

HISTORY 418: IMPERIAL RUSSIA, 1801-1914

1111 Humanities, TR 9:30-10:45

Prof. D. McDonald, 3211K Humanities, 263-1807.

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Office Hours: Wed. 1-2:30; Fri. 1-3:30 OR by appt.

TEXTBOOKS:

N. Riasanovsky, *A History of Russia*, (hardcover or paper, various editions).

T. Riha, T.(ed.), *Readings in Russian Civilization*, vol. II, (pb).

B. Clements, B. Engel, and C. Worobec, *Russia's Women*, (pb.)

B. Dmytryshyn, *Imperial Russia: A Source Book*

COURSE INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS:

History 418 is a lecture course for three, four, or honors credit. It addresses the main themes of Russia's social, intellectual, political, and diplomatic history from the accession of Alexander I in 1801 to the twilight of the imperial order at the beginning of the Great War. Instruction will consist of two components, lectures and section meetings. Lectures will be based on the assigned textbook readings. I assume that students will have read the appropriate texts before coming to lecture. The second part of the course is the weekly section meeting. Attendance at section meetings is *mandatory*. To encourage attendance, preparation, and participation, work in the section meetings will make up 20% of the final grade. In section meetings, students will discuss assigned texts which treat in greater detail problems or events raised in lecture. Needless to say, students will be expected to have read these texts before going to section.

The nature of the written work for this course varies, depending on the number of credits for which the class is being taken. **All students** will write a brief (5-7pp.) **paper** on a topic chosen from an assigned list. Due on **Thursday, March 22**, this paper will account for **15% of the final grade**. **All students** will also write a **take-home midterm** test due on **Tuesday, April 17**; this test will be worth **20%** of the final grade. **All students** will write the **final examination**, scheduled for **Monday, May 14**; the final will make up **20%** of the grade.

Three credit students will also write **another brief (5-7pp.) paper**, following the same procedure as the first. This paper will count for **25%** of the final grade, and is due on **Tuesday, May 8**.

Four credit students will write a second paper that is longer than the first (app. 12-15pp.). This paper will address a topic of the student's own choosing, in consultation with the instructor. The student will also submit a bibliography and outline or thesis statement for this paper before writing. This paper will count for 25% of the final grade and will be submitted on **Tuesday, May 8**.

In addition to the assigned work for four-credit students, honors and graduate students will participate in a weekly discussion section under my direct supervision and will be required to write two book reviews, due by **May 8**. Books for review will be chosen in consultation with the instructor.

FINALLY, all students should make every effort to familiarize themselves thoroughly with definitions of *plagiarism*. University instructors and authorities regard plagiarism as an extremely grave offense. In this class, willful plagiarism will result in severe sanctions. Should

students have any questions about how to acknowledge their sources or to include others' work in their writing without running the risk of plagiarism, they should contact the instructor or the teaching assistant.

COURSE SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS:

Week 1 (Jan. 23): INTRODUCTION—THE MAKING OF THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE.

READINGS: **Class:** Riasanovsky, chapters XXIII, XXIV.

Discussion: Engel in *Russia's Women*

Week 2 (Jan. 30): THE SOCIAL STRUCTURE OF THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE—SOSLOVIA, RELIGION, ETHNOS .

READINGS: **Class:** Dmytryshyn, pp. 113-121, 137-142 [Catherine's *Charter* and materials on schools]. **Discussion:** Riha: Radishchev.

Week 3 (Feb. 6): GREAT EXPECTATIONS--THE REIGN OF ALEXANDER I (1801-1825).

READINGS: **Class:** Rias., XXV; Dmyt., pp. 153-164, 166-172 [Czartoryski and Karamzin on patriotism].

Discussion: As for class and Riha: Karamzin.

Week 4 (Feb. 13): ALEXANDER "THE BLESSED."

READINGS: **Class and discussion:** Dmytryshyn, pp. 175-183, 184-190, 190-194 [Franco-Russian relations, Speranskii's reform project and materials on "Great War of the Fatherland.".]

Week 5 (Feb. 20): "THE APOGEE OF AUTOCRACY"—NICHOLAS I (1825-1855).

READINGS: **Class:** Rias. XXVI; Dmyt., pp. 201-229. [Materials on succession crisis of 1825 and Decembrist rising].

Discussion: As for class and Riha: Decembrists.

Week 6 (Feb. 27): CHALLENGES TO AUTOCRACY.

READINGS: **Class:** Rias. XXVII; Dmyt., pp. 196-200, 234-237, 261-270 [Documents on Poland, Nicholas I's "reactionary and repressive" policies, and Ukraine].

Discussion: Riha: Chaadaev.

Week 7 (Mar. 6): NICHOLAS'S DEFEATS.

READINGS: **Class:** Rias. XXVIII; Dmyt., pp. 286-293 [Materials on Crimean war].

Discussion: Riha: Belinskii, Herzen.

Week 8 (Mar. 13): ALEXANDER II AND THE ERA OF THE GREAT REFORMS, 1855-1881.

READINGS: **Class:** Rias. XXIX; Dmyt., pp. 304-320. [Documents on reforms, Katkov on Poland.]

Discussion: Riha: Aksakov, Dobroliubov.

Week 9 (Mar. 20): THE "FAILURE" OF REFORM.

READINGS: **Class:** Dmyt., pp. 345-354. [Turgenev on "nihilism," revolutionary "catechism."]

Discussion: As for class and Ransel in *Russia's Women*.

*****FIRST PAPERS DUE AT BEGINNING OF CLASS, THURSDAY MARCH 22*****

Week 11 (Mar. 27): RUSSIA AFTER THE REFORMS.

READINGS: **Class:** Dmyt. Pp. 362-381. [San Stefano and pan-Slavism.]

Discussion: Riha: Breshko-Breshkovskaia, Uspenskii.

Week 12 (April 3) **EXTRACURRICULAR LEISURE PURSUITS**

Week 13 (Apr. 10): THE SWAN-SONG OF AUTOCRACY—ALEXANDER III (1881-1894).

READINGS: **Class:** Rias. XXX (1881-1894), XXXII; Dmyt., pp. 355-362 [*Narodnaia volia* documents].

Discussion: Riha: Assassination of Alexander II, Pobedonostsev.

Week 14 (Apr. 17): MODERNITY AND ITS DISCONTENTS: STATE AND SOCIETY IN THE LATE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

READINGS: **Class:** Rias. XXXII, XXXIII.

Discussion: Riha: Witte, Workers; Pallot in *Russia's Women*.

*****MID-TERMS DUE AT BEGINNING OF CLASS, TUESDAY APRIL 17*****

Week 14 (Apr. 24): THE LAST AUTOCRAT—NICHOLAS II (1894-1917).

READINGS: **Class:** Rias. XXX (1894-1905); Riha: Miliukov.

Week 15 (May 1): THE STATE'S SURRENDER AND THE "CONSTITUTIONAL EXPERIMENT" (1900-1906)

READING: **Class:** Rias. XXXI; Dmyt., pp. 409-466. [Materials on 1905, October Manifesto, Fundamental Laws, Duma, Parties, Witte.]

Discussion: Riha: Throne speech and reply, first Duma, Stolypin, Durnovo.

Week 16 (May 8): STOLYPIN AND THE ATTEMPT TO SAVE AUTOCRACY.

READING: **Class:** Dmyt., pp. 468-472, 479-490, 510-519, 522-525. [Foreign relations and World War I—if necessary]

REVIEW IN DISCUSSION SECTIONS

*****SECOND TERM-PAPERS DUE AT BEGINNING OF CLASS MAY 8*****