PSCI 4601A
Foreign Policies of Soviet Successor States
Mondays 18:05-20:55
Please confirm location on Carleton Central

Instructor: Nick Corbett
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Course Description: In 1991 one country became fifteen. The Soviet successor states have charted their own foreign policy courses since that moment, some in concert with one another, some in contrast to each other. This course examines the many issues facing the Soviet successor states and the theoretical explanations behind their respective foreign policies. While the Russian Federation remains the dominant global player after the Soviet dissolution, we will also study the states of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia.

Readings: All of the readings for this course are available online through WebCT. All readings assigned are required material.

Course Evaluation:
Participation 20%
Presentation 20%
Paper Proposal (due Jan. 26th) 10%
Research Paper (due March 30th) 50%

Course Requirements:
Presentation (20%), due week of presentation.

Students will make presentations in pairs, one pair per week. The purpose of this assignment is to simulate a conference-style format. The presentation will last 20-30 min., including a question-and-answer period from the instructor and the students’ peers. Each pair will be responsible for one post-Soviet state assigned in the first session of the class. The topic, chosen by the students in consultation with the instructor, will cover a matter of foreign policy of that state. The pair will submit one double-spaced, 5-page essay (plus bibliography) the day of the presentation. Both the essay and the presentation will be graded elements of this assignment. The instructor will also consider formal feedback from each group member on the performance of the other group member in the task.
Each student will submit a 1-2 page proposal for a research paper that the student will undertake for the class. A template for the proposal will be distributed in class. Feedback from the instructor on the paper proposal is expected to be incorporated into the final research paper.

Each student will submit a double-spaced, 20-page research essay (plus bibliography). The paper can be about the same post-Soviet state as the student’s presentation, but must be a different issue. The topic will be agreed upon with the instructor through the paper proposal and other consultations.

Participation (20%)
This is a seminar course, so all students are expected to come to class having read the assigned readings and ready to discuss them. Students will not be graded on the quantity of their remarks, but the quality of their insights, analyses, and thought-provoking questions.

Policies:
All requirements of this course must be completed in order to receive a passing grade. Written assignments are to be submitted directly to the instructor, or in accordance with the policies under the section on academic accommodations. No assignments will be accepted electronically. The penalty for lateness is 2% per day. The departmental drop box cut off time is 4pm. Any assignments submitted after 4pm will be date stamped for the following weekday. Medical reasons (with documentation) and family emergencies will, of course, be taken into consideration when assigning late penalties. Electronic communication with the instructor outside of class or office hours may be conducted through WebCT.

It is expected that written work will be done according to the style guidelines for footnotes and bibliographies. Students should acquaint themselves with the policies on plagiarism noted in the academic accommodations section of the syllabus.

As there is no final exam for this class, the final session typically reserved for review will be a proper seminar (April 6), including assigned readings, presentations (if necessary), and discussion.

Weekly Topics:
Week 1, January 5, 2009
- Introductory session. No readings.
  o Overview of the syllabus and the requirements of the course.
  o Discussion about the theoretical framework of the course.
  o Assigning Presentation partners and topics.
Week 2, January 12

- The Cold War Over, Russia Reintroduces Itself:

Week 3, January 19

- Nuclear Issues:

Week 4, January 26 – PAPER PROPOSAL DUE (10%)

- EU Expansion:


**Week 5. February 2, 2009**

- **Security Expansion---NATO, ESDP:**

**Week 6. February 9**

- **Economic Issues:**


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**Week 7**, February 16 – WINTER BREAK, No classes.

**Week 8**, February 23

* Pipeline Politics:

**Week 9**, March 2, 2009

* Role of Culture:

**Week 10, March 9**
- Orange, Rose, and Tulip Revolutions:

**Week 11, March 16**
- New Regional Security Alignments:

**Week 12, March 23**
- Age of Terror:

**Week 13**, March 30 – RESEARCH PAPER DUE (50%)
- The Road to the August War:
  - Monaghan, Andrew. “‘An enemy at the gates’ or ‘from victory to victory’? Russian foreign policy.” *International Affairs*. Vol. 84, No. 4, 2008, pgs. 717-733.

**Week 14**, April 6, 2009 – REVIEW WEEK, no class as there is no exam.

**Exam Period**, April 8-27, 2009 excluding April 11th.
- No exam for this class.