



**TROY UNIVERSITY PACIFIC REGION
COURSE SYLLABUS**

**Russia and Eastern Europe in
World Affairs
IR 6642
Term 1, 2012**

Independent Study

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MEETING LOCATION, DATES & TIMES:

This course will be conducted via email as an Independent Study.

CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION:

An examination of Russia and Eastern Europe's politics, legal systems, economics, culture, military power, geography, and their impact on regional relations and linkages to the world system.

TEXTBOOK:

Suny, Ronald. *The Soviet Experiment: Russia, the USSR, and the Successor States*, 2010.

Publisher: Oxford University Press, USA; 2 edition .

ISBN-10: 0195340558

ISBN-13: 978-0195340556

OVERALL OBJECTIVES/ PURPOSE:

The student will understand historical background of Russia and Eastern Europe with an eye to analyzing contemporary issues.

STUDENT OUTCOMES/ COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course the student should be able to: (1) Describe the important transitions and events of the region; (2) Demonstrate knowledge of how this past affects a set of issues (3) Compare and contrast various cases within this regional set.

SCHEDULE of ASSIGNMENTS:

First Essay (3 – 4 pages)

Please analyze the origins of the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia, noting various influences and factions. How did the first few years shape the course of Soviet history?

Unit 1: Russia and Eastern Europe in History

Unit 2: From Lenin to Stalin, Berlin, Hungary

Second Essay (3 – 4 pages)

Please describe the institutions and practices of the Soviet government as it demonstrated durability across these decades, up until the end. What were the factors that led to the system being enduring? And what were the factors that led to a collapse or transition?

Unit 3: From Khrushchev to Breshnev, Czeckoslovakia

Unit 4: Poland, The Fall of the Eastern Bloc

Third Essay (3 – 4 pages)

Please describe the new Russia of the 1990s. What were the opportunities and challenges? What were the major mistakes made by Yeltsin's government? What was also happening in the international arena?

Unit 5: The Yeltsin Era, the Balkans

Unit 6: Chechnya, NATO, the Rise of Putin

Fourth Essay (5 – 7 pages)

Please analyze how Russia is shaping international relations as a power that cooperates with the West economically but poses a challenge to it politically and militarily. Be sure to include a mention of Russia's position on NATO expansion, the missile defense system, and the Middle East.

Unit 7: Russia and E. Europe in the World Economy

Unit 8: Russia and E. Europe in Diplomacy and International Relations

ASSIGNMENT OF GRADES

Evaluation: Grades for the semester will be based on the following criteria:

Presentations (2): 200 points each

Final Essay: 100 points

Final letter grades are then calculated on the following basis:

A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	<60%

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Attendance (or continuous communication) is mandatory. No automatic cuts are authorized. Arrangements for excused absences must be made PRIOR to the absence. By university policy, the TROY's coordinator must be notified of students who miss more than 25% of classes.

INCOMPLETE GRADE POLICY:

A grade of "INC" can be assigned only when the student has a medical condition; a job or military duty schedule conflict; or some significant personal event. If a student requests an "INC", he or she must submit to the instructor a signed Petition for and Work to Remove an Incomplete Grade form indicating the compelling reason for the "INC". The instructor approving the request will document the required work and the deadline for completion. When the student completes the required work, the instructor will submit a Change of Grade form. In cases where a student fails to make up "INC" course work by the end of the next term in which they enroll, the "INC" will automatically be recorded as an "F" grade on the student's record.

MAKE-UP WORK POLICY:

All classes missed must be made up, regardless of whether the absences were excused or unexcused. Make-up assignments will be given by the instructor on an individual basis. A grade of "INC" can be assigned only when the student has a medical condition; a job or military duty schedule conflict; or some significant personal event. If a student requests an "INC", he or she must submit to the instructor a signed *Petition for and Work to Remove an Incomplete Grade* form indicating the compelling reason for the "INC". The instructor approving the request will document the required work and the deadline for completion. When the student completes the required work, the instructor will submit a *Change of Grade* form. In cases where a student fails to make up "INC" course work by the end of the next term in which they enroll, the "INC" will automatically be recorded as an "F" grade on the student's record.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA):

Troy University supports Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, which insure that post-secondary students with disabilities have equal access to all academic programs, physical access to all buildings, facilities and events, and are not discriminated against on the basis of disability. Eligible students, with appropriate documentation, will be provided equal opportunity to demonstrate their academic skills and potential through the provision of academic adaptations and reasonable accommodations. Further information, including appropriate contact information, can be found at the following link: <http://dothan.troy.edu/community/ADA.htm>

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT: By their enrollment, students are responsible for following the "Standards of Conduct" as they apply in the Troy University Pacific Region. Students may be disciplined up to and including suspension and expulsion for the commission of offenses in described in the Graduate Bulletin. As a reminder to graduate students, the "Standards of Conduct" regards dishonesty as an offense, which includes cheating and plagiarism. Students should carefully study the definitions of cheating and plagiarism:

1. Cheating includes:

a) Copying, or relying upon, another student's answers or submitting another student's work as one's own or submitting as new work assignments previously completed for another class, while completing any class assignment, study group assignment, or during in-class or take-home examinations.

b) Providing one's own answers to another student while completing any class assignment, study group assignment (except where approved by the instructor due to the nature of the assignment itself), or during in-class or take-home examinations.

c) Using notes, books, or any other unauthorized aids during an examination; or holding an unauthorized discussion of answers during in-class examinations.

2. Plagiarism is submitting a paper, other required student course requirement in which the language, ideas, or thoughts are identical to published or unpublished material from another source, including material found on the Internet, without correctly giving credit to that source. A good rule of thumb for correctly crediting a source is found in the citation below:

"Quotation marks should be used to indicate the exact words of another. Summarizing a passage or rearranging the order of a sentence and changing some of the words is paraphrasing. Each time a source is paraphrased a credit for the source needs to be included in the text. ... The key element of this principle is that an author does not present the work of another as if it were his or her own work. This can extend to ideas as well as written words."
(*Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 2001, p.349)

While computers and the Internet allow students to cut and paste work from other material, new software is making it easier for universities detect plagiarism. Instructors may screen electronic versions of student assignments using the detection software. To avoid the pitfalls of plagiarism, students are strongly encouraged to review information on it available through Troy University Writing Center resources at <http://troy.troy.edu/writingcenter/faq.html> and at the link to the Purdue University Online Writing Lab.

LIBRARY SUPPORT:

Students can access online resources through the Troy University web site at www.troy.edu or www.library.troy.edu. These resources include a variety of text data bases that give complete articles from many journals, magazines and newspapers. The MSIR Journal List, for instance, has over 90 publications, including Foreign Affairs and World Politics.

Access to all of the data bases is through "remote services," the university's remote patron authentication system, which involves a three-step process (log on, select a service, and select an individual data base). The main full text information services are EBSCOhost, FirstSearch, InfoTrac and ProQuest. Tutorials and overviews are available on the library home page."