

CARLETON UNIVERSITY

Institute of European and Russian Studies

EURR 4203A/5203A

Imperial and Soviet Russia

Department of History

HIST 4603A

Seminar in Russian and East European History

THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTIONS OF 1917

Instructor: R.C. Elwood

Fall 2014

1. Course Objectives

The objective of this seminar is to study the events and personalities of the Russian Revolution of 1917 as well as the background to this decisive moment in Russian history. To provide a common background to 1917, the first six seminar sessions will be devoted to a discussion of the class grievances prevalent in early twentieth-century Russia; the qualities of leadership – conservative, liberal and revolutionary – of the various political forces at play; the Revolution of 1905 and the subsequent attempts at reform by the State Duma; and the salient events of the February and October Revolutions. The last five sessions will be built around student reports on their research into specific events occurring in 1917. It is hoped that students will derive from the seminar a thorough understanding of the revolutionary year and the historiographical debates surrounding these events. Students will get out of the course what they put into it. It will succeed to the extent that its members make a concerted effort to contribute to seminar discussion and are thorough and timely in their research reports.

2. Course Requirements

a. Reading

There is no required reading for the seminar and no books need to be purchased. Specific readings have not been assigned for the various class sessions. It is expected, however, that students will familiarize themselves with the topics to be discussed or reported on by consulting in advance standard books on the Revolution. A good general account is Rex Wade's The Russian Revolution, 1917 (Cambridge, 2005) which students may wish to acquire from the Bookstore. Six important and relevant reference works are listed in the outline which follows under 4 September and can be consulted in the library. Specific scholarly monographs are listed for each of the subsequent six discussion sessions

b) Oral Reports

Each student will be required to present two oral reports to the seminar. The first will be a brief factual report on one of the background issues listed for discussion between 11 September and 16 October. The report should be 10 to 15 minutes in length and designed to familiarize other members of the class with the significance of the individual, event or trend in the revolutionary movement. The report will be given on the date the topic is listed in the syllabus.

The second report will be longer (20 minutes in length), more detailed in nature, and addressed to the topic you have chosen for your major research paper. The instructor will schedule these reports as chronologically appropriate during the seminars between 6 November and 4 December.

Both reports are best given as lectures from notes rather than read verbatim from written texts. The reports need not be submitted in written form.

c) Research Paper

Each student will submit one major research paper on a topic of your own choosing relating to a person or event relevant to the February or October Revolution of 1917. The paper should be about 20 pages in length (6000 words) and should be based on extensive research. It should include footnotes or endnotes (not textnotes) and a bibliography of works consulted. It is due on 8 December. No paper will be accepted after 21 December.

Papers will be graded on the basis of their argumentation, clarity and documentation. It is expected that the research papers of graduate students taking this course as EURL 5203A will reflect their greater experience and training. This may take the form of using some Russian-language materials, basing their research to a greater extent on primary sources, doing more thorough research, presenting longer papers, etc. Graded papers can be collected from the instructor during his office hours in January 2015.

d) Tutorial

Each student should arrange a 10-minute tutorial with the instructor in his office (401 Paterson) sometime between 17 and 24 October. The normal class period on 23 October will be given over to these tutorials. The purpose of these meetings is to discuss the topic you have chosen for your major research paper. You should submit at that time a draft statement (no more than one page) of the topic proposed and a list of at least eight relevant sources. The instructor will arrange a schedule of second oral reports on the basis of these submissions.

e) Class Participation

It is important that students attend the seminar and participate actively in the discussion of reports and topics indicated. Attendance will be taken.

f) Grade

Major research paper	– 50%
-due 8 December	
Two oral reports (10% each)	-- 20%
Tutorial (including statement & bibliography)	--10%
-due before 24 October	
Class attendance and participation	--20%

Students cannot pass the course without submitting an acceptable major research paper. Failure to complete any of the other requirements will result in no credit being given for that segment.

3. Locations

Office – 401 Paterson Hall

Telephone – 520-2600- ext.2817

E-mail – carter_elwood@carleton.ca

Office hours – Friday, 1 :30 – 4 :30

4. Course Outline

4 September – Introduction

Reference Books

Georges Haupt and Jean-Jacques Marie, The Makers of the Russian Revolution

George Jackson (ed.), Dictionary of the Russian Revolution

Harold Shukman (ed.), The Blackwell Encyclopedia of the Russian Revolution

Edward Acton, et al (eds.), Critical Companion to the Russian Revolution, 1914- 1921

Modern Encyclopedia of Russian and Soviet History. 70 vols.

Robert Browder and Alexander Kerensky (eds.), The Russian Provisional Government, 1917: Documents, 3 vols.

Bibliographies

American Bibliography of Slavic and East European Studies, 1957-

European Bibliography of Slavic and East European Studies, 1975-95

Murray Frame, The Russian Revolution, 1905-1025: A Bibliographic Guide to Works in English, 1905-1921

Jon Smele (ed.), The Russian Revolution and Civil War, 1917 – 1921: An Annotated Bibliography

Rochelle Ruthchild, Women in Russia and the Soviet Union: An Annotated Bibliography

11 September – Pre-Revolutionary Class Grievances

Topics

Peasantry

Proletariat

Liberal Intelligentsia

Women

National Minorities (e.g., Ukrainians)

Religious Minorities (e.g., Jews)

Bibliography

Richard Charques, The Twilight of Imperial Russia

Bruce Lincoln, In War's Dark Shadow

Richard Stites, The Women's Liberation Movement, pp. 191-277

David Macey, Government and Peasant in Russia, 1861-1906

Victoria Bonnell, The Roots of Rebellion: Workers Politics and Organization in St. Petersburg and Moscow, 1900-1914

John Keep, The Rise of Social Democracy in Russia

Andreas Kappeler, The Russian Empire: A Multiethnic History

18 September – Qualities of Non-Revolutionary Leadership

Topics

Tsar Nicholas II

Peter Stolypin

Sergei Witte

Paul Miliukov

Alexander Kerensky

Bibliography

Mark Steinberg, The Fall of the Romanovs, pp. 1-115

Thomas Riha, A Russian European: Paul Miliukov in Russia, pp. 163-265

Mehlinger and Thompson, Count Witte and the Tsarist Government in the 1905 Revolution, pp. 29-131, 132-298

Abraham Ascher, Stolypin: The Search for Stability in Late Imperial Russia

Richard Abraham, Alexander Kerensky: The First Love of the Revolution

Dominic Lieven, Nicholas II: The Twilight of an Empire

Sidney Harcave, Count Sergei Witte and the Twilight of Imperial Russia

25 September – Qualities of Revolutionary Leadership

Topics

V.I. Lenin

Leon Trotsky

Victor Chernov

Iulii Martov

J.V. Stalin

Bibliography

Robert Service, Lenin: A Biography, pp. 253-338

Robert McNeal, Stalin: Man and Ruler, pp. 1-84

Dmitri Volkogonov, Trotsky: The Eternal Revolutionary, pp. 1-101

Israel Getzler, Martov: A Political Biography of a Russian Social Democrat

Bertram Wolfe, Three Who Made a Revolution

Oliver Radkey, The Agrarian Foes of Bolshevism

Carter Elwood, The Non-Geometric Lenin: Essays on the Development of the Bolshevik Party, 1910 - 1914

2 October – Revolution and Reform, 1905 -1914

Topics

Revolution of 1905

Strengths and Weaknesses of the State Duma

Stolypin's Agrarian Reforms

July 1914 Insurrection

Bibliography

Abraham Ascher, The Revolution of 1905, 2 vols

Geoffrey Hosking, The Russian Constitutional Experiment: Government and Duma, 1907-1914

Leopold Haimson, "The Problem of Social Stability in Urban Russia, 1905-1917", Slavic Review, December 1964 and March 1965

Robert McKean, St. Petersburg Between the Revolutions: Workers and Revolutionaries, June 1907 – February 1917, pp. 192-317

9 October – The February Revolution

Topics

The War as a Cause of the Revolution

The Events of the February Revolution in Petrograd

The Reaction of the Tsar to the Revolution

The Reaction of the Duma to the Revolution

The Reaction of the Revolutionaries to the Revolution

Bibliography

E.N. Burzhdalov, Russia's Second Revolution, pp. 83-208

Tsuyoshi Hasagawa, The February Revolution, pp. 215-312

George Katkov, Russia 1917: The February Revolution, pp. 335-434

Allan Wildman, The End of the Russian Imperial Army, 2 vols

N.N. Sukhanov, The Russian Revolution 1917, 2 vols., I: 3-160

M.T. Florinsky, The End of the Russian Empire, pp. 54-141

16 October – The October Revolution

Topics

Lenin's April Theses

The July Days

The Kornilov Revolt

The October Revolution from Below

The October Revolution from Above

Bibliography

S.P. Melgunov, The Bolshevik Seizure of Power, pp. 3-94

Robert Daniels, Red October, pp. 81-199

Alexander Rabinowitch, Prelude to Revolution: The Petrograd Bolsheviks and the July 1917 Uprising

Alexander Rabinowitch, The Bolsheviks Come to Power, pp. 191-304

John Keep, The Russian Revolution: A Study in Mass Mobilization, pp. 29-116

J.L. Munck, The Kornilov Revolt: An Examination of the Sources and Research

S.A. Smith, Red Petrograd: Revolution in the Factories, 1917-1918, pp. 54-102, 168-89

John Reed, Ten Days that Shook the World (any edition), pp. 23-317

23 October – Tutorials (also at times to be announced from 17 October to 24 October)

30 October – Study Break

6 November – 4 December – Presentation of Research Papers

8 December – Research Papers Due

REGULATIONS COMMON TO ALL HISTORY COURSES

COPIES OF WRITTEN WORK SUBMITTED

Always retain for yourself a copy of all essays, term papers, written assignments or take-home tests submitted in your courses.

PLAGIARISM

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “*presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.*” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs."

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of "F" for the course.

STATEMENT ON CLASS CONDUCT

The Carleton University Human Rights Policies and Procedures affirm that all members of the University community share a responsibility to:

- promote equity and fairness,
- respect and value diversity,
- prevent discrimination and harassment, and
- preserve the freedom of its members to carry out responsibly their scholarly work without threat of interference.

Carleton University Equity Services states that “every member of the University community has a right to study, work and live in a safe environment free of discrimination or harassment”. [In May of 2001 Carleton University’s Senate and Board of Governors approved the Carleton University Human Rights Policies and Procedures. The establishment of these policies and procedures was the culmination of the efforts of the Presidential Advisory Committee on Human Rights and a Human Rights Implementation Committee.]

GRADING SYSTEM

Letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100 (12) B = 73-76 (8) C - = 60-62 (4)

A = 85-89 (11) B - = 70-72 (7) D+ = 57-59 (3)

A - = 80-84 (10) C+ = 67-69 (6) D = 53-56 (2)

B+ = 77-79 (9) C = 63-66 (5) D - = 50-52 (1)

F Failure. No academic credit

WDN Withdrawn from the course

ABS Absent from the final examination

DEF Official deferral (see "Petitions to Defer")

FND Failure with no deferred exam allowed -- assigned only when the student has failed the course on the basis of inadequate term work as specified in the course outline.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY

The last date to withdraw from Fall term courses is December 8. The last date to withdraw from Fall/Winter and Winter term courses is April 8, 2015.

REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term because of disability, pregnancy or religious obligations. Please review the course outline promptly and write to the instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist.

Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Documented disabilities could include but are not limited to mobility/physical impairments, specific Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/psychological disabilities, sensory disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and chronic medical conditions. Registered PMC students are required to contact the PMC, 613-520-6608, every term to ensure that your Instructor receives your Letter of Accommodation, no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations. If you only require accommodations for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodations to PMC by November 7, 2014 for the fall term and March 6, 2015 for the winter term.

You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at <http://carleton.ca/equity/accommodation>

PETITIONS TO DEFER

Students unable to complete a final term paper or write a final examination because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control or whose performance on an examination has been impaired by such circumstances may apply within five working days to the Registrar's Office for permission to extend a term paper deadline or to write a deferred examination. The request must be fully and specifically supported by a medical certificate or other relevant documentation. Only deferral petitions submitted to the Registrar's Office will be considered.

ADDRESSES

(613-520-2600, phone ext.)

Department of History (2828)

Registrar's Office (3500)

Student Academic Success Centre (7850)

Paul Menton Centre (6608)

Learning Support Services – Study Skills,

Writing Tutorial Service (1125)

400 PA

300 Tory

302 Tory

500 Unicentre

4th fl Library

