



**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL
RELATIONS**

**HISTORY PROGRAMME
HIST 245: PEOPLES OF THE SOVIET EMPIRE
20 POINTS**

TRIMESTER 2 2015

Important dates

Trimester dates: 13 July to 15 November 2015

Teaching dates: 13 July to 16 October 2015

Mid-trimester break: 24 August to 6 September 2015

Last assessment item due: 16 October

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Class times and locations

Lectures:	Monday and Wednesday	15:10 – 16:00
Venue:	HULT 220	
Tutorials:	Thursday	10:00 – 10:50 KP14/101
	Thursday	11:00 – 11:50 KP14/101
	Friday	13:10 – 14:00 KP14/101
	Friday	14:10 – 15:00 KP14/101

Please see the Academic Timetable 2015 www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/timetables

Names and contact details

Convener:	Dr Alexander Maxwell
Room:	Old Kirk 422
Phone:	463 6753
Email:	alexander.maxwell@vuw.ac.nz
Office Hours:	To be announced.

Communication of additional information

This course uses Blackboard and presumes that all enrolled students have valid myvuw.ac.nz addresses. Please check that this account is active and you have organised email forwarding.

Additional information and any changes to the timetable or lecture and seminar programme may be announced in lectures and posted on the course Blackboard site.

Prescription

This course introduces the nations of the Soviet Empire, discussing both federal regions within the U.S.S.R. itself and dependent states beyond the Soviet frontier. Lectures contrast the evolution of Communist rule at the Russian core of the empire with the experiences of various non-Russian nations on various imperial peripheries. Chronologically, the course runs from the late Romanov Empire to the present.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students should learn the basic facts of Soviet history and become familiar with the federal system of the U.S.S.R. and its dependent states in Eastern Europe. Students should become familiar with some of the diverse national experiences inside the multi-national Soviet system. Students should also demonstrate research skills by writing a lengthy research paper on a self-selected topic.

Students passing this course should be able to:

1. demonstrate that they understand the geographic and demographic facts of the Soviet empire, and particularly the relationship between political geography and ethnic diversity
2. explain important symbols, slogans, concepts, and key figures from the Soviet Union and states within its sphere of influence
3. take effective notes from a spoken presentation
4. construct a clearly-written research paper based on both primary and secondary sources. The test assesses the first three objectives; the various writing assignments assess the fourth.

Teaching format

This course consists of two 50-minute lectures every week and one 50-minute tutorial every week (except the first and last weeks). Attending lectures is encouraged; but attending tutorials is mandatory. Additional information may be announced during lectures.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

1. submit the research essays by the specified dates, subject to provisions for late submission of work
2. attend 7 of the 11 tutorials having completed appropriate preparatory work
3. sit the final test.

A student who has obtained an overall mark of 50% or more but failed to satisfy a mandatory requirement for a course will receive a K grade for that course. Students must be present to sit the final test during the last week of the trimester. Students who are unable to meet any of the mandatory course requirements because of exceptional personal circumstances should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

Workload

In accordance with University Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote 200 hours to the course throughout the trimester, approximately 13 hours a week across the trimester. This total includes the following:

- weekly attendance at lectures, and tutorials; (34 hours)
- completion of all set weekly readings for tutorials; (20 hours)
- research and writing for short essays (30 hours)
- research and writing for research essay (100 hours)
- revision for the final test (16 hours)

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Tutorial Participation	5%	1,2	Weeks 2-11
2	Short essay 1 (1000 words)	10%	1,2,4	12 August (2:00 pm)
3	Short essay 2 (1000 words)	10%	1,2,4	7 October (2:00 pm)
4	Peer review (400 words)	5%	4	21 September (2:00 pm)
5	Research paper (3000 words)	45%	4	25 September (2:00 pm)
6	Final test	25 %	1,2,3	16 October (4:00 pm)

Submission and return of work

Students are required to submit both a paper version and an electronic version of both short essays and the research paper. Submit paper copies at the History office, Old Kirk 405 with a History coversheet, available at the History office or on Blackboard. The electronic version can be submitted via blackboard. Electronic copies will be submitted to Turnitin.com (see www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin)

Essays will be returned in class as soon as practicable. The response sheet will be returned with the research essay.

Extensions

Extensions may be granted in exceptional circumstances. **All extensions require documentation!** If granted an extension, students must agree to a new due date. Contact your course coordinator/tutor as soon as a problem emerges. Extension forms are available from the History Programme office.

Penalties

Students will be penalised for late submission of assignments. A piece of work will be penalised with a deduction of 5% for the first day late, and 2% per day thereafter, up to a maximum of 10 working days. Work that is more than 10 weekdays late can be accepted for mandatory course requirements but may not be marked.

Set texts

A book of readings for HIST 245 will be available from Vic Books. Please see their website: www.vicbooks.co.nz for details on buying Books of Readings. We will advise enrolled students via Blackboard when the Book of Readings is available for purchase.

Materials and equipment and/or additional expenses

Students do not require any additional equipment beyond the book of readings.

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

Student feedback

Previous student feedback on this course was positive. No major changes have been made in response to student comments. Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz