



The University of Western Ontario
HISTORY 2423F
Russia and Ukraine. Past and Present
Fall/Winter 2018-19
Wednesdays 4:30 – 6:30, UCC 37

Instructor: Professor Marta Dyczok

Office Hours: Office Hours: Wednesday 12:30 – 3:00
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Course Description:

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.

Prerequisite(s):

Unless you have either the prerequisites for this 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. The 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.

Course Syllabus:

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.

Methods of Evaluation

Students must complete all coursework. Failure to complete all assigned coursework will result in a failing grade.

Film Review (Due Week 7)	20%
Participation	10%
Essay of 2500-3000 words (Due Week 10)	30%
Final Exam (Exam period)	40%

COURSE SCHEDULE

I. INTRODUCTION

Week 1: Introduction to course themes and requirements

(11 September 2019)

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

(18 September 2019)

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

Plokyh, Serhii. "History and Territory," Serhii Plokyh, 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://gellnerpage.tripod.com/Warwick.html>

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14698129/2/3>

II. A SURVEY of the UKRAINIAN-RUSSIAN HISTORICAL ENCOUNTER

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

(25 September 2019)

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

Plokyh, 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

(2 October 2019)

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:

<https://alpha.lib.uwo.ca/search/?searchtype=t&searcharg=The+Cambridge+History+of+Russia%2C+Volume+3&searchscope=20>

Week 5. Film: Haytarma (Akhtem Seitablayev, Ukraine, 2013)
(9 October 2019)

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)
(16 October 2019)

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. Putin as President (FILM REVIEW DUE IN CLASS)
(23 October 2019)

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/>

III. THE PRESENT

Week 8. Contemporary Ukraine: Revolution, Elections, War.
(30 October 2019)

Klymenko, Andrii, "Human Rights Abuses in Russian-Occupied Crimea," Atlantic Council Freedom House, March 2015, <http://www.atlanticcouncil.org/images/publications/20150306-ACCCrimeaReport.pdf>
Sakwa, Richard. *Frontline Ukraine: Crisis in the Borderlands* (London: I.B. Tauris, 2015), Preface
Yekelchik, Serhy, *The Conflict in Ukraine. What Everyone Needs to Know* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015) Chapter 5

4-10 November 2019 – **NO CLASS** Mid Term Reading Break

Week 9. Ukraine's Maidan. Russia's War. GUEST LECTURER FROM UKRAINE: Professor Mychailo Wynnnykyj, National University of the Kyiv Mohyla Academy.
(13 November 2019)

Week 10. The International Response (ESSAY DUE IN CLASS)
(20 November 2019)

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

Week 11. Media Narratives

(27 November 2019)

- 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

Week 12. Prospects for Peace

(4 December 2019)

- 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>

Course Materials:

A Course Reader with required reading will be available in the Bookstore, additional readings may be suggested during the term.

Additional Statements

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

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>).

Accessibility Options:

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 519 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.

Information regarding accommodation of exams is available on the Registrar's website:

www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated_exams.html

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://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf

to read about the University's policy on medical accommodation. 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.

Students must see the Academic Counsellor and submit all required documentation in order to be approved for certain accommodation.

Please note: Please visit https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/academic_policies/index.html to view all updated academic policies regarding medical accommodations.

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>).

Students are expected to retain all research notes, rough drafts, essay outlines, and other materials used in preparing assignments. In the unlikely event of concerns being raised about the authenticity of any assignment, your instructor may ask you to produce these materials; an inability to do so may weigh heavily against you.

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.

Scholastic 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:

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

Support Services

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western, http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Use of Electronic Devices

Electronic devices of any kind **will not** be allowed during tests and examinations.

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 e-mail vangalen@uwo.ca.