Brock University History 3P90 – Fall 2013

The Rise and Fall of the Russian Empire

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Office hours: Tuesday 1400-1530, or by appointment

Lectures are on Tuesday 1200-1400 in WH 204

Seminar 1 meets on Tuesday 900-1000 in MC D304
Seminar 2 meets on Thursday 1200-1300 in MC G310

Films will be screened on Wednesday evenings, Sep. 25, Oct. 9 and Nov 27, at 1900 in PL 410 (This is the "LAB")

Overview

This course surveys the expansions and contractions of Russia from its Kievan origins in the ninth century to the present. Lectures will concentrate on the history of Russian diplomacy, warfare and imperial administration, while the seminars examine related topics, including geopolitics, ideology, culture, nationalities, and our own perceptions. Throughout the course we will also consider continuities with the past and their implications for today.

Some prior knowledge of Russian history would be helpful but is not required.

Requirements & Grading

- Prospectus – 5% of grade
  A one-page statement of intent for the paper to be written during the term. Must include full bibliographical citations of at least 5 sources you plan to use. Due at the start of the first lecture on Tuesday, Oct 8.

- Paper – 25% of grade
  A 10-page paper on a topic relevant to the course. Due at the start of the first lecture on Tuesday, March 26.

- Seminar Preparation – 20% of grade
  Prepare and lead one seminar during the semester. This includes studying the assigned texts and/or film well in advance and leading the discussion.

- Seminar Participation – 20% of grade
  Attendance at seminars is mandatory. You are also expected to read the assigned texts and see the films before all seminars as well as to participate in the discussions.

- Map Quiz – 5%
  A test about basic Russian geography at the start of the seminar on Jan. 23.

- Final Exam – 25% of grade
  A three-hour exam at the end of the term, which will be based on the lectures, the assigned texts, and the films.

Housekeeping

- I will consider extensions for medical or personal emergencies, but they must be substantiated by a doctor's note or other documentation and will be granted entirely at my discretion. Emergencies do not include ill-tempered computers, nor the exigencies of other courses, jobs or your love life.

- Work handed in late without my permission will be penalised by 20% of that assignment's grade for every 24 hours after it is due.

- I will provide more details about the assignments during seminar meetings.

- Plagiarism will not be tolerated and automatically results in failing the assignment as well as a notice on the student's official transcript. Papers must be submitted to Turnitin.com before the due date.

- To pass the course you must get a passing average grade AND complete all assigned work, including the final exam.

- Two or more unexcused absences from seminars will jeopardise your grade.

- You are required to read all assigned texts and to see all films.

- Students will maintain proper decorum during lectures and seminars. You must refrain from conversations or any other behaviour that may distract others. This includes using electronic devices such as cell phones, smartphones, iPods, etc.

Lectures, Texts and Films

For a detailed list of required readings and films, please see page 6 of the syllabus.

Sep 10 1. Overview
No Seminar

Sep 17 2. Landscape and Geopolitics
3. The Kievan Origins
Seminar Introduction
Read Gilbert 1-4, 11-18, Lieven, pp. 201-230; Kappeler, pp. 1-11; *The Cambridge History of Russia* (hereafter CHR), vol. 1, pp. 19-72.

☞ **Seminars begin on Thursday, Sep 19**

Sep 24 4. The Mongol Yoke
5. The Rise of Moscow
Seminar Empire
Read Gilbert 21-2, 25-7; Lieven 3-86; Kappeler, pp. 14-56; CHR 1, 213-239; CHR 2, 45-63

☞ **Map quiz at start of seminar**

See *Alexander Nevsky* on Wednesday, Sep 25, in PL 410 at 1900.

Lectures, Texts and Films, cont'd.

Oct 1 6. The Push to the East
7. The Push to the West
Seminar Between West and East
Read Gilbert 18, 23-4, 26, 31, 33, 36; Kappeler 60-108; CHR 1, 317-337; Ignatieff 💻; Schimmelpenninck 💻

Oct 8 8. The Push to the South
9. Muscovy and the World
Seminar Ukraine
Read Gilbert 29-31, 35, Lieven 231-261; Kappeler, 114-162; CHR 1, 520-538; Horak 💻; Kohut 💻.

☞ **Prospectus due at the start of first lecture on Tuesday, Oct 8.**

See *Dersu Uzala* on Wednesday, Oct 9, in PL 410 at 1900.

Oct 22 10. Poltava
11. The Patriotic War
Seminar *Dersu Uzala*
Read Gilbert 36-7; 41-3; 47, 49-50; CHR 2, 145-161, 489-529, Bassin.

Oct 29 12. The Crimean War
13. The Turbulent Frontier
Seminar The Great Game
Read Gilbert 44, 46, 48, 51, 61; Lieven 89-127; Kappeler, 168-208; Baumann 💻; Hopkirk 💻; Gorchakov 💻.

Nov 5 14. National Fissures
15. The Russian Way of War
Seminar Persistent Factors ?
Read Gilbert 52, 53, 69; Lieven 262-287; CHR 2, 530-553; Kappeler 213-79; Rieber 💻.

* 💻 – Posted on Sakai.

Lectures, Texts and Films, cont'd.

Nov 12 16. War in Asia and Europe
17. The Culture of Empire
Seminar The Multinational Empire

Read Gilbert 66-7, 79-85; Kappeler 283-323, CHR 2, 27-44; 554-574; CHR 3, 94-114.

Nov 19 18. Civil War and Restoration
19. The Marxist-Leninist Worldview
Seminar The July Crisis

Read Gilbert, 91-7; Kappeler 328-366; CHR 3, 140-167; Struve, Lieven, *Russia and the Origins* 💻; Tuchman 💻.

Nov 26 20. Soviet Pariah
21. The Great Patriotic War
Seminar Barbarossa

Read Gilbert 100-1, 107-8, 114-131; Lieven 288-339; CHR 3, 217-242, 636-661; Stone

☞ **Paper due at the start of first lecture on Nov 26**

See *Prisoner of the Mountains* on Wednesday, Nov 27, in PL 410 at 1900.

Dec 3 22. The Cold War
23. The End of Empire?
Seminar Chechnya

Read Gilbert 133-4, 147-161 , Lieven 378-422, Kappeler, 370-392; Remnick 💻.

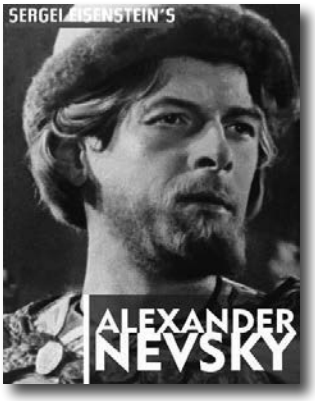
Required Texts and Films

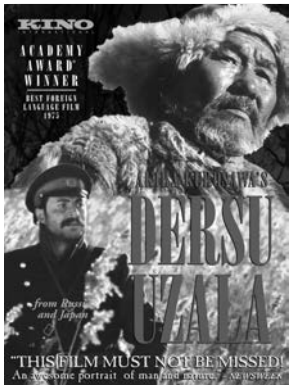
1. Books to Buy

Andreas Kappeler, *The Russian Empire* (Harlow, 2001)
Dominic Lieven, *Empire* (New Haven, 2002)
Martin Gilbert, *The Routledge Atlas of Russian History* (London, 2007)
Recommended: Mary Lynn Rampolla, *A Pocket Guide to Writing in History* (Boston, 2001)

2. Texts on Sakai (💻)or Electronically via the Gibson Library (E)

Robert F. Baumann, *Russian-Soviet Unconventional Wars in the Caucasus, Central Asia, and Afghanistan* (Ft. Leavenworth, 1993), pp. 49-77.💻
Mark Bassin, "Inventing Siberia," *The American Historical Review* 96,3 (1991), pp. 763-794 (E)
The Cambridge History of Russia (Cambridge, 2006) – access electronically via "Cambridge histories online" database – Available electronically via the Gibson Library. Hereafter: (E)
Aleksandr Gorchakov, "Translation of Prince Gorchakov's Memorandum," W.K. Fraser-Tyler, *Afghanistan* (London, 1967), pp. 333-337.💻
Peter Hopkirk, *The Great Game* (Oxford, 1990), pp. 1-8, 57-76.💻
Stephan M. Horak, "Russian Expansion and Policy in Ukraine 1648-1791," in M. Rywkin, ed., *Russian Colonial Expansion to 1917* (London, 1988), 103-122.💻
Michael Ignatieff, "Can Russia Return to Europe," *Harper's* 284 (April 1992), pp. 15-18. (E)
Zenon Kohut, "History as Battleground," in S. Frederick Starr, *The Legacy of History in Russia and the New States of Eurasia* (Armonk, 1994), 123-145.💻
D.C.B. Lieven, *Russia and the Origins of the First World War* (New York, 1983), pp. 139-154.💻
Alfred Rieber, "Persistent Factors in Russian Foreign Policy," in Hugh Ragsdale, ed., *Imperial Russian Foreign Policy* (Cambridge, 1993), 315-359.💻
David Remnick, *Resurrection* (New York, 1998), pp. 260-291.💻
David Schimmelpenninck van der Oye, "Russia's Asian Temptation," *International Journal* LV,4 (Fall 2000), 603-623. (E)
David R. Stone, "Soviet Intelligence on Barbarossa:" P. Jackson & J. Siegel, eds., *Intelligence and Statecraft* (Westport: 2005),157-171.💻
Peter Struve, "A Great Russia: Thoughts on the Question of Russian Power," *The Russian Review* 2, 4 (1912), pp. 11-30.💻
Barbara Tuchman, *The Guns of August* (New York, 1964), pp. 56-68.💻





3. Films

Alexander Nevsky (Sergei Eisenstein, 1938)
Dersu Uzala (Akira Kurosawa, 1980)
Prisoner of the Mountains (Sergei Bodrov, 1999)