History 424

This course surveys the relationship between the Soviet Union and the rest of the world from 1917 to 1991. We will look at the Bolsheviks and their dream of worldwide socialist revolution, the creation of the Soviet socialist state, the postwar transformation of the USSR into a superpower, and the eventual collapse of the Soviet colossus. We will evaluate the diplomatic relations between the USSR and other states, the connections between Soviet domestic and foreign policies, and the movement of culture, ideas, armies, and institutions across borders.

Format: Lectures and discussion section. Attendance at discussion section is mandatory. Students are expected to show up prepared and ready to participate.

Grading: Course grades determined as follows: discussion section 20%, midterm exam 20%, position paper and debate presentation 20%, short weekly response papers 15%, map quiz 5%, final exam 20%. Students taking the course pass/fail must pass all components of the course. The midterm and final exam will be based on lectures and on readings for section.

Readings: Books listed below are available at the University Book Store. A required course packet is available at Student Print in Memorial Union. All course materials are on reserve at College Library.

Walter LaFeber, *America, Russia, and the Cold War* [purchase used, different editions available]
Oleg Kalugin, *Spymaster: My Thirty-Two Years in Intelligence and Espionage Against the West* (2009)
Vladislav Tamarov, *Afghanistan: A Russian Soldier’s Story* (2001)

Week 1: 1/22, 1/24: Russia and the World
Introduction, World War I

Begin reading:
*Kurban Said, Ali and Nino
"The Man from the East" (Packet)

Week 2: 1/29, 1/31: Revolution and Civil War
The Bolshevik Revolution; International and Local Civil Wars

Background:
Readings for Section:  

Week 3: 2/5, 2/7: The 1920s I  
Communist Internationalism and European Socialism, Border Crossings  
Background:  
Kenez, History of the Soviet Union, chapter 3  

Readings for Section:  
"The Founding of the Communist International" (Packet)  
"Leninist Discipline in the Comintern" (Packet)  
"Manifesto of the German Spartacists" (Packet)  
Maurice Hindus, "Henry Ford Conquers Russia" (Packet)  
Ruth Kennell and Milly Bennett, "American Immigrants in Russia" (Packet)  
"More than 600 Americans Are Now Working for the Soviets" (Packet)  
Selection from Ilya Ehrenburg, Memoirs (Packet)  

Browse Virtual Archive:  
Memoirs from U.S. and British writers about 1920s in Russia (www.marxists.org)  
http://www.marxists.org/history/ussr/archive/index.htm

Week 4: 2/12, 2/14: The 1920s II  
Stalin Revolution I, Revolution in Asia  
Background:  
Kenez, History of the Soviet Union, chapter 4  

Reading for Section:  
Selection from William Henry Chamberlin, Russia's Iron Age (Packet)  
Selection from Mukhamet Shaiakhmetov, Silent Steppe (Packet)  
Selection from Wang Fan-hsi, Memoirs of a Chinese Revolutionary (Packet)  

Browse Website:  
Photographers in Central Asia (Anahita Gallery)  
http://www.photocentralasia.com/soviet.html

Week 5: 2/19, 2/21: The 1930s I  
Stalin Revolution II, Soviet-German Relations (and the League of Nations)  
Background:  
Kenez, History of the Soviet Union, chapter 5  

Reading for Section:  
Selection from Ilya Zbarsky and Samuel Hutchinson, Lenin's Embalmers (Packet)  
Francine Hirsch, "National Types" (Packet)  

Browse Virtual Archive:  
Revelations from the Russian Archives (Library of Congress)
Week 6: 2/26, 2/28: The 1930s II
The Comintern and the Terror, Hitler and Stalin
Reading for Section:
Selection from *Enemies Within the Gates?* (Packet)
Maxim Litvinov, "Speech at the Assembly of the League of Nations" (Packet)
"The Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact" and "The Secret Additional Protocol" (Packet)

Browse Virtual Archive:
Nazi-Soviet Relations, 1931-1941 (Avalon Project)
http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/nazsov/nazsov.htm

Week 7: 3/5, 3/7: War
The Great Patriotic War, From War to Peace
Background:
Kenez, *History of the Soviet Union*, chapter 6
LaFeber, *America, Russia, and the Cold War*, chapter on "Open Doors, Iron Curtains"

Reading for Section:
Selection from Vasily Grossman, *Life and Fate* (Packet)
"Teheran Conference: Roosevelt-Stalin Meeting," 1943 (Packet)
Selection from A. Poltorak, *The Nuremberg Epilogue* (Packet)
Joseph Stalin, "Election Speech of February 9, 1946" (Packet)

Browse Virtual Archive:
Seventeen Moments in Soviet History (NEH)—For 1943
http://www.soviethistory.org

Week 8: 3/12, 3/14: The USSR and the Postwar World
The USSR and the Postwar World, Midterm
Background:
LaFeber, *America, Russia, and the Cold War*, chapter on "Two Declarations of Cold War"

Reading for Section:
"The Novikov Telegram" (Packet)
George F. Kennan, "Telegraphic Message" (Packet)

Browse Virtual Archive:
Cold War Origins (International Cold War History Project)
http://www.wilsoncenter.org/index.cfm?topic_id=1409&fuseaction=va2.browse&item=Cold%20War%20Origins

Week 9: 3/19, 3/21: Postwar Stalinism
Soviet Expansion, The Bomb and Foreign Relations
Background:
Kenez, *History of the Soviet Union*, chapter 7
LaFeber, *America, Russia, and the Cold War*, chapters on "Two Halves of the Same Walnut," "The 'Different World' of NSC-68," and "Korea: The War for Both Asia and Europe"
Reading for Section:
Andrei Zhdanov, "Report on the International Situation to the Cominform" (Packet)
"The Communist Coup in Czechoslovakia" (Packet)
Harry S. Truman, "Atomic Explosion in the U.S.S.R." (Packet)
John D. Hickerson, "Soviet Misinterpretation of U.S. Position" (Packet)
Excerpt from "NSC 68 " (Packet)
Mark O'Neill, "Soviet Involvement in the Korean War: A New View from the Soviet-era Archives" (Packet)
Archival documents on the USSR and the Korean War (Packet)

Browse Website:
Cold War Origins (International Cold War History Project)
http://www.wilsoncenter.org/index.cfm?topic_id=1409&fuseaction=va2.browse&sort=Coverage&item=Korea

Week 10: 3/26, 3/28: Spring Break

Week 11: 4/2, 4/4: Khrushchev
De-Stalinization and Shockwaves, The Space Race
Background:
Kenez, History of the Soviet Union, chapter 8
LaFeber, America, Russia, and the Cold War, chapters on "East and West of Suez" and "New Frontiers and Old Dilemmas"

Reading for Section:
Nikita Khrushchev, "The Crimes of the Stalin Era" (Packet)
Documents on "The 'October Revolution' in Poland" (Packet)
Documents on "The Hungarian Revolution" (Packet)
Mao Tse-Tung, "On the Correct Handling of Contradictions" (Packet)

Browse Virtual Archive:
The 1956 Hungarian Revolution (National Security Archive)
http://www.gwu.edu/%7Ensarchiv/NSAEBB/NSAEBB76/

Week 12: 4/9, 4/11: Cold War Debate

Week 13: 4/16, 4/18: From Khrushchev to Brezhnev
Cuba and Berlin, From Bluster to Stagnation?
Background:
Kenez, History of the Soviet Union, chapter 9
LaFeber, America, Russia, and the Cold War, chapter on "Southeast Asia—And Elsewhere"

Reading for Section:
Selection from Anatoly Dobrynin, In Confidence (Packet)

Browse Virtual Archive:
The Cuban Missile Crisis (Cold War International History Project)
http://www.wilsoncenter.org/index.cfm?topic_id=1409&fuseaction=va2.browse&item=Cuban%20Missile%20Crisis
Week 14: 4/23, 4/25: Brezhnev
Foreign Relations East and West, Espionage in the Nuclear Age
Background:
LaFeber, *America, Russia, and the Cold War*, chapter on "A New Containment"
Reading for Section:
*Oleg Kalugin, Spymaster: My Thirty-Two Years in Intelligence and Espionage Against the West"
"The Brezhnev Doctrine" (Packet)
Browse Website:
Intelligence Operations in the Cold War (Cold War International History Project)
http://www.wilsoncenter.org/index.cfm?topic_id=1409&fuseaction=va2.browse&sort=Collection&item=Intelligence%20Operations%20in%20the%20Cold%20War

Week 15: 4/30, 5/2: From Brezhnev to Gorbachev
"Third World" Politics, "New Thinking?"
Background:
LaFeber, *America, Russia, and the Cold War*, chapter on "From Cold War to Old War"
Reading for Section:
*Vladislav Tamarov, Afghanistan: A Russian Soldier’s Story"
Browse Virtual Archive:
The Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan (Cold War International History Project)
http://www.wilsoncenter.org/index.cfm?topic_id=1409&fuseaction=va2.browse&item=Soviet%20Invasion%20of%20Afghanistan

Week 16: 5/7, 5/9: Gorbachev Era
The Pepsi Generation, 1989
Background:
Kenez, *History of the Soviet Union*, chapters 10, 11
LaFeber, *America, Russia, and the Cold War*, chapter on "A New World Order—Or the Age of Fragmentation?"
Reading for Section:
*Timothy Garton-Ash, The Magic Lantern"
Browse Virtual Archive:
The Revolutions of 1989 (National Security Archive)
http://www.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/news/19991105/index.html
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33. Archival documents on the USSR and the Korean War, from the Cold War International History Project.


38. Anatoly Dobrynin, *In Confidence*: Moscow’s Ambassador to America’s Six Cold War Presidents (Seattle, 1995), pp. 25-48, 51-95, **ADD ADDITIONAL PAGES**