

History 223D/323D
Russian Rebels
Autumn 2018-2019
4-5 Units

Tuesday 4:30-7:20
Building 200, Room 217

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Office Hours: Tuesdays, Thursdays 2:00-3:00 PM and by appointment.

This course explores the history of resistance to the Russian state, from peasant, Cossack, and Bashkir rebellions in the sixteenth to eighteenth centuries, the emergence of the intelligentsia and revolutionary terror in the nineteenth century, the revolutions of 1905 and 1917, the politics of opposition and personal autonomy under Stalinism, to the wars accompanying the break-up of the USSR, and to the practices of dissent in Putin's Russia and their regional effects. We will analyze primary sources, including memoirs, literature, and film as well as classic and more recent scholarship on the subject.

History 223D/323D is certified to satisfy a Social Inquiry (SI) Ways of Thinking/Ways of Doing requirement.

Requirements and Grading:

- Students will be expected to attend the Seminar, prepare the assigned readings, and take active part in class discussions and writing assignments.
 - Please note that each unexcused absence will lower a student's class participation grade by one letter.
- Students enrolled for 4 units will write 3 papers (3-5 pages) in response to assigned readings (25% of the final grade).
- Students enrolled for 5 units will write 5 papers (3-5 pages) in response to assigned readings (25% of the final grade).
- All students will also write a 12-15-page paper on a topic mutually agreed upon by student and instructor (due on Friday, December 14 for 25% of the final grade).
- Class participation will count for the remaining 50%.

Reading Guide

When approaching our assigned readings for our discussion and papers, we will read with the following questions in mind:

1) what is the author's central argument?

- 2) how does the author arrive at this analysis? (what kinds of sources and interpretive frameworks does he or she rely upon?)
- 3) is the interpretation convincing - and how does it relate to other works we have encountered in this course?

Writing Guide

We will take up these questions in 3 response papers (for 4 units) or 5 papers (for 5 units). They will be due by email (to rcrews@stanford.edu) by Monday of the week in which we will be discussing those readings (and/or films).

Please touch base with me by November 9 to identify a topic for the final paper, which may take the form of (1) a research paper based on the analysis of primary sources or (2) an investigation of a particular theme in the secondary literature on a topic related to the central themes of our course.

Students with Documented Disabilities: Students who may need an academic accommodation based on the impact of a disability must initiate the request with the Office of Accessible Education (OAE). Professional staff will evaluate the request with required documentation, recommend reasonable accommodations, and prepare an Accommodation Letter for faculty dated in the current quarter in which the request is being made. Students should contact the OAE as soon as possible since timely notice is needed to coordinate accommodations. The OAE is located at 563 Salvatierra Walk (phone: 723-1066, <http://studentaffairs.stanford.edu/oea>).

The following texts are available for purchase at the book store and will be on reserve at Green Library:

Fyodor Dostoevsky, *Crime and Punishment*, ed. George Gibian, 3rd Norton Critical Edition (Norton, 1989)

Laura Engelstein, *Russia in Flames* (Oxford University Press: 2017)

Svetlana Alexievich, *Zinky Boys: Soviet Voices from the Afghanistan War* (Norton, 1992)

Readings marked by an asterisk are required for students enrolled in History 323D (and recommended for those in 223D). Supplementary readings are optional.

Week One – Autocracy and Its Challengers – September 25

Michael Cherniavsky, “The Old Believers and the New Religion,” *Slavic Review* 25, no. 1 (March 1966): 1-39.

*Fiona Wright, “Resistance,” *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Anthropology* (2016),

*James C. Scott, “Everyday Forms of Resistance,” *The Copenhagen Journal of Asian Studies* 4 (1989): 33-62.

*Laura Engelstein, “Combined Underdevelopment: Discipline and the Law in Imperial and Soviet Russia,” *The American Historical Review* 98, no. 2 (1993): 338-53.

Supplementary:

Nancy Kollmann, *Crime and Punishment in Early Modern Russia* (2012)

Paul Avrich, *Russian Rebels, 1600-1800* (1976)

Georg Michels, "Rituals of Violence: Retaliatory Acts by Russian and Hungarian Rebels," *Russian History* 35 (2008): 383-94.

Ranjit Guha, *Dominance without Hegemony: History and Power in Colonial India* (1998)

Week Two – The Wild Field, the Enlightenment, and the Rise of the Intelligentsia – October 2

Marc Raeff, "Pugachev's Rebellion," in Robert Forster and Jack P. Greene, eds., *Preconditions of Revolution in Early Modern Europe* (1970), 161-201.

Thomas Riha, ed., *Readings in Russian Civilization* 2nd ed. (1969), 261-279, 295-382.

*Yuri Lotman, "The Decembrist in Everyday Life," in *The Semiotics of Russian Culture* (1984).

Week Three – Russia, Birthplace of Terror? – October 9

Claudia Verhoeven, *The Odd Man Karakozov*

Supplementary:

Amy Knight, "Female Terrorists in the Russian Socialist Revolutionary Party." *The Russian Review*, vol. 38, no. 2, 1979, pp. 139–159.

"Modern Times? Terrorism in Late Imperial Russia" in *Jahrbücher für Geschichte Osteuropas* 58, no. 2 (2010).

Norman Naimark, *Terrorists and Social Democrats: The Russian Revolutionary Movement under Alexander III* (1983)

A. Geifman, *Death Orders: The Vanguard of Modern Terrorism in Revolutionary Russia* (2010)

Barbara Engel and Clifford N. Rosenthal, eds. and trans., *Five Sisters: Women against the Tsar* (2013)

Week Four – New Moral Orders? – October 16

Fyodor Dostoevsky, *Crime and Punishment* [1866]

Week Five – Challenges to Empire – October 23

Laura Engelstein, *Russia in Flames* [part one]

Week Six – War, Revolution, State-Building – October 30

Laura Engelstein, *Russia in Flames* [part two]

Week Seven – Resisting Stalin? – November 6

Jochen Hellbeck, *Revolution on My Mind: Writing a Diary under Stalin* (2006)

Week Eight – Critiquing the Soviet Empire? – November 13

Svetlana Alexievich, *Zinky Boys: Soviet Voices from the Afghanistan War* (1992)

Thanksgiving Break (November 19-23)

Week Nine – The Politics of Nationhood and Imperial Collapse - November 27

Anna Politkovskaia, *A Small Corner of Hell: Dispatches from Chechnya* (2003), 1-117.

Trina R. Mamoon, “Black Widows’: Women as Political Combatants in the Chechen Conflict,” in Helena Goscilo and Yana Hashamova, eds., *Embracing Arms: Cultural Representation of Slavic and Balkan Women in War* (2012), 207-231.

Film: *Chechnya: War Without Trace* (2016)

Supplementary:

John Dunlop, *The Moscow Bombings of September 1999: Examinations of Russian Terrorist Attacks at the Onset of Vladimir Putin's Rule* (2014).

Week Ten – The New Russia? – December 4

Film: *Pussy Riot: The Movement* (2016)

Film: *Leviathan* (2014)

Film: *Breaking Point: The War for Democracy in Ukraine* (2016)

Final paper due on Friday, December 14 to rcrews@stanford.edu.