Political Science 3209A
Reconstruction and Transformation in Europe and Eurasia
Monday 8:35-11:25
Please confirm location on Carleton Central

Professor: Andrea Chandler
Office: Loeb D694
Phone: 613-520-2600 ext 1418
Hours: Monday and Wednesday, 11:45-1:45
E-mail: Andrea_Chandler@carleton.ca

Course Description:

This course examines selected political problems related to institution-building, ethnicity and identity in post-communist states of Europe and Eurasia, focusing on the successor states of the former Soviet Union. The various post-Soviet countries have taken divergent attitudes towards economic reform and democratization. Since the Soviet Union’s collapse in 1991, regional and ethnic identities continued to evolve, while in some areas, civil conflict has been difficult to resolve. The powerful Russian Federation has assumed an assertive role throughout the region, especially after 2000, yet has also had to compete for influence with Western countries and international institutions. Given the dynamics of change in this part of the world since the end of the Cold War, the region is an excellent laboratory for studying the politics of revolution, secession, regime change, and nationalism. The course will focus on select themes and cases, rather than trying to cover all countries.

This course complements PSCI 3208 (Reform and Political Change in the Russian Federation) and focuses on different issues from the latter. The course is designed to be accessible to students who have not previously studied Russian or post-communist politics. The course will begin with an examination of the basic features of the Soviet federal system, its institutions and its nationality policies. Attention will be paid to the period of Gorbachev’s reforms (1985-91), which inspired a re-evaluation of ethnicity and sovereignty in the Soviet Union. The goals of the course are: 1) to study the politics not just of the Russian Federation, but of other societies and regions within the former Soviet Union, 2) to explore theoretical debates over the politics of state formation, ethnicity and civil society in the contemporary world, 3) to encourage students to participate actively in critical inquiry through structured group work and class discussion, and 4) to develop rigorous analytical research skills by pursuing independent empirical projects.
Textbook

The texts below contains required reading and have been ordered for the university bookstore. Additional required readings (journals and book chapters) have been placed on reserve in McOdrum Library.


Course Requirements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and participation in three designated group work discussions</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposal for final research paper, due October 15, to be submitted online</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CuLearn</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final research paper</td>
<td>30%, due in hard copy on or before December 3, to be handed in directly to the professor, in person.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final examination</td>
<td>35%, to be scheduled during the formal exam period of December 9-21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Class attendance and participation in discussion: **15% (5% for each of three discussions)**. In the course, we will have three structured group work discussions during part of class time: October 1, November 5, and November 26. All students are required to attend, to participate actively in discussions (which may include the preparation of small group presentations), and to prepare for these discussions by reading the assigned reading in advance. Discussion-based work will occur during class time. Attendance will be recorded and will be considered in the calculation of each student’s participation mark. Participation will be evaluated *individually* for each student on the basis of his/her cumulative constructive contributions to focused class discussions. Participation is not defined simply as talking, but also includes listening and contributing to small group discussion. *Late arrivals or early departures from class during the dates specified in this paragraph will result in a reduced mark for attendance and participation. In preparing presentations, students should endeavor to speak to the group rather than to read from a text. In any group presentations, each group will designate one spokesperson. Students who miss an occasional class discussion because of a documented illness or family emergency are encouraged to contact the instructor as soon as possible to discuss the missed work.*
Proposal for final research paper, due on or before October 15, to be submitted online through CuLearn (20%). Please upload your assignment as an attachment using MS Word or pdf only. The outline is a discussion or preliminary research that is already underway, so it should demonstrate an appropriate level of familiarity with the research question and with the source material. The outline should include: a research question or hypothesis, with an analytical question to be explained; an explanation of the parameters of the topic, including the specific focus, time period to be examined and/or case study; a bibliography including at least eight scholarly books and peer-reviewed journal issues relevant to the topic, with one sentence explaining the particular value of each source; a discussion of at least one primary source to be used for the topic; and a focused outline explaining the sequence of the organization of the paper. Suggested length of assignment: 5-7 pages (double-spaced, 12 point font). The professor will post suggested paper topics on CuLearn; students who wish to choose other topics are expected to discuss them personally with the instructor well in advance of the due date.

Final paper, 30%, due December 3, in person, to the professor. The final assignment is a written research paper, 10-15 typed, double-spaced pages long, which must be submitted to the professor in hard copy. This paper is expected to show original analysis, sustaining an argument which will be supported with evidence. The paper should demonstrate careful and critical consideration of a broad range of carefully chosen, quality research sources (including peer-reviewed scholarly publications). The instructor does not consider encyclopedias or general Internet information sources (such as Wikipedia) to be acceptable research sources for university-level research papers. A submitted assignment that simply assembles or reiterates information, or which does not demonstrate sufficiently rigorous research, will not be considered satisfactory. See additional information below (Statement on Written Work).

Final examination: 35%. The examination will be scheduled during the official exam period. Students will be responsible for all material covered in the course, including lectures, readings and discussions.

The final research paper must be handed in to Professor Chandler personally, on or before the deadline. Papers are expected to be submitted on time. Marks will be deducted for lateness. Late penalties will be assessed on the basis of the date that the instructor receives the paper. Exceptions will be considered for medical reasons (with appropriate documentation) or a family emergency. University deadlines for handing in term assignments will apply. Once term assignments are graded, students may collect their completed papers during the professor’s scheduled office hours, or by providing a stamped, self-addressed envelope in which the assignment may be returned by mail.

CONSULTATIONS WITH THE PROFESSOR

The professor holds scheduled office hours that are specifically dedicated to answering questions from students. Students are encouraged to come to these office hours. When students have questions related to the course material, the content of assignments, and research strategies, it is best to discuss those questions in person with the professor. Do not hesitate to ask for help in
finding research sources, or to ask further questions about material covered in course lectures. Students can also contact the professor to make an appointment for a meeting time outside of office hours. Students can also use e-mail to contact the professor for brief exchanges of factual information. The professor normally replies to e-mail messages within two working days. Students are encouraged to check CuLearn regularly for possible announcements.

STATEMENT ON WRITTEN WORK

All written assignments should answer a specific question and make a clear argument, providing facts and evidence to back up statements made. Papers should analyze, rather than describe, the issues and events discussed. All papers should use footnotes or endnotes to acknowledge sources consulted, and provide a complete bibliography. In particular, the final assignment is a research paper and should demonstrate that you have thoroughly read and reflected upon a range of scholarly sources: a minimum of eight published books or articles, bearing in mind that some topics require finding more research sources than other topics. Footnotes should be complete and accurate, inserted into the text of your paper as appropriate whenever you have referred to someone else’s idea, argument, or research. Any time you quote directly from a source, the citation should be indicated in quotation marks and footnoted. Quotations from secondary sources are to be avoided, as are quotations of more than fifty words in length from any one source. *** If you are unsure about how to use footnotes or endnotes, please see the instructor for advice. Students who do not write the final examination, but whose term work is otherwise complete and satisfactory, will receive a grade of ABS.

LATE PAPERS

In fairness to your fellow students, please submit your papers on time so as to facilitate prompt marking. Extensions for written assignments will be considered in the event of family emergencies or for documented medical reasons. Otherwise, marks will be deducted for lateness, and late assignments will not be accepted after December 7 unless the student has been granted a deferral. Please submit papers according to the instructions specified for that assignment.

SCHEDULE OF COURSE LECTURES

1. **Introduction** (September 10)
   Bunce and Wolchik, chapters 1 and 2.

2. **Socialist Institutions and Federal Structures in the Soviet Union** (September 17)
   Toal, chapter 1.

3. **Secession and Regime Failure in the Collapse of the Soviet Union** (September 24)

4. Conflicts and Tensions in the Newly Independent States DISCUSSION (October 1)

Toal, chapter 2.

5. Democratization in Europe and Eurasia, up to 2002: Selected Issues (October 15)

Bunce and Wolchik, chapters 3 and 4.

6. The Colour Revolutions, 1: Causes of Upheavals in Ukraine, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan (October 29)

Bunce and Wolchik, chapters 5 and 6.
Toal, chapters 3-4.

7. The Colour Revolutions, 2: Comparisons and Responses in Belarus, Russia, and Azerbaijan DISCUSSION (November 5)

Bunce and Wolchik, chapter 7.
Toal, chapter 5.

8. Civil Society and Identity (November 12)

9. **Authoritarianism and Populism** (November 19)


Maria Popova, “Why the Orange Revolution was Short and Peaceful and the Euromaidan Long and Violent,” *Problems of Post-Communism*, vol. 61, no. 6, November/December 2014, pp. 64-70.


10. **The Russian-Ukrainian Conflict: Realpolitik or a Struggle over Democracy?: DISCUSSION** (November 26)

Toal, chapters 6-7.


11. **Conflict and Cooperation within the Near Abroad** (December 3)


12. **Global Influences: Relations with the West and International Institutions** (December 7)

Bunce and Wolchik, chapters 8 and 10.

Toal, chapter 8.

Requests for Academic Accommodation
You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation
Please contact your 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. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Religious obligation
Please contact your 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. For more details, visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities
If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made.
carleton.ca/pmc

Survivors of Sexual Violence
As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and is survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support

Accommodation for Student Activities
Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your 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. https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf
For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: students.carleton.ca/course-outline

Plagiarism
The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentional 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 Deans of the Faculty conduct 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 may include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course.

Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).

Submission and Return of Term Work
Papers must be submitted directly to the instructor according to the instructions in the course outline and will not be date-stamped in the departmental office. Late assignments may be submitted to the drop box in the corridor outside B640 Loeb. Assignments will be retrieved every business day at 4 p.m., stamped with that day's date, and then distributed to the instructor. For essays not returned in class please attach a stamped, self-addressed envelope if you wish to have your assignment returned by mail. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

Grading
Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor, subject to the approval of the faculty Dean. Final standing in courses will be shown by alphabetical grades. The system of grades used, with corresponding grade points is:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Letter grade</th>
<th>12-point scale</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Letter grade</th>
<th>12-point scale</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85-89</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>63-66</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-84</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>60-62</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>57-59</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73-76</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>53-56</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-72</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>50-52</td>
<td>D-</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

**Carleton E-mail Accounts**
All email communication to students from the Department of Political Science will be via official Carleton university e-mail accounts and/or cuLearn. As important course and University information is distributed this way, it is the student’s responsibility to monitor their Carleton and cuLearn accounts.

**Carleton Political Science Society**
"The Carleton Political Science Society (CPSS) has made its mission to provide a social environment for politically inclined students and faculty. By hosting social events, including Model Parliament, debates, professional development sessions and more, CPSS aims to involve all political science students at Carleton University. Our mandate is to arrange social and academic activities in order to instill a sense of belonging within the Department and the larger University community. Members can benefit through our networking opportunities, academic engagement initiatives and numerous events which aim to complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, visit us on Facebook [https://www.facebook.com/CarletonPoliticalScienceSociety/](https://www.facebook.com/CarletonPoliticalScienceSociety/) and our website [https://carletonpss.com/](https://carletonpss.com/), or stop by our office in Loeb D688!"

**Official Course Outline**
The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.