

**University of Arkansas Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

HIST 35133 Russia Since 1855

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory Hours: 0

Prerequisite: ENGL 10203 Composition II or ENGL 14343 Honors Composition and
HIST 11103 Civilizations of the World to 1500 or HIST 11203 Civilizations of
the World since 1500

Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

The study of Russia from Alexander II through the rise and eventual collapse of the Soviet Union.

B. Additional Information

This course represents an effort by the History Department to broaden the number of offerings in European History and is especially significant in light of the ongoing intensity of U.S./Russian foreign relations in the 21st century.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify the major tsarist reforms and reactions of the late 19th century.
2. Identify the key political and cultural figures in the development of Russia at the beginning of the 20th century.
3. Describe the revolutionary movements in Russia beginning in 1905.
4. Describe and analyze the important differences between Russia and other European powers, from World War I to World War II.
5. Evaluate the development of political institutions, economic philosophy, and communist society in Russia during the postwar period.

6. Interpret the reasons why Russian communism failed and how it left an impact on the world today.

B. University Learning Outcomes

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Global and Cultural Perspectives

By exploring social, cultural, political, and economic factors, students will be able to demonstrate understanding of the interaction between the United States and other nations.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will use a formal documentation style for written presentation of research projects. Students will discuss particular aspects of Russian History in their writing.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. The Imperial Age of tsarist Russia.
- B. Major 19th century reforms.
- C. Early 20th century reaction and reform.
- D. Entry into World War I and the consequences.
- E. The rise of Lenin and the Communist Revolution.
- F. Stalin's rise and oppressive regime.
- G. Background and causes of World War II.
- H. The course of World War II.
- I. The advent of the Cold War.
- J. Restructuring postwar Russia.
- K. Views of western opposition to communism.
- L. The Warsaw Pact.
- M. The Cold War with the United States.
- N. Political realignment and détente.
- O. The end of the Cold War and collapse of the Soviet Union.