Degree Applicable

Glendale Community College
May 2013

COURSE OUTLINE

History 106
History and Politics of Russia

I. Catalog Statement

HIST 106 is a survey of major political, social, ideological, and economic developments in Russia from the 10th century to the present. Emphasis is on the Romanov Empire, political movements and reforms in the 19th century, revolutions in the early 20th century, the USSR and its collapse, the Russian Federated Republic and its policies toward the former Soviet republics and other regional and international issues.

Total Lecture Units: 3.0
Total Course Units: 3.0

Total Lecture Hours: 48.0
Total Faculty Contact Hours: 48.0

Recommended Preparation: Eligibility for ENGL 101.

II. Course Entry Expectations

Skills Level Ranges: Reading 6, Writing 6, Listening/Speaking 6, Math 2.

Prior to enrolling in the course, the student should be able to:

1. read at the 12th grade level or higher;
2. understand abstract and complex collegiate reading selections;
3. write an organized and grammatically correct essay which focuses on a central idea and employs specific details;
4. complete a research paper, write essay exams, or complete other types of writing assignments;
5. communicate learning, conceptual understanding and critical analysis skills through writing research papers, essay exams, or other types of writing assignments;
6. learn material through class discussion and lecture;
7. add, subtract, multiply, and divide using whole numbers, fractions, and decimals;
8. convert fractions and decimals to percentages.

III. Course Exit Standards

Upon successful completion of the required coursework, the student will be able to:

1. summarize the geographic, economic, religious, national, political and military factors that shaped major developments in Russian history;

2. identify the ideological, political, and military dimensions of revolutionary movements and revolutions;
3. explain the formation and development of the Soviet Union from 1917 to 1991 and the continuities between Russian and Soviet foreign policies;
4. discuss perestroika, glasnost, and national and political forces that led to the collapse of the USSR and emergence of the independent former Soviet republics;
5. discuss Russian policies toward former Soviet republics, the United States, and regional and international issues.

IV. <u>Course Content</u> **Total Faculty Contact Hours = 48 hours**

A. Introduction to the Geographical Features and Peoples of Russia 1 hour
1. Geographic regions and their climates, seas, rivers, mountains, resources
2. The Slavic family of nations and other national groups

B. Kievan Rus, Muscovy, and the Romanov Empire 2 hours
1. Kievan Rus, the impact of the adoption of Orthodox Christianity
2. The Mongol Yoke, Muscovite expansion
3. The Romanov Empire, expansion, reforms of Catherine the Great
4. Peter the Great and his successors, reform and reaction

C. Autocracy, Reforms, and Revolutionary Movements 2 hours
1. Autocracy, liberalism, and the intelligentsia
2. Emergence of political movements
3. Reforms of Alexander II, liberation of the serfs
4. Russian Social Democrat Workers Party and Mensheviks vs. Bolsheviks

D. The Russo-Japanese War and the Revolution of 1905 2 hours
1. Nicholas II and his family and public policies
2. Russo-Japanese War of 1904-05
3. The Revolution of 1905 and proclamation of the constitutional monarchy
4. The politics of the first, second, third, and fourth Dumas

E. World War I and the Revolutions of 1917 3 hours
1. Russia and World War I
2. The revolution of February/March, abdication of Nicholas II
3. Alexander Kerensky and the provisional government
4. Lenin's return to Russia and the revolution of October/November

F. Emergence of Soviet Russia and the Outbreak of Civil War 2 hours
1. Lenin's role in domestic and foreign polices
2. The Treaty of Brest-Litovsk
3. Organization of the Red Army and "Cheka"
4. Civil War, Allied intervention, and reasons for the Bolshevik victory

G. From War Communism to the New Economic Policy 1 hour

1. War Communism and reasons for its failure
2. The Kronstadt revolt
3. Introduction of the new economic policy

H. Early Soviet Foreign Policy and Continuities with Tsarist Foreign Policy 1 hour
1. The Communist International
2. Treaties of Moscow and Kars with Turkey in 1921
3. Treaty of Rappalo with Germany and recognition by Britain and France

I. Formation of the USSR and Lenin's Death 2 hours
1. Federalism vs. centralism
2. Lenin's illness and death and the Stalin-Trotsky conflict
3. Use and suppression of Lenin's last testament and Stalin's ascendance
4. Lenin's legacy in perspective

J. Collectivization, Industrialization, Five-Year Plans, and Persecutions 2 hours
1. The successes of NEP and threat to socialism
2. Debates over the direction of economic development
3. The first five-year plan
4. Collectivization and industrialization
5. The NKVD and the 1930's Stalinist purges

K. New Nationality policies and Cultural Changes 2 hours
1. The making of the "Soviet Nation"
2. Art and literature, socialist realism
3. Religion, education and sciences

L. Developments Leading to World War II 2 hours
1. Stalin and Hitler's rise to power
2. Appeasement at Munich and the NAZI-Soviet Pact
3. Alliances and Stalin's search for security
4. Outbreak of World War II

M. "The Great Patriotic War" 2 hours
1. Merging of Soviet and Western interests
2. Resistance to invasion, wartime diplomacy, the Yalta Conference
3. Germany's capitulation and the Potsdam Conference

N. Aftermath of War II and Stalin's Death 2 hours
1. Economic reforms and fourth five-year plan
2. Start of the Cold War, the Berlin blockade
3. The US policy of containment and the Soviet reaction
4. Soviet policies toward wars in Korea and Vietnam

O. The Khrushchev Years 2 hours
1. Emergence of Khrushchev, de-Stalinization and reform

2. The Berlin crisis, Cuban missile crisis, and other foreign policy issues
3. Reasons for Khrushchev's downfall

P. The Brezhnev Years 3 hours
1. Economic stagnation, the KGB and the dissident movement
2. The Constitution of 1977
3. Détente and other aspects of foreign policy

Q. Andropov, Chernenko, and Gorbachev 3 hours
1. Andropov's brief rule
2. Chernenko's brief rule
3. Gorbachev and the introduction of Perestroika and Glasnost
4. The end of the Cold War

R. The 1991 Coup and the Collapse of the USSR
1. Consequences of Perestroika and Glasnost 4 hours
2. Conservative opposition to Gorbachev's reforms
3. The August 1991 coup attempt and Yeltsin's response
4. Dismantling of the Soviet Union and formation of the C.I.S.

S. The Yeltsin Years and the Rise of the Russian Federated Republic 5 hours
1. Transition from communism to capitalism and totalitarianism to democracy
2. Nagorno-Karabakh, Chechnya, and other ethnic/territorial conflicts
3. Corruption and other economic problems
4. US policies toward the new Russia

T. The Putin and Medvedev Years and Ongoing Developments 5 hours
1. Economic conditions, social and political issues
2. Expansion and restriction of democracy, control of media, civil society
3. Presidential and parliamentary elections
4. Russian relations with the "Near Abroad"
5. Russian foreign policy toward the U.S., Europe, and other regions
6. Ongoing social, economic, and political developments

V. <u>Methods of Instruction</u>

The following methods of instruction may be used in the course:
1. classroom lecture and discussion;
2. audio-visual presentation;
3. student presentations and discussions;
4. on-line communication as a supplement to in-class activity;
5. outside reading of news coverage and viewing television reports.

VI. Out of Class Assignments

The following out of class assignments may be used in the course:
1. essay (e.g. critical analysis of similarities and differences between Tsarist Russia and the Soviet Union, focusing on the socioeconomic, political, and foreign policy continuities).

VII. Methods of Evaluation

The following methods of evaluation may be used in the course:
1. three to four one-hour classroom examinations and a final examination requiring demonstration of course exit standards;
2. peer review or critique of student work (e.g. evaluate another student's written interpretation of federalism vs. centralism);
3. instructor evaluations of student analysis of primary sources (e.g. analysis of primary sources that contribute to the causes of World War I and II);
4. class participation demonstrating course exit standards;
5. instructor evaluation of group tasks to practice course exit standards;
6. written assignments demonstrating the application of concepts, use of sources, and the ability to critically analyze information and apply concepts in a collegiate manner.

VIII. Textbook(s)

Riasanovsky, Nicholas, V. and Mark D Steinberg. *A History of Russia.* New York: Oxford University Press, 2011. Print.
13th Grade Reading Level. ISBN: 978-0-19-534197-3

Ioffe, Gregory. *Global Studies: Russia and the Near Abroad 12th Edition*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2011. Print.
12th Grade Reading Level. ISBN: 978-0-07-340147-8

IX. Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the required coursework in History and Politics of Russia, the student will be able to:
1. provide a factual narration of major events and developments in the history and politics of Russia;
2. critically analyze the impact of various ideologies and political, economic, and social forces that shaped the course of Russian history during the Muscovite, Romanov and Soviet periods as well as the current developments involving the Russian Federation.