

Primary Sources

Luxemburg, Rosa, “Leninism or Marxism?” in Sakwa, pp. 10-11
Week 4. Civil War and War Communism
(27 September 2012)

Secondary Sources


Primary Sources

“Dissolution of the Constituent Assembly,” in Suny, pp. 67-73
Establishment of the Secret Police, in Sakwa, pp. 74-75
Trotsky and the Red Army, in Sakwa, p. 81
Kautsky on the Russian Revolution, in Sakwa, pp. 91-94

Week 5. The Non-Russians
(4 October 2012)

BOOK REVIEW DUE IN CLASS

Secondary Sources

Suny, Ronald G. The Soviet Experiment (Oxford University Press, paperback, 1998), Chapter 4
Primary Sources

"Nationalism, Imperialism and the Great War," in Sakwa, pp. 23-31

Week 6. The Crisis of War Communism and NEP
(11 October 2012)
ESSAY PROPOSAL DUE IN CLASS

Secondary Sources


Primary Sources


Week 7. Revolution from Above
(18 October 2012)

Secondary Sources

Kuromiya, Hiroaki. Stalin (Harlow, England; New York: Pearson/Longman, 2005), Chapter 3, Battle Royale, pp. 58-73, Chapter 4, Revolution from Above
Kenez, Peter. A history of the Soviet Union from the beginning to the end 2nd ed. (Cambridge; New York: Cambridge University Press, 2006), Chapter 4.

Primary Sources
Stalin, “On Leninism, the Party and Dictatorship,” in Sakwa, pp, 164-166
Correspondence between Kamenev and Bukharin, 11 July 1928, Voroshilov and
Orjonikidze 8 Jun 1929, Stalin to V and O on 30 Sept 1929, in Suny, pp. 137-141
(not in course reader)

**Week 8. FILM: Harvest of Despair** (1985, Canada)

(25 October 2012)

This film documents the Ukrainian terror famine of 1932–33, which caused the deaths of 7,000,000 people. Using interviews with survivors and scholars to supplement rare photographic evidence, it established that the terror famine was deliberately created by the Soviet Government as part of Stalin's decades-long effort to destroy the Ukrainian peasantry, who resisted the forced collectivization of their lands. Since its original release, it has received many international awards (including an Academy Award nomination) and has been featured on William F. Buckley's Firing Line program on the PBS television network. A powerful film, Harvest of Despair provides rare insight into one of this century's least-known but most vicious genocides.

**Week 9. Famine and Terror**

(1 November 2012)

**Secondary Sources**

Kenez, Peter. *A history of the Soviet Union from the beginning to the end* 2nd ed. (Cambridge; New York: Cambridge University Press, 2006), Chapter 5


Remnick, 62-69, 105-115, 127-140


**Primary Sources**

Pashkovskyi, Yevhen, Short Story, in Ed Hogan (ed.) *From three worlds: new Ukrainian writing* (Zephyr Press, 1996)


The Great Terror in Sakwa, pp. 211-214


Week 10. Women, Family, Culture, Class, Education and Everyday Life  
(8 November 2012)

Secondary Sources


Primary Sources

“The Code of Laws on Marriage, Divorce and the Family and Guardianship, 19 November 1926,” in Suny, pp. 130-137 (not in course reader)

“Cultural Transformation,” in Sakwa, pp. 191-198


“On Teaching of Civic History in the Schools of the USSR,” Decree of the Council of People’s Commissars of the USSR, 16 May 1934, in Suny, pp. 228-229

Week 11. The Outside World, War, Expansion, Reconstruction and The Cold War  
(15 November 2012)

**ESSAY DUE IN CLASS**

Secondary Sources

Kenez, Peter. A *history of the Soviet Union from the beginning to the end* 2nd ed. (Cambridge; New York: Cambridge University Press, 2006), Chapters 6, 7

Kennan, George, "X" Article, "The Sources of Soviet Conduct," *Foreign Affairs* (July 1947)


Remnick, pp. 3-23, 86-100, 389-411
Week 11. (con’t) The Outside World, War, Expansion, Reconstruction and The Cold War

**Primary Sources**

Churchill, Excerpts from the Iron Curtain Speech, Stalin Interview in Pravda, Acton, pp. 199-205
Stalin’s Interview with Roy Howard in the Scripps-Howard Publication, 1936, Suny, pp. 295-297 (not in course reader)
Stalin’s Radio Broadcast of 3 July 1941 in Sakwa, pp. 254-255
“The Truman Doctrine and the Two Camp Policy,” in Stokes, pp. 33-42
“What is the Ukrainian Insurgent Army Fighting For?” in Acton, pp. 189-190

Week 12. Revisionism and Decline: Khrushchev and Brezhnev
(22 November 2012)

**Secondary Sources**

Remnick, pp. 270-276

**Primary Sources**

“The Brezhnev Doctrine,” in Stokes, pp. 131-134
Burlatskii, Fedor, “Brezhnev and the End of the Thaw,” in Suny, pp. 379-385
Decline in Economic growth, the Novosibirsk Report, in Acton, pp. 285-290
Djilas, Milovan, “The New Class,” in Stokes, pp. 100-106 (not in course reader)
Excerpts from Khrushchev’s Secret Speech, in Acton pp. 308-310,
The Fall of Khrushchev, in Acton, pp. 319-320
“From a KGB report on Dissidents, 21 December 1970,” in Acton, pp. 358-359
Havel, Vaclav, *The Power of the Powerless: Citizens Against the State in East Central Europe* (Cambridge: Granta in Association with Penguin, 1989), Ch 1
**Week 13. The Gorbachev Factor and Collapse**  
(29 November 2012)

*Secondary Sources*

Kenez, Peter. *A history of the Soviet Union from the beginning to the end* 2nd ed.  
(Cambridge; New York: Cambridge University Press, 2006), Chapter 10
Remnick, 216-233, 234-247, 342-340, 451-474

*Primary Sources*

“The August Coup,” and “The End of the USSR,” in Suny, pp. 456-475 (not in course reader)
Gorbachev’s Speech to the United Nations, 1988, Perestroika, Glasnost, in Acton, pp. 378-381, 386-399
Havel, Vaclav, New Year’s Day Speech 1990 in Stokes, pp. 249-253
If you or someone you know is experiencing distress, there are several resources here at Western to assist you. Please visit http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/ for more information on these resources and on mental health.

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.

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

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 'At 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 ACCOMMODATION

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. Please go to http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/medicalform.pdf to download the necessary form. 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 is warranted. They will subsequently contact the instructors in the relevant courses about the accommodation. Once a decision has been made about accommodation, the student should contact his/her instructors to determine a new due date for term tests, assignments, and exams.

If you have any further questions or concerns please contact, Rebecca Dashford, Undergraduate Program Advisor, Department of History, 519-661-2111 x84962 or rdashfo@uwo.ca