

**EUH 3575**  
**Imperial Russia, 1700-1914**  
**Fall 2015**

[Syllabus Draft of 8/17/15]

Instructor: Prof. Stuart Finkel  
Class location: Keene-Flint 111  
Class meetings: T 4 and R 4/5  
Email: [sfinkel@ufl.edu](mailto:sfinkel@ufl.edu)  
Office: 221 Keene-Flint Hall  
Office hours: Wed. 10:15-11:45 and by appointment.

This course will explore the major events and topics of the political, social, cultural, and intellectual history of the Russian Empire from the 18<sup>th</sup> to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, from the remarkable and tumultuous reign of Peter the Great up to the sudden collapse of the Romanov dynasty in the Russian Revolution. Important themes will include the continual growth and development of the Russian empire, its multinational makeup, and the nature of imperial rule; the evolution and strengthening of the tsarist autocracy and its resistance to political change; the key role of religion, in particular the Orthodox Church, in society and in government; the highly hierarchical social “estate” system – the nobility, peasants, and the institution of serfdom; Russia's complex relationship with and self image vis-à-vis “the West”; the birth and special significance of the Russian intelligentsia; the emancipation of serfs, the Great Reforms and Russia's “delayed” modernization and industrialization; and the onset of the revolutionary period at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The course will alternate between informal lectures, with time for questions, and class discussions. Readings will include a textbook (Moss); two collections of primary sources and documents (Cracraft and Riha); a short volume of stories by Tolstoy, Dostoyevsky, and other famous Russian authors; and supplementary readings posted as Electronic Reserves (ER) on the course *Canvas* website. You should complete the readings for each week by Tuesday's meeting and have them with you in class for ready reference. Discussions will usually take place during Thursday's double period, with exceptions announced in advance.

**Required Texts and other Materials**

Walter Moss, *A History of Russia, Vol. 1: to 1917*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.

James Cracraft, *Major Problems in the History of Imperial Russia*.

Thomas Riha, *Readings in Russian Civilization, Vol. II: Imperial Russia, 1700-1917*

*Great Russian Short Stories* (Dover Thrift Editions).

Electronic Reserves (Course *Canvas* website)

## Assignments and Requirements

1. Four very brief online multiple-choice **quizzes** over the course of the semester. (30 points each, 120 points total).
2. Three brief in-class **response papers** over the course of the semester, relating to the primary source readings assigned for the unit. (50 points each, 150 points total).
3. Class **discussion** participation. (170 points)
4. A 50 minute **Midterm Exam**, to be taken in class on Thu., Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>. (200 points)
5. A 90 minute **Final Exam**, to be taken Fri., Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>, 7:30-9:30am, in FLI 111. (360 points)

## Grading Scale and Assignment Summary

<b>Grade Proportion</b>	<b>Grade Scale</b>	<b>Grade Value</b>
4 Online Quizzes @ 30 pts/each = 120 points	930-1000 points [93-100%] = <b>A</b>	A = 4.0
3 Response Papers @ 50 pts/each = 150 points	900-929 points [90-92%] = <b>A-</b>	A- = 3.67
Participation and attendance: 170 points	870-899 points [87-89%] = <b>B+</b>	B+ = 3.33
Midterm: 200 points	830-869 points [83-86%] = <b>B</b>	B = 3.00
Final Exam: 360 points	800-829 points [80-82%] = <b>B-</b>	B- = 2.67
<b>Total: 1000 points</b>	770-799 points [77-79%] = <b>C+</b>	C+ = 2.33
	730-769 points [73-76%] = <b>C</b>	C = 2.00
	700-729 points [70-72%] = <b>C-</b>	C- = 1.67
	670-699 points [67-69%] = <b>D+</b>	D+ = 1.33
	630-669 points [63-66%] = <b>D</b>	D = 1.00
	600-629 points [60-62%] = <b>D-</b>	D- = 0.67
	0-599 points [0-59%] = <b>E</b>	E = 0.00

For more information on UF's grading system and policies, please consult the Undergraduate Catalog <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

## University and Class Policies

### Assignments and Attendance

Students will be expected to have done all of the reading and participate fully in the class discussions. History classes are most rewarding when students interact with the texts, each other, and the instructor on a sustained basis. Readings provide the raw material for class discussion, where much of the learning takes place. Effective class participation is therefore essential. Students can expect a respectful atmosphere in which to express their opinions.

Attendance is mandatory, and you must be on time, prepared, and courteous to everyone in the room. The participation portion of the grade will be adversely affected after two unexcused absences, except in extraordinary circumstances. Consistent tardiness will also be penalized.

Late work will not be accepted without penalty. Please make every effort to apprise the instructor of adverse circumstances that affect your ability to attend class or complete assignments on time. Official documentation is required to excuse absences and to schedule make-up assignments. The Final Exam must be taken during the period assigned by the registrar: Friday, Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>, 7:30-9:30am. Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies detailed online at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

### Academic Honesty

Students must conform to UF's academic honesty policy regarding plagiarism and other forms of cheating. This means that on all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The university specifically prohibits cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation, bribery, conspiracy, and fabrication. For more information about the definition of these terms and other aspects of the Honesty Guidelines, see the University's student code of conduct at <https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code>, and conflict resolution procedures at <https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/conflict-resolution>

All students found to have cheated, plagiarized, or otherwise having violated the Honor Code in *any assignment* for this course will be prosecuted to the full extent of the university honor policy, including judicial action and the sanctions listed in paragraph XI of the Student Conduct Code. For serious violations, you will fail this course.

### Students with Disabilities

Please do not hesitate to ask for accommodation for a documented disability. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office, see online at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drp>. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student, who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. Please ask if you would like any assistance in this process.

### Evaluations

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>

## Readings and Assignment Schedule

[There may be minor changes in the readings and assignments, which will be announced in advance.]

### **Week One**

Aug 25<sup>th</sup> – Russia until the 17<sup>th</sup> Century. Geographical and Historical Introduction.

Aug 27<sup>th</sup> – The Origins of the Romanov Dynasty.

#### Readings:

- Moss, 1-12 [Optional: Moss, 13-221].
- Pipes, “The Environment and its Consequences,” in Cracraft, 4-21.

### **Week Two**

Sept 1<sup>st</sup> – Peter the Great and his Era.

Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> – Peter and the Emergence of the Russian Empire.

#### Readings:

- Moss, 222-50.
- Kliuchevsky, “The Artisan Tsar” (ER).
- John Perry, “Russia under Peter the Great,” in Riha, 233-37.

First ONLINE QUIZ to be completed by 11:59pm on Fri., Sept 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **Week Three**

Sept 8<sup>th</sup> – Peter’s successors: Anne and Elizabeth.

Sept 10<sup>th</sup> – Russia in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> Century: Autocracy, Nobility, Church.

#### Readings:

- Moss, 251-66.
- Anisimov, “Empire of the Nobility,” in Cracraft, 128-46.
- “M. M. Shcherbatov Laments Corruption at Court, 1730-62,” in Cracraft, 153-65.

First in-class RESPONSE PAPER on Thu., Sept 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **Week Four**

Sept 15<sup>th</sup> – Catherine the Great, Enlightened Autocrat?

Sept 17<sup>th</sup> – Catherine the Great, continued. The Pugachev Rebellion.

#### Readings:

- Moss, 267-90.
- Madariaga, “Catherine as Woman and Ruler,” in Cracraft, 167-79.
- Raeff, “Pugachev’s Rebellion,” in Cracraft, 179-97.
- “Catherine the Great’s ‘Instructions.’ Excerpts,” in Riha, 252-55.

### **Week Five**

Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> – The Development of the Russian Social Order. Serfs and Nobles.

Sept 24<sup>th</sup> – The Expansion of the Russian Empire.

#### Readings:

- Moss, 291-330.
- Raeff, “Imperial Policies of Catherine II,” in Cracraft, 234-43.
- Radishchev, “A Journey from St. Petersburg to Moscow,” in Riha, 261-79.

Second ONLINE QUIZ to be completed by 11:59pm on Fri., Sept. 25th.

### **Week Six**

Sept 29<sup>th</sup> – Alexander and Napoleon; Russia and Europe.

Oct 1<sup>st</sup> – Alexander I, cont. The Decembrist Revolt.

#### Readings:

- Moss, 331-55.
- Raeff, “The ‘Constitutionalism’ of Alexander I,” in Cracraft, 256-68.
- “The Decembrists: Extracts from Documents” in Riha, 295-302.

Second in-class RESPONSE PAPER on Thu., Oct 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Week Seven**

Oct 6<sup>th</sup> – Nicholas I, Gendarme of Europe.

Oct 8<sup>th</sup> – Russian Culture in the Age of Pushkin.

#### Readings:

- Moss, 356-70, 400-18.
- Riasanovsky, “The Supreme Commander: Nicholas I,” in Cracraft, 268-82.
- Pushkin, “The Bronze Horseman” (ER).
- Pushkin, “The Queen of Spades” and Gogol, “The Overcoat” (*Russian Short Stories*).

### **Week Eight**

Oct 13<sup>th</sup> – The Origins of the Intelligentsia. The Marvelous Decade.

Oct 15<sup>th</sup> – Nicholas I: Ferment and Repression.

#### Readings:

- Moss, 364-68 [review].
- Walicki, “Russian Social Thought: An Introduction to the Intellectual History of 19<sup>th</sup> Century Russia,” p.1-18 (parts 1-3) (ER).
- Peter Chaadaev, “Apology of a Madman,” in Riha, 303-14.
- Vissarion Belinsky, “Letter to Gogol,” in Riha, 315-20.
- Alexander Herzen, “Young Moscow,” in Riha, 321-31.

### **Week Nine**

Oct 20<sup>th</sup> – Russia in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century. Review.

Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> – MIDTERM EXAM.

#### Readings:

- Moss, 371-74 and 376-99.

### **Week Ten**

Oct 27<sup>th</sup> – Alexander II, and the Emancipation of the Serfs.

Oct 29<sup>th</sup> – The Great Reforms, cont. The Peasant Way of Life.

#### Readings:

- Moss, 419-31.
- Matossian, “The Peasant Way of Life” (ER).
- Gleb Uspenskii, “From a Village Diary,” in Riha, 358-67.
- Turgenev, “The District Doctor” (*Russian Short Stories*).

### **Week Eleven**

Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> – The Intelligentsia and Society in the 1860s-70s. Populism.

Nov 5<sup>th</sup> – Russian Terrorism. Alexander III and Reaction.

#### Readings:

- Moss, 431-45, 561-64.
- Walicki, “Russian Social Thought,” p.18-34 (parts 4-6) (ER).
- Katerina Breshkovskaia, “Going to the People,” in Riha, 344-57.
- “Vera Figner Defends Assassination in the Name of the People, 1881,” and “Manifesto of Alexander III Affirming Autocracy, 1881,” in Cracraft, 383-89.
- Dostoevsky, “White Nights” and Tolstoy, “How Much Land Does a Man Need?” (*Russian Short Stories*).

Third in-class RESPONSE PAPER on Nov 5<sup>th</sup>.

### **Week Twelve**

Nov 10<sup>th</sup> – The Counter-Reforms of Alexander III.

Nov 12<sup>th</sup> – High Imperialism and Nationality Policies

#### Readings:

- Moss, 464-90, 449-54, 564-65.
- Pipes, “The National Problem in Russia,” in Riha, 430-44; as well as Kappeler, “Multi-Ethnic Empire,” and Thaden, “Russification,” in Cracraft, 398-409.
- Pobedonostsev, “The Falsehood of Democracy,” in Riha, 390-401.
- Chekhov, “Lady with the Toy Dog” (*Russian Short Stories*).
- Film: *Vanya on 42<sup>nd</sup> St* [part to be shown in class this week].

### **Week Thirteen**

Nov 17<sup>th</sup> – The Early Years of Nicholas II. Culture and Society in the late 1800s.

Nov 19<sup>th</sup> – Industrialization and the Working Class.

#### Readings:

- Moss, 446-49, 517-61.
- Walicki, “Russian Social Thought,” p.34-45 (parts 7-8) (ER).
- “F. P. Pavlov Depicts Life in a Textile Mill, 1890s,” in Cracraft, 479-89.
- “Industrial Workers in the 1880s,” in Riha, 409-15.
- Gorky, “Twenty Six Men and One Girl” (*Russian Short Stories*).

Third ONLINE QUIZ to be completed by 11:59pm on Fri., Nov 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **Week Fourteen**

Nov 24<sup>th</sup> – At the Turn of the Century. Russia in Ferment.

[Nov 26<sup>th</sup> – NO CLASS THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY]

#### Readings:

- Moss, 454-62, 565-73.
- Sologub, “The White Mother” (*Russian Short Stories*).
- Blok, “The Stranger,” and Burliuk, et. al., “A Slap in the Face of Public Taste” (ER).
- Images: Russian modern art (ER).

### **Week Fifteen**

Dec 1<sup>st</sup> – The Revolution of 1905.

Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> – The Revolution of 1905, cont., and the Duma Period.

#### Readings:

- Moss, 491-516.
- “The October Manifesto of Nicholas II, 1905,” in Cracraft, 595-96.
- Film: *The Fall of the Romanov Dynasty* [part to be shown in class this week].

Fourth ONLINE QUIZ to be completed by 11:59pm on Fri., Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Week Sixteen**

Dec 8<sup>th</sup> – The Coming Crisis, and Conclusions.

#### Readings:

- “A. I. Guchkov Warns of Impending Disaster, 1913,” in Cracraft, 633, 634-43.

**FINAL EXAM** Friday December 18<sup>th</sup>, 7:30-9:30am.