History HIEU 156 – The Russian Empire and the Soviet Union, 1855-1991

This is a survey course that covers the history of the late Russian Empire and the now completed Soviet period. Its midway point is the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917. There will be an in-class mid-term with the option of replacing it with a 10-15 page research paper and a take-home final. The research paper can be on a topic of the student’s choosing. You must come and discuss the topic and get guidance. A brief bibliography and set of questions must be handed in. Only then will approval be given. This must all be done before the date of the mid-term. No papers will be accepted that have not gone through this process, and no subject changes will be permitted. The work must be yours. Plagiarism is a serious violation.

Books (hopefully available at the bookstore)

N. Riasanovsky – *A History of Russia*, volume 2
Barbara Engel – *Women in Russia*
Steven Smith – *Red Petrograd*
Ronald Suny – *Revenge of the Past*
Richard Stites – *Russian Popular Culture*
R. and Z. Medvedev – *Khrushchev*

There are various editions of Riasanovsky with different chapter numbering. Use any edition.

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Week 3

T – The First Revolution

Th– Stolypin Reform

Week 4

T– The pre-revolution 1907-1914

Th – film “The Fall of St. Petersburg”

http://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=the+end+of+st.+petersburg&sm=3

Week 5

T – 1917

Th - film “The Fall of St. Petersburg”

http://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=the+end+of+st.+petersburg&sm=3

Week 6

T – mid-term

Th- Civil War, NEP and Soviet Popular Culture

Riasanovsky – chs. xxxv-xxxviii

Stites – pp. 37-63

Engel – 148-268

Week 7

T – The Great Turn

Riasanovsky – chs. xxxix-xl

Th- film Ballad of a Soldier

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h0zr877200s&feature=watch-now-button&wide=1

Stites – pp. 64-209

Week 8

T – Great War and Cold War

Start Medvedevs
Week 9

T - Thaw and Change

Th – Stagnation and Change

Week 10

T - Perestroika

Th – Collapse and review

Finish Medvedevs

Riasanovsky - finish