Carleton University
Fall 2019
Department of Political Science

Political Science 3208A
PSCI 3208 Politics in Russia and Ukraine: Power and Contestation
Friday, 8:35-11:25
Please confirm location on Carleton Central

Professor: Andrea Chandler
Office: Loeb D694
Phone: 613-520-2600 ext 1418
Office Hours: Wednesdays, 10:00-11:00 and 2:30-3:00; Thursdays, 11:45-1:45
E-mail: Andrea_Chandler@carleton.ca

Course description:

This course examines the politics of the Russian Federation and Ukraine, including their historical roots in the Soviet Union; the politics of transition in the 1990s; the reorientation of the Russian state under the leadership of Vladimir Putin; and the impact of the Orange Revolution and the Euromaidan in Ukraine on the relationships between the two countries. The course will also compare and contrast some of the domestic political challenges experienced by the two countries, such as electoral divides, corruption, and secessionist movements. Authoritarianism and democracy have been in constant tension in both countries: under Putin's presidency an increasingly rigid regime has taken hold. By contrast Ukraine's politics show more openness, a more pro-Western orientation and more volatility. Scholars have offered various reasons why the two societies have taken different paths. The course will not necessarily cover Russia and Ukraine equally, for a variety of reasons: more scholarly literature and research data are available on Russia; Russia has an especially complicated federal and multiethnic composition, which greatly influences its politics; and Russia pursues a more ambitious (some might say aggressive) foreign policy.

The goals of the course are to provide a survey overview of post-Soviet politics, within a historical and comparative context; to examine critically some of the major theoretical and analytical approaches that scholars have employed to try to explain the peculiarities of political development in this part of the world; to develop skills in research and analytical writing; and to debate the questions that post-Soviet politics raises for our understanding of political change in general. Students are required to attend and participate actively in class discussions, as spoken debate can promote greater understanding of complicated, dynamic political processes. Written assignments are intended to encourage students to read sources critically and to engage in thoughtful, original analysis based on thorough research.

Textbooks: (available for purchase at the Carleton University Bookstore)

There are two textbooks:

Neil Robinson, *Contemporary Russian Politics*. Medford, MA: Polity Press, 2018. Paperback, ISBN 978-0-7456-3137-0

Samuel Charap and Timothy J. Colton. Everyone Loses. The Ukraine Crisis and the Ruinous Contest for Post-Soviet Eurasia. New York, NY: Routledge, 2017. Paperback, ISBN 978-1-138-63308-7

In addition to the textbook, a number of compulsory articles and book chapters are assigned. These readings will be available to registered students through CuLearn (click on "View Course in Ares"). Students are expected to come to class having prepared the readings for that week in advance.

Course Requirements*:*

Attendance and participation in three designated class discussions (see below)	15%
Proposal for final research paper, due October 11, to be submitted online through CuLearn	20%
Final research paper	30%, due in hard copy on or before November 29, to be submitted directly to the professor.
Final examination (to be held during the scheduled examination period in December)	35%

- 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: September 27, November 1, and November 22. 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 completing 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 focussed 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 endeavour 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 see the instructor as soon as possible to discuss the missed work.***

- Proposal for final research paper, due *on or before October 11,* to be submitted online through CuLearn (20%). ***Please submit as an attachment using MS Word or pdf only.*** Students who prefer to submit a hard copy may do so, provided it is

submitted directly to the professor on or before the date due. The proposal 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 focussed explanation of the sequence of the organization of the paper; a discussion of at least one primary source to be used for the topic; and a bibliography including at least eight scholarly books and peer-reviewed journal issues relevant to the topic;. Length of assignment: 5-7 pages (double-spaced, 12 point font, including bibliography). *The proposal 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 professor will post suggested research paper topics on CuLearn; students who choose other topics are expected to discuss them personally with the professor well in advance of the due date. *See additional information below (Statement on Written Work).*

- Final paper, ***30%,*** due November 29, 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 instructor in hard copy. *This paper is expected to show original analysis, sustaining an argument which will be supported with evidence. The final assignment is a research paper and should demonstrate that you have considered a range of scholarly sources: a minimum of eight published books or articles, as appropriate to the research topic. The paper should demonstrate careful and critical consideration of a broad range of carefully chosen, quality research sources (including peer-reviewed scholarly publications). The professor does not consider encyclopedias or general Internet information sources (such as Wikipedia) to be acceptable research sources for university-level research papers. Papers which simply assemble or reiterate information, or which do not demonstrate sufficiently rigourous research, will not be considered satisfactory assignments. See additional information below (Statement on Written Work).*

- Final examination***: 35%.*** The examination will be scheduled during the official exam period (December 9-21). Students will be responsible for all material covered in the course, including lectures, readings and discussions.

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 may 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, endnotes or parenthetical referencing to acknowledge sources consulted, and provide a complete bibliography. 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 cite sources properly, please see the professor for advice.*

LATE PAPERS

Papers are expected to be submitted on time, to facilitate prompt marking for your fellow students. Extensions for written assignments will be considered for family emergencies and for documented medical reasons. Marks will be deducted for lateness, and the university schedule for fall 2019 establishes December 6 as the final deadline for all written assignments. Late penalties will be assessed on the basis of the date that the professor receives the paper. Please submit papers according to the instructions specified for that assignment. Once term assignments are graded, students may collect their completed papers during the instructor's scheduled office hours, or by providing a stamped, self-addressed envelope in which the assignment may be returned by mail.

SCHEDULE OF COURSE TOPICS AND READINGS

Week 1. INTRODUCTION (September 6)

Week 2. THE SOVIET SYSTEM (September 13)
Robinson, chapters 1 and 2.

Week 3. *PERESTROIKA*, 1985-91 (September 20)

Robinson, chapter 3.

R. Judson Mitchell and Randall S. Arrington, "Gorbachev, Ideology and the Fate of Soviet Communism," *Communist and Post-Communist Studies*, vol. 33, no. 4, December 2000, pp. 457-74.

Week 4. THE SOVIET COLLAPSE; CLASS DISCUSSION (September 27)

Stephen F. Cohen, "Was the Soviet System Reformable?" *Slavic Review*, vol. 63, no. 3, fall 2004, 459-88.

Leon Aron, "Everything you Think You Know about the Collapse of the Soviet Union is Wrong," *Foreign Policy*, no. 187, July-August 2011, pp. 64-70.

Roman Solchanyk, "Ukraine, The (Former) Center, Russia, and 'Russia.'" *Studies in Comparative Communism*, vol. 25, no. 1, 1992, pp. 31–45.

Week 5: THE 1990s: POLITICS OF REFORM AND SOVEREIGNTY (October 4)

Charap and Colton, chapter 1.

Robinson, chapter 4, plus pp. 106-118, 128-38, 150-57, 172-80.

Week 6. PUTIN'S ACCESSION TO POWER; THE FORMATION OF HYBRID REGIMES (October 11)

Robinson, chapter 5, and pp. 118-27.

Andrew Wilson, "Ukraine's New Virtual Politics," East European Constitutional Review, 10, 2-3, 2001.

Week 7. REFORMS UNDER PUTIN'S PRESIDENCY I; THE ORANGE REVOLUTION: (October 18).

Robinson, pp. 139-40, 181-96.

Dominique Arel. "Is the Orange Revolution Fading?" *Current History*, vol. 104, no. 684, 2005, pp. 325–330.

Marta Dyczok. "Breaking Through the Information Blockade: Election and Revolution in Ukraine 2004." *Canadian Slavonic Papers = Revue canadienne des slavistes*, vol. 47, no. 3, pp. 241–264.

Week 8. DOMESTIC POLITICS AND FOREIGN POLICY, 1991-2008; CLASS DISCUSSION (November 1)

Mary Elise Sarotte, "Perpetuating U.S. Preeminence: the 1990 Deals to 'Bribe the Soviets Out' and Move NATO in," *International Security*, vol. 35, no. 1, summer 2010, pp. 110-37.

Charap and Colton, chapter 2.

Deborah Welch Larson and Alexei Shevchenko, "Russia Says No: Power, Status and Emotions in Foreign Policy," *Communist and Post-Communist Studies*, vo. 47, no. 3-4, September-December 2014, pp. 269-279.

Week 9. REFORMS UNDER PUTIN'S PRESIDENCY II: UKRAINIAN POLITICS, 2005-13 (November 8)

Robinson, chapters 7 and 10.

Heiko Pleines, "Oligarchs and Politics in Ukraine." *Demokratizatsiya: The Journal of Post-Soviet Democratization*, vol. 24, no. 1, Dec. 2016, pp. 105–127.

Alexander J. Motyl, "Three Years After: Theoretical Reflections on Ukraine's Orange Revolution." *Harvard International Review* vol. 29, no. 4, 2008, pp 16–19.

Week 10. THE EUROMAIDAN AND ITS AFTERMATH. DEMOCRATIC REVERSAL (November 15)

Charap and Colton, chapter 3 and 4.

Joshua Yaffa. "After the revolutions." *The New Yorker*, vol. 92, no. 27, 2016, pp.40-49.

Pål Kolstø, "Crimea vs. Donbas: How Putin won Russian Nationalist Support – and Lost it Again." *Slavic Review*, vol. 75, no. 3, fall 2016, pp. 702-25.

Week 11. CIVIL SOCIETY AND OPPOSITION SINCE 2012; CLASS DISCUSSION (November 22)

Mark R. Beissinger, "'Conventional' and 'Virtual' Civil Societies in Autocratic Regimes," *Comparative Politics*, April 2017, pp. 351-71.

Benjamin Nathans, "Russia: the Joyful New Activism." *New York Review of Books*, August 17, 2017, vol. LXIV, number 13, pp. 51-54.

Tony Wood, "Diary," *London Review of Books*, vol. 41, no. 3, 7 February 2019, 42-3.

Week 12. RUSSIA, UKRAINE AND THE WEST (November 29)

Robinson, chapter 11-12.

Thees Pankow and Robert G. Patman. "Rethinking Russia's Ukraine Involvement 2013-2016: The Domestic Political Imperatives of Putin's Operational Code." *International Politics*, vol. 55, no. 5, Sept. 2018, pp. 537–556.

Sophie Pinkham, "Ukraine's New Leading Man." *New York Review of Books*, vol. LXVI, no. 11, 27 June 2019, pp. 8-10.

Academic Accommodations

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:

Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale	Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale
90-100	A+	12	67-69	C+	6
85-89	A	11	63-66	C	5
80-84	A-	10	60-62	C-	4
77-79	B+	9	57-59	D+	3
73-76	B	8	53-56	D	2
70-72	B-	7	50-52	D-	1

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/ and our website 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.