

HIS 3040: RUSSIAN HISTORY TO 1900 SYLLABUS--FALL 2020

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Hours: Every Friday during our class time or by appointment

Course Description

This is part one of a two semester survey of Russian history from the ninth century to the present. In this semester we will emphasize the early history of Russia and the process by which it became a great state, with an eye to understanding the interaction of different nationalities and cultures in the formation of the Russian empire. While this course attempts to deal with most of the “big” events in Russian history down to 1900, it makes no claims to being comprehensive. Instead, I plan to emphasize the different aspects of Russian history that interest me: the role of religion, imperial expansion, political and social reforms, terrorism, vodka, and war.

Course Outcomes

Russia is huge, and so is its history. Therefore, as noted, we cannot hope to adequately cover every possible subject during one semester. My goal is to introduce you to some of the persistent big questions/issues in Russian history (most of which I cannot answer). I hope that by exploring these problems you will continue to develop your own analytical skills as they relate to historical issues. You will also gain experience reading carefully and reflecting on the various types of primary source materials used by historians to reconstruct the past. Finally, you should gain a better understanding of some of the current problems that Russia now faces (for example, the persistent economic, ethnic, and leadership difficulties) by looking at the origins of some of these issues.

Texts

The following required texts are available for purchase in the bookstore:

Moss, Walter G. *A History of Russia. Volume I: To 1917*. Second Edition. London: Anthem Press, 2002.

Pushkin, Alexander. *The Queen of Spades and Other Stories*. Translated by Alan Myers. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1997.

Tolstoy, Leo. *Hadji Murad*. Translated by Aylmer Maude. New York: Modern Library, 2003.

Turgenev, Ivan. *Fathers and Sons*. New York: Signet Classics, 2005.

Assignments and Expectations

1. Regular class “attendance” and active participation is essential for your success in this course. You should complete the reading assignments as indicated on Canvas before class.
2. Numerous quizzes over textbook readings as well as short “thinking pieces” will be given throughout the semester.
3. A mid-term and a final examination will be given. Specific format will be determined by Covid-19 restrictions.
4. Each student will produce a 7-8 page historiographical essay derived from a combination of several scholarly articles on a topic that interests them in Russian history. This exercise will both allow you to delve deeper into a particular theme of Russian history and to further analyze how historians come to their conclusions. The reading list will be selected by you in consultation with your professor within the first three weeks of the semester. Final essay will be due during finals week.
5. At several points during the semester students will participate in the online discussion board. These will be based on your readings of Russian literature as well as some other sources.
6. Your grade will be calculated approximately as follows:

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|-------------------------|-----|
| Participation | 10% |
| Quizzes | 10% |
| Discussions | 20% |
| Mid-term | 25% |
| Final | 25% |
| Historiographical Essay | 10% |

ASSIGNMENTS AT-A-GLANCE

Note: Given the hybrid and online modalities being used in the 2020-2021 academic year, the content of the course schedule and assignments will be posted in Canvas.

Now the Legal Stuff:

PLNU Mission **To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send**

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

Department of History and Political Science Mission:

As followers of Christ, the Department of History and Political Science promotes wisdom and scholarship about historical contexts and political systems, so that graduates can become local and global leaders in the service of Christ and humanity.

PLNU COPYRIGHT POLICY

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

While all students are expected to meet the minimum standards for completion of this course as established by the instructor, students with disabilities may require academic adjustments, modifications or auxiliary aids/services. At Point Loma Nazarene University (PLNU), these students are requested to register with the Disability Resource Center (DRC), located in the Bond Academic Center. (DRC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2486). The DRC's policies and procedures for assisting such students in the development of an appropriate academic adjustment plan (AP) allows PLNU to comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Section 504 (a) prohibits discrimination against students with special needs and guarantees all qualified students equal access to and benefits of PLNU programs and activities. After the student files the required documentation, the DRC, in conjunction with the student, will develop an AP to meet that student's specific learning needs. The DRC will thereafter email the student's AP to all faculty who teach courses in which the student is enrolled each semester. The AP must be implemented in all such courses.

If students do not wish to avail themselves of some or all of the elements of their AP in a particular course, it is the responsibility of those students to notify their professor in that course. PLNU highly recommends that DRC students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester about the applicability of their AP in that particular course and/or if they do not desire to take advantage of some or all of the elements of their AP in that course.

PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY

Regular and punctual attendance at all **synchronous** class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions (virtual or face-to-face), the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation. In some courses, a portion of the credit hour content will be delivered **asynchronously** and attendance will be determined by submitting the assignments by the posted due dates. See [Academic Policies](#) in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog. If absences exceed these limits but are due to university excused health issues, an exception will be granted.

Asynchronous Attendance/Participation Definition

A day of attendance in asynchronous content is determined as contributing a substantive note, assignment, discussion, or submission by the posted due date. Failure to meet these standards will result in an absence for that day. Instructors will determine how many asynchronous attendance days are required each week.

COURSE CREDIT HOUR INFORMATION

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a 4 unit class delivered over 15 weeks. It is anticipated that students will spend a minimum of 37.5 participation hours per credit hour on their coursework. For this course, students will spend an estimated 150 total hours meeting the course learning outcomes. The time estimations are provided in the Canvas modules.

STATE AUTHORIZATION⊗

State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, Point Loma Nazarene University is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the program and/or course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student's responsibility to notify the institution of any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the map on [State Authorization](#) to view which states allow online (distance education) outside of California.

PLNU ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY⊗

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using the procedure in the university Catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

USE OF TECHNOLOGY⊗

In order to be successful in the online environment, you'll need to meet the minimum technology and system requirements; please refer to the [Technology and System Requirements](#) information. Additionally, students are required to have headphone speakers compatible with their computer available to use. If a student is in need of technological resources please contact student-tech-request@pointloma.edu.

Problems with technology do not relieve you of the responsibility of participating, turning in your assignments, or completing your class work