

Department of Political Science, University of California, Berkeley
 Summer 2016
 Political Science 129B
 Prof. M. Steven Fish
 GSI: Sibbyl Nickerson (snickerson@berkeley.edu)
 MTuW 12-3, 101 Morgan, plus discussion section

RUSSIAN POLITICS

This course presents a broad introduction to contemporary politics and society in Russia. What was Soviet-type socialism and how is its legacy shaping post-Soviet Russia? Where is Russia headed: toward a more open political system, a new form of authoritarianism, reversion to the old system, or something else? The political upheaval and social movements that swept Russia and the other Soviet republics during the Gorbachev period will be explored. We will then examine the Yeltsin and Putin periods and current problems of political change. The topics to be investigated include the transformation of political institutions, dilemmas of movement from a command economy to a market economy, struggles among emerging social interests, public opinion, social integration and disintegration, nationalism, and Russia's role in the world. The course is recommended for juniors and seniors only but is open to all students.

Requirements consist of two exams and attendance at all lectures and discussion sections. Students are expected to do the readings for the week in their entirety by Wednesday's lecture. There will be a short quiz on the readings for the week at the beginning of lecture on Wednesday. Each quiz will be administered only at that time. There will be five quizzes in total; quizzes will be given every week except the final week. The four top quiz grades (and only the four top grades) will count toward the grade. No quizzes may be made up for any reason.

Grades will be determined on the basis of a 100-point scale. The preliminary exam counts for 30 points; the final exam for 40 points; the quizzes for 20 points in total (5 points per quiz); and 10 points will be determined by attendance at and participation in lectures and discussion sections. The final exam will be cumulative in coverage of the course but will emphasize material from the second half of the course.

Use of laptop computers, cell phones, and any other communications or internet devices in lecture is strictly prohibited. Phones and laptops must be placed in backpacks or otherwise out of sight during lecture. Use of such devices will result in a ten-point reduction in the final course grade for each infraction.

Academic integrity is a top priority. Misconduct, including cheating, on an exam or a quiz will trigger assignment of a failing grade for the course. No warnings will be issued. For further information, go to <http://sa.berkeley.edu/conduct>.

Course readings are in the assigned books and the course reader. The pieces that appear in the reader are marked with an asterisk (*); all other readings are in the books. The reader is available at University Copy Service, 2425 Channing Way. Students should acquire the reader and the books for the course. Our books for the course are:

M. Steven Fish, *Democracy from Scratch: Opposition and Regime in the New Russian Revolution*. Princeton University Press, 1995.

Vladimir Gel'man, *Authoritarian Russia: Analyzing Post-Soviet Regime Changes*. University of Pittsburgh Press, 2015.

Mary McAuley, *Soviet Politics, 1917-1991*. Oxford University Press, 1992.

David Satter, *It Was a Long Time Ago, and It Never Happened Anyway: Russia and the Communist Past*. Yale University Press, 2012.

Stephen K. Wegren, ed., *Putin's Russia: Past Imperfect, Future Uncertain*, 6th ed. Rowman & Littlefield, 2016.

Week 1 (week of May 23): What Was the Soviet Union?

McAuley, *Soviet Politics*, pp. 1-88.

Satter, *It Was a Long Time Ago, and It Never Happened Anyway*, chs. 2, 3, 4, & 6.

Fish, *Democracy from Scratch*, ch. 1.

Teresa Rakowska-Harmstone, "Ethnic Autonomy in the Soviet Union," *Society* 12, 2 (January-February 1975), pp. 44-49.*

Week 2 (week of May 30): The Paradoxes of Reform and the Collapse of the USSR

McAuley, *Soviet Politics*, pp. 89-123.

Fish, *Democracy from Scratch*, chs. 2-6.

Week 3 (week of June 6): The Political Regime, Leadership, and the State

Satter, *It Was a Long Time Ago, and It Never Happened Anyway*, chs. 9 & 11.

Gel'man, *Authoritarian Russia* (entire)

Thomas F. Remington, "Parliament and the Dominant Party Regime," ch. 2 in *Putin's Russia*.

Graeme Gill, "The Decline of a Dominant Party and the Destabilization of Electoral Authoritarianism?," *Post-Soviet Affairs* 28, 4 (October-December 2012), pp. 449-71.*

Nikolay Petrov, Maria Lipman, and Henry E. Hale, "Three Dilemmas of Hybrid Regime Governance: Russia from Putin to Putin," *Post-Soviet Affairs* 30, 1 (January 2014), pp. 1-26.*

Week 4 (week of June 13): The Economy: The New Russian Capitalism

Monday, June 13: Preliminary exam (covers material weeks 1-3)

Pekka Sutela, "Economic Policy," ch. 8 in *Putin's Russia*.

Stefan Hedlund, "Rents, Rights, and Service: Boyar Economics and the Putin Transition," *Problems of Post-Communism* 55, 4 (July/August 2008), pp. 29-41.*

Jordan Gans-Morse, "Threats to Property Rights in Russia: From Private Coercion to State Aggression," *Post-Soviet Affairs* 28, 3 (July-September 2012), pp. 263-95.*

Sergei Guriev and Ekaterina Zhuravskaya, "Why Russia Is Not South Korea," *Journal of International Affairs* 63, 2 (Spring/Summer 2010), pp. 125-39.*

Anders Aslund, "Sergey Glazyev and the Revival of Soviet Economics," *Post-Soviet Affairs* 29, 5 (September-October 2013), pp. 375-86.*

Week 5 (week of June 20): Society, Nationalism, and Social Transformation

Satter, *It Was a Long Time Ago, and It Never Happened Anyway*, chs. 5, 7, 8, 10, & 13.

Ellen Carnaghan, "Do Russians Dislike Democracy?," *PS: Political Science and Politics*, January 2007, pp. 61-66.*

Alfred B. Evans Jr., "Civil Society and Social Protest," ch. 5 in *Putin's Russia*.

Maria Lipman, "The Media and Political Developments," ch. 6 in *Putin's Russia*.

Karrie J. Koesel and Valerie J. Bunce, "Putin, Popular Protests, and Political Trajectories in Russia: A Comparative Perspective," *Post-Soviet Affairs* 28, 4 (October-December 2012), pp. 403-23.*

Ghia Nodia, "The Wounds of Lost Empire," *Journal of Democracy* 20, 2 (April 2009), pp. 34-38.*

Ken Jowitt, "Rus United," *Journal of Communist Studies and Transition Politics* 24, 4 (December 2008), pp. 480-511.*

Week 6 (week of June 27): Russia and the World; Reflections and Prospects

Andrei P. Tsygankov, "Foreign Policy and Relations with the United States," ch. 11 in *Putin's Russia*.

Jeffrey Mankoff, "Relations with the European Union," ch. 12 in *Putin's Russia*.

Jeffrey Mankoff, "Generational Change and the Future of U.S.-Russian Relations," *Journal of International Affairs* 63, 2 (Spring/Summer 2010) (online version).*

Karen Dawisha, "Is Russia's Foreign Policy That of a Corporatist-Kleptocratic Regime?," *Post-Soviet Affairs* 27, 4 (October-December 2011), pp. 331-65.*

Wednesday, June 29: Final exam (covers entire course, with emphasis on material from weeks 4-6)