SCHOOL OF DIVINITY, HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY

ACADEMIC SESSION 2018-2019

HI353T: IMPERIAL RUSSIA, 1801-1914

30 CREDITS: 11 WEEKS

PLEASE NOTE CAREFULLY:
The full set of school regulations and procedures is contained in the Undergraduate Student Handbook which is available online at your MyAberdeen Organisation page. Students are expected to familiarise themselves not only with the contents of this leaflet but also with the contents of the Handbook. Therefore, ignorance of the contents of the Handbook will not excuse the breach of any School regulation or procedure. You must familiarise yourself with this important information at the earliest opportunity.

COURSE CO-ORDINATOR
Course coordinator: Professor A. J. Heywood
Office hours: Monday 12:00 – 14:00
Telephone: 01224 272640
Email: t.heywood@abdn.ac.uk

Discipline Administration
Mrs Barbara McGillivray
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TIMETABLE
For time and place of classes, please see MyAberdeen

Students can view their university timetable at http://www.abdn.ac.uk/infohub/study/timetables-550.php

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course will examine key issues and events in Russian history during the period 1801-1914, concentrating particularly on the period from 1856. The following themes will be central:

- Autocracy, opposition and alternatives;
- International affairs, military might and great-power status;
- Social problems and the inter-relation of sections of Russian society;
- Economic problems such as modernisation, industrialisation, finance, communications etc;
- Problems of a vast contiguous Empire, containing many non-Russian groups, religions and cultures, in an age of imperial competition

INTENDED AIMS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES
The aims and learning outcomes of this course are:

- to provide a concise overview of Russian history during the period 1801-1914, concentrating on political, economic, social, military and foreign policy issues;
- to introduce a selection of key debates in the historiography about Late Imperial Russia, particularly in relation to political, economic, social, military and foreign policy issues, and including notions of modernisation;
- to facilitate student-led research into key issues and the debates in the secondary literature which surrounded them.

More generally, this work involves the development and use of skills that are indispensable in many different kinds of work, both within academia and in the world at large. You are expected to develop your IT skills by submitting your essays and presentation notes in word-processed format, and your communication skills by engaging in debate, which involves the presentation and receipt of argument, comment and criticism. Other transferable skills arise from the content of the course.
Accordingly, the course should help you to develop your ability:

- to evaluate evidence, construct arguments, test them against opposing views and to judge the merits of conflicting interpretations;
- to understand the value of cooperative work and the necessity of organising time and work both individually and within a team;
- to make presentations, speak to a group and lead discussions;
- to synthesise complex relations involving cause and effect;
- to deal with problems of significance and relevance;
- to deal with problems of complexity and inter-relation of factors in dynamic situations;
- to write and construct an argument to a deadline and within limits on length of presentation;
- to engage in intellectual debate and the exchange of ideas and to appreciate constructive criticism.

LECTURE/SEMINAR PROGRAMME
This course meets for two hours per week, with lectures in the first 3 weeks and seminars during the rest of the course. The content of the seminars will be finalised through the discussion of the essay topics in teaching week 4. The list below is therefore simply indicative, based on previous experience, and is subject to refinement

**Week 1**  
**Introduction**  
Key themes  
Organisation of seminars  
Guidance for presentations and coursework  
Election of two course representatives  
**Lecture: Russia, 1801-1856**  
- Reform, Reaction and Opposition, 1801-1825  
- ‘Frozen Russia’, 1825-1855  
- Russia as a ‘Great Power’, 1801-1856

**Week 2**  
**Lecture: Russia, 1856-1905**  
- Reform and Opposition, 1855-1881  
- Reaction and Opposition, 1881-1905  
- Social and Economic Development, 1856-1905  
- Diplomacy, War and Empire, 1856-1905

**Week 3**  
**Lecture: Russia, 1905-1914**  
- The 1905 Revolution  
- The Constitutional Experiment, 1905-14  
- The Economy, 1907-1914
- Russia and Europe, 1906-1914
- Social Stability, 1907-1914

Week 4  Essay questions
Week 5  The Great Reforms
Week 6  Socio-Economic Modernisation
Week 7  Imperial Expansion
Week 8  Rebellion: The revolutionary movement
Week 9  Rebellion: The 1905 Revolution
Week 10 Stolypin and the Duma system
Week 11 Essay workshop

READING LIST

Extensive reading is an essential part of any course in History and will deepen your understanding and enjoyment of the period and the discipline of history. The Selected Bibliography provides points of departure for further reading on the topics covered in the seminars. The footnotes and bibliographies of books and articles mentioned are two sources of still further reading; the search-features of the library catalogue, browsing the open shelves, and consulting the course co-ordinator are other ways forward. A major outcome of a university education should be an ability to find information on any topic within your field. You are encouraged to show initiative in developing this ability.

Works of Reference
Invaluable for bibliographic advice, biographies, quick definitions, etc.

Longley, David, The Longman Companion to Imperial Russia, 1689-1917 (Harlow, 2000)
Rhyne, George N., The Modern Encyclopedia of Russian, Soviet and Eurasian History (Gulf Breeze, 1995 -)
Wieczynski, J. L., ed., The Modern Encyclopaedia of Russian and Soviet History (Gulf Breeze, 1976-)
Primary Sources
The critical study of primary source materials is central to the work of the course. Here are some examples of printed collections of documents, memoirs etc which contribute to an overview of the period 1801-1914.

Lieven, Dominic, ed., *British Documents on Foreign Affairs: Reports and Papers from the Confidential Print, Part 1: From the Mid-nineteenth Century to the First World War; Series A, Russia, 1859-1914*, 6 vols ([Frederick], 1983)
Raeff, Marc, ed., *Plans for Political Reform in Imperial Russia, 1730-1905* (Englewood Cliffs, 1969)
Vernadsky, George, ed., *A Source Book for Russian History from Early Times to 1917* (New Haven, 1972), volumes 2 and 3

Also useful are English-language newspapers such as *The Times* and periodicals such as *The Economist* and *Free Russia*.

SECONDARY READING
I suggest that you read two or three of the general histories listed below to get an overview of the period and its dynamics, then deepen your knowledge by selecting items from the additional list.

Examples of general histories and interpretations for late Imperial Russia
R. Charques, *The Twilight of Imperial Russia* (London, 1974)
W. Fuller, *Strategy and Power in Russia, 1600-1914* (New York, 1992)
G. Hosking and R. Service (eds), *Reinterpreting Russia* (London, 1999)


M. Raeff, *Understanding Imperial Russia: State and Society in the Old Regime* (New York, 1984)


I. D. Thatcher (ed.), *Late Imperial Russia: Problems and Prospects* (Manchester, 2005)

P. Waldron, *The End of Imperial Russia, 1855-1917* (Basingstoke, 1997)


**Additional secondary sources – a small selection**


Bassin, Mark et al (eds), *Space, Place, and Power in Modern Russia: Essays in the New Spatial History* (DeKalb, 2010)

Becker, Seymour, *Nobility and Privilege in Late Imperial Russia* (Dekalb, 1985)

Billington, James, *The Icon and the Axe: An Interpretive History of Russian Culture* (New York, 1970)


Clowes, Edith W., Kassow Samuel D. and West, James L., eds., *Between Tsar and People: Educated Society and the Quest for Public Identity in Late Imperial Russia* (Princeton, 1991)

Cracraft, James, *Major Problems in the History of Imperial Russia* (Lexington, Mass, 1994)


Davies, R.W., ed., *From Tsarism to the New Economic Policy: Continuity and Change in the Economy of the USSR* (Basingstoke, 1990)


Dowler, W., *Russia in 1913* (DeKalb, 2010)


Eklof, Ben et al., eds., *Russia’s Great Reforms, 1855–1881* (Bloomington, 1994)

Ely, C., *This Meagre Nature: Landscape and National Identity in Imperial Russia* (DeKalb, 2011)


Ferguson Alan D. and Levin, Alfred, eds., *Essays in Russian History* (Hamden, Conn, 1964)

Fuller, William C., *Strategy and Power in Russia, 1600-1914* (New York, 1992)

Fuller, William C., *Civil-Military Conflict in Imperial Russia, 1881-1914* (Princeton, 1985)

Gatrell, Peter, *Government, Industry and Rearmament in Russia, 1900-1914: The Last Argument of Tsarism* (Cambridge, 1994)


Heywood, A.J., *Engineer of Revolutionary Russia: Iu.V. Lomonosov (1876-1952) and the Railways* (Farnham, 2011)
Katkov, George et al., *Russia Enters the Twentieth Century* (London, 1971)
Keep, John, *Soldiers of the Tsar: Army and Society in Russia, 1462-1874* (London, 1985)
Lieven, Dominic, *Nicholas II, Emperor of all the Russias* (Cambridge, 1994)
Lieven, Dominic, *Russia’s Rulers Under the Old Regime* (New York, 1979)
Lincoln, W. Bruce, *Nicholas I, Emperor and Autocrat of all the Russias* (Bloomington, 1978)
Lincoln, W. Bruce, *The Great Reforms: Autocracy, Bureaucracy and the Politics of Change in Imperial Russia* (DeKalb, 1990)
McCoubrey, H., *Law Reform in Late Imperial Russia: a Legal History with Modern Implications?* (Nottingham, 1994)
McDaniel, Tim, *Autocracy, Capitalism and Revolution in Russia* (Berkeley, 1988)
McKean, Robert B., ‘Constitutional Russia’, *Revolutionary Russia, 9/1* (1996), pp. 33-42
McKean, Robert B., ed., *New Perspectives in Modern Russian History* (London, 1992)
Mendelsohn, Ezra, *Imperial Russia 1700-1917: State, Society, Opposition
(DeKalb, 1988)
Menning, Bruce W., Bayonets Before Bullets: The Imperial Russian Army, 1861-1914 (Bloomington, 1992)
Moon, David, The Abolition of Serfdom in Russia, 1762–1907 (Harlow, 2001)
Mosse, W. E., Alexander II and the Modernization of Russia (London, 1958)
Nove, Alec, An Economic History of the USSR (Harmondsworth, revised edn, 1982) (chap 1)
Offord, Derek, Nineteenth-Century Russia, Opposition to Autocracy (Harlow, 1999)
Orlovsky, D. T., The Limits of Reform, the Ministry of Internal Affairs in Imperial Russia, 1802-1881 (Cambridge, Mass, 1981)
Pallot, J. and Shaw, D. J. B., Landscape and Settlement in Romanov Russia, 1613-1917 (Oxford, 1990)
Pipes, Richard, Russia Under the Old Regime (London, 1974)
Pomer, Philip, The Russian Revolutionary Intelligentsia (Arlington Heights, 1970)
Raeff, Marc, Political Ideas and Institutions in Imperial Russia (Boulder, Colorado, 1994)
Raeff, Marc, Understanding Imperial Russia: State and Society in the Old Regime (New York, 1984)
Ragsdale, Hugh and Ponomarev, V. N., eds., Imperial Russian Foreign Policy (Cambridge, 1994)
Raleigh, Donald, The Emperors and Empresses of Russia: Rediscovering the Romanovs (Armonk, NY, 1996)
Riasanovsky, N. V., Nicholas I and Official Nationality in Russia (Berkeley, 1961)
Riasanovsky, N. V., Russia and the West in the Teachings of the Slavophiles (Gloucester, Mass, 1965)
Robinson, G. T., *Rural Russia Under the Old Regime* (New York, 1932)
Sanborn, J.A., *Drafting the Russian Nation: Military Conscription, Total War, and Mass Politics, 1905-1925* (DeKalb, 2003)
Saunders, David, *Russia in the Age of Reaction and Reform, 1801-1881* (London, 1992)
Siegel, Jennifer, *Endgame: Britain, Russia, and the Final Struggle for Central Asia* (London, 2002)
Starr, S. Frederick, *Decentralization and Self-Government in Russia, 1830-1870* (Princeton, 1972)
Stavrou, T. G., ed., *Russia Under the Last Tsar* (Minneapolis, 1969)
Stockdale, Melissa, *Paul Miliukov and the Quest for a Liberal Russia, 1880-1918* (Ithaca, 1996)
Thatcher, Ian, ed., *Late Imperial Russia: Problems and Prospects* (Manchester, 2005)
Tian-Shanskaia, O. S., *Village Life in Late Tsarist Russia* (Bloomington, 1993)
Vucinich, Wayne, ed., *The Peasant in Nineteenth-Century Russia* (Stanford, 1968)
Wirtschafter, Elise K., *Social Identity in Imperial Russia* (DeKalb, 1997)
Worobec, Christine, *Peasant Russia: Family and Community in the Post-Emancipation Period* (DeKalb, 1995)
Worobec, Christine (ed.), *The Human Tradition in Imperial Russia* (London, 2009)
Yaney, George L., *The Urge to Mobilize: Agrarian Reform in Russia, 1861-1930* (Urbana, 1982)
Zaionchkovsky, P. A., *The Abolition of Serfdom in Russia* (Gulf Breeze, 1978)

**General note about Internet Sources**

There are very many websites concerned with Russian history during the period under investigation. You will have no problems in finding material on the internet, but be very wary of non-academic websites.

Primary sources found on the web should be listed in your bibliography under the heading ‘Primary sources’, while secondary sources should be listed in the ‘Secondary sources’ section.

**ASSESSMENT**

First attempt:

- Annotated Bibliography 1,250 words (20%)
- Primary Source Exercise 1,250 words (20%)
- Essay 3,500 words (60%)

Resit:

- Annotated Bibliography 1,250 words (20%)
- Primary Source Exercise 1,250 words (20%)
- Essay 3,500 words (60%)

To view the CGS Descriptors please go to MyAberdeen - Organisations - Divinity, History, & Philosophy Student Information for Undergraduates. The link to the CGS Descriptors is on the left hand menu.

**PLEASE NOTE:** In order to pass a course on the first attempt, a student must attain a Common Grading Scale (CGS) mark of at least E3 on each element of course assessment. Failure to do so will result in a grade of no greater than CGS E1 for the course as a whole.

If you submit your work on time, you can expect that feedback will normally be provided within three working weeks (excluding vacation periods) of the submission deadline.

**ESSAYS**

The word count (3,500) includes all footnotes, captions and/or appendices but excludes the bibliography.

Your essay’s bibliography (i.e., the list of only those works actually cited in the footnotes) should include at least two primary sources, as well as a substantial
number of secondary sources (aim for at least 15 items), including articles from journals and chapters from edited collections of essays. Make sure that you include all recent relevant publications about your topic. If you wish, you may include a separate list called Works Consulted listing those works you read but did not cite in the footnotes. You must present all references in accordance with the departmental guidelines published in the Assessment section of the course website.

In week 4 we will discuss your proposed essay title. Please prepare for that class by identifying the topic and formulating some possible questions for it. You are invited to contact the course coordinator about topic ideas at any time.

ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY
The word count (1,250) excludes the citation details. Three recent scholarly items (secondary sources – monographs, journal articles and edited-book chapters) are required, including at least one monograph and one journal article/edited-book chapter.

You must specify a topic, which can be the same as the one for your essay. Note the topic on the assignment cover sheet, please. Bear in mind that the selection of items in relation to your stated topic is a marking criterion. Making your selection, focus on recent material only, because this will give you a sense of the current state of understanding about the topic.

Start by providing a brief contextualisation and description of the item, including a brief summary of the overall argument. Then give your critique. Try to show and explain how the item relates to the secondary literature about the topic. Does it support any particular interpretation in the literature? Does it provide a new direction for thinking? What are the strengths and weaknesses of the argument?

You MUST present all citations in accordance with the guidelines published on the course website. You do not need to provide a bibliography of these items at the end, but if you cite any other sources, do list those in a bibliography at the end.

You are welcome to submit a trial annotation – 1 or 2 items – direct to the course coordinator for informal feedback ahead of the deadline. Allow plenty of time for me to be able to look at it. Any items submitted in this way must NOT be included in your formal assessment.

PRIMARY SOURCE EXERCISE
The word count (1,250) excludes the citation details and bibliography.
You are required to analyse one of the following documents (open choice): items 26, 28-30, 32, 34-35, 37, 39-42 in T. Riha (ed.), *Readings in Russian Civilisation, Vol. II: Imperial Russia, 1700–1917*, 2nd edn (Chicago, 1969) (available in both print and electronic forms in the library, but note that the item number may differ from the list below depending on the edition):

26 Belinsky, Letter to Gogol
28 Dobrolyubov, What is Oblomovism?
29 Breshkovskaia, Going to the People
30 Uspenskii, From a Village Diary
32 Aksakov, A Slavophile Statement
34 Pobedonostsev, The Falsehood of Democracy
35 Milyukov, Russian Liberals
37 Witte, An Economic Policy for the Empire
39 Nicholas II, The Speech from the Throne
40 The Government’s Declaration to the First Duma
41 Stolypin, We Need a Great Russia
42 Durnovo, Memorandum to Nicholas II

Start by providing a brief contextualisation and description of the item, then give your critique. Try to show and explain how the source relates to the secondary literature about the topic. Does it support any particular interpretation in the literature?

Present references in accordance with the guidelines published on the course website, and provide a bibliography of any sources cited.

Some printings of this source book give the items in a different order, with different numbers. Please check with the course coordinator if you find a discrepancy.

You are welcome to submit a trial analysis direct to the course coordinator for informal feedback ahead of the deadline. Allow plenty of time for me to be able to look at it. Any item submitted in this way must NOT be selected for your formal assessment.

**LIST OF ESSAY/EXERCISE TOPICS**

You are responsible for choosing a topic for your bibliography and for devising your own essay question. You are required to get your topic and question approved by the course coordinator. Class discussion of the essay titles is scheduled in week 4; please post your preferred topic and a draft question on the course website before that class. Essays submitted on questions not agreed by the co-ordinator may be given a mark of G3 (fail).
Please NOTE:

**THE BIBLIOGRAPHY AND ESSAY MAY BOTH BE ON THE SAME TOPIC**

ASSESSMENT DEADLINES
Annotated Bibliography: Week 6, Thursday (21 Feb), 3pm
Primary Source Exercise: Week 8, Thursday (7 Mar), 3pm
Essay: Week 11, Thursday (28 Mar), 3pm

SUBMISSION ARRANGEMENTS

Submit one paper copy with a completed essay cover sheet to the drop boxes in CB008 in 50-52 College Bounds and one official electronic copy to TurnitinUK via MyAberdeen. Both copies to be submitted by 3.00pm on the due date.

Paper Copy: One paper copy, typed and double spaced, together with an Assessment cover sheet – this should have your ID number clearly written on the cover sheet, with NO name or signature but EVERYTHING ELSE completed, including tutor’s name – and should be delivered to the drop boxes in CB008, 50-52 College Bounds.

Electronic Copy: One copy submitted through Turnitin via MyAberdeen. (for instructions please see http://www.abdn.ac.uk/eLearning/turnitinuk/students/ ) Students are asked to retain the Turnitin receipt so they are able to provide proof of submission at a later date if required.

In advance of uploading, please save the assignment with your student ID number listed in the filename, i.e. 59999999 HIxxxx Essay 1. When asked to enter a title for the assignment, please enter a title identical to the name of your saved assignment, i.e. Hlxxxx Essay 1.

Both copies to be submitted by 3.00pm on the due date.

Please note: Failure to submit both an electronic copy to TurnitinUK, and an identical paper copy, will result in a deduction of marks. Failure to submit to TurnitinUK will result in a zero mark.