

Department of Political Science
University of Colorado
Ketchum Hall

PSCI 3022: Russian Politics
Professor Sokhey
Spring 2016, MWF, 12-12:50pm, Stadium 140

Office: Ketchum Hall 133 (located between Norlin Library and Atlas)
E-mail: sokheys@colorado.edu
Office hours: Mondays, 1:30-3pm & Wednesdays, 3-4:30pm & by appointment*

* I am happy to arrange meetings outside of my scheduled office hours as the time above are not likely to accommodate all students. You are always free to stop by my office outside of these hours, or to arrange another specific time to meet.

I cannot forecast to you the action of Russia. It is a riddle, wrapped in a mystery, inside an enigma.
Winston Churchill, October 1939

In fact, although Russia's transition has been painful in many ways, and its economic and political systems remain far from perfect, the country has made remarkable economic and social progress.

Russia's remaining defects are typical of countries at its level of economic development...Russia is quite normal.
Andrei Shleifer and Daniel Treisman, 2005 (*Journal of Economic Perspectives* 19(1), p. 152)

Course Overview

Recent years have been an eventful and alarming time to follow Russian politics. Russia's relations with European countries and the United States have been deteriorating amidst serious disagreements about how to intervene in Syria and Russia's annexation of Crimea in eastern Ukraine in 2014. The Russian economy has suffered from sanctions imposed on Russia by Western countries in 2014 and declining oil prices. In February 2015, a long-standing opposition leader, Boris Nemtsov, was murdered near the Kremlin. In November 2015, a Russian plane was shot down over Turkish airspace heightening Russia's tensions with Western countries. And a former National Security Agency system administrator, Edward Snowden, who leaked thousands of pages of classified NSA documents was recently granted asylum by Russia and currently lives and works in Moscow.

Now is an increasingly important time to better understand Russian politics. We will explore how the political developments in Russia can be explained by better understanding the political, social, and economic forces at play in the country so that Russia is—hopefully—less puzzling by the end of the semester.

This course has two primary goals: 1) to provide students with greater knowledge of political developments in Russia and other post-communist countries, and 2) to provide students with a more analytical approach to studying important questions in the social sciences. Given these goals, diligent reading and regular attendance are essential to be successful in this course. You should complete the readings before each class and be prepared to discuss your thoughts about them. I see this course as a joint endeavor to better understand the politics of a particular region of the world and, in doing so, to grapple with enduring questions in the social sciences.

Requirements

Your course grade will be based on the following criteria:

2 Midterm Exams	60% (30% each)
Participation/Reading Quizzes	25%
Final Exam	10%
Geography Quiz	5%
Optional Research Paper	worth 20% and each midterm will be worth 20%
Extra Credit	See more information below

Current Affairs: Read the News!

Current affairs will be incorporated into class and will be covered on reading quizzes and exams. You should regularly read Russian political news from two sources:

- You should read the “Europe” web page of the *BBC* for news on Russia which can be found at: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world/europe/>. Scan the *BBC* headlines for news on Russia and read any relevant articles. You can also search “Russia” from the *BBC* web page to find the most relevant news. There are typically 1-2 articles on Russia a week.
- For one source from the Russian media, you should regularly read *Russia Today* at www.rt.com/politics. This is a Russian-owned news sources which provides news in English. In particular, you should note how the perspective is the same or different for reporting on the same events when reading the *BBC* versus *Russia Today*. It is also interesting to take a look at US news reported in *Russia Today* at www.rt.com/usa.

Optional news source: For more in-depth coverage and an additional source of the perspective given in the Russian media, you may also sign up for free daily news from Russian and international news sources from “Johnson’s Russia List” at russialist.org. You can also just check this website instead of receiving the stories by e-mail. Johnson’s Russia List includes articles from major news sources around the world and Russian newspapers. Russian-language articles have been translated into English which is a great advantage of this free service.

Participation/Reading Quizzes

Half of your participation grade will be based on an assessment of your regular participation in class discussions. This part of the participation grade is intended as a holistic assessment of your participation throughout the course. There is no formal attendance requirement; however, if you are not in class, you obviously cannot participate.

The other half of your participation grade will be based on reading quizzes. There will be at least 10 reading quizzes over the course of the semester (meaning a quiz most weeks in which there is no exam). I reserve the right to have a reading quiz at any time, but regular attendance will mean you have a good idea of when to expect a reading quiz.

Optional Research Paper

You have the option to submit an 8-10 page research paper. If you are interested in this option, come talk to me and I will provide you with more detailed information. If you choose to write a research paper, your research paper will be worth 20% of your final grade and each midterm will be worth 20% of your final grade. You must submit a paper copy in class and upload an electronic version to D2L to be used with anti-plagiarism software. You should keep in mind that **the penalty for plagiarism in this course is failing the course. Don't plagiarize.**

Exams

There will be 2 midterm exams and 1 final exam. The two midterm exams will consist of multiple choice, identification, and short answer questions. I will provide more information in class on what you should expect on the exams. The midterm exams are not cumulative. On the final exam, you will be asked to answer 1 long essay question. This question will focus on the big questions we have focused on from week 12 onwards, but will also ask you to draw on information from the first part of the course.

Geography Quiz

There will be a geography quiz at the end of week 2 which tests your knowledge of post-Soviet countries and their capitals. Be sure you know the current capitals of these countries as some capitals have changed in the post-communist period.

Extra Credit

There is one opportunity for extra credit in this course. On the course schedule below, you will notice that there are occasionally recommended readings. These readings are not mandatory, but are interesting additional sources which are available if you are interested and may be helpful for your course paper. If you are especially interested in a topic on the syllabus for which there are not recommended readings, please let me know and I may be able to recommend readings for extra credit. Some optional extra credit readings will be available on D2L.

You should complete a recommended reading and write a two-page summary which: 1) *briefly* summarizes the content of the reading, and 2) gives your reaction & thoughts about the reading. Your response paper should relate to what we are covering in the course. You may complete 2 recommended readings for extra credit. Each recommended reading response you complete is worth 2 points on your final grade. You may only receive 1 extra credit point if the response paper does not summarize the reading correctly or does not give your reaction to the reading. To receive extra credit, you must submit an extra credit response paper by the final day of class.

Required Books

Much of the required reading will be available electronically on the D2L website for our course.

The required books for this course are the following:

- 1) Thomas Remington, *Politics in Russia*, 7th edition, Pearson/Longman or Routledge, ISBN: 978-0-205-00579-6
- 2) Timothy Frye, *Building States and Markets after Communism: The Perils of Polarized Democracy*, Cambridge University Press, 2010, ISBN: 978-0-521-73462-2.

Strongly recommended, but not required (should be cheap to purchase online):

3) Mary McAuley, *Soviet Politics. 1917-1991*, 1991, ISBN: 978-0-19-878067

Note about cost & buying books

The Remington book is most important and you need it beginning in week 1. Used copies of Remington are fine, but make sure you get the 7th edition published by Pearson/Longman or Routledge. Amazon also has rental options for the Remington book. New paperback copies of the Frye book should be about \$20 and used copies should be available for a cheaper price. The McAuley book is a short paperback and there should be affordable copies available online.

Copies of the Remington, Frye, and McAuley books are also on reserve at Norlin Library and can be checked out at the main circulation desk.

Contacting Instructor

I am available during my regular office hours. I am happy to make arrangements to meet with you at a time that is more convenient for your schedule. You are also welcome to stop by at other times as I am typically in my office during the day.

A note about e-mail

E-mail is the quickest and easiest way to contact me outside of class and I always make an effort to respond promptly. Although e-mail is an easy and convenient form of correspondence, you should think of e-mails to any of your instructors as professional correspondence. This means that your message should adhere to norms of academic writing including the use of proper punctuation. You should also avoid slang and excessive use of abbreviations. The better I can understand your e-mail, the better I am able to help you in a constructive manner. Some questions are best answered in class (because many students will have the same question) or in person during office hours (because they require some explanation). In these cases, I may wait to address your question in class or indicate that we should arrange a time to talk.

Disabilities

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to your professor a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner (for exam accommodations provide your letter at least one week prior to the exam) so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact Disability Services at [303-492-8671](tel:303-492-8671) or by e-mail at dsinfo@colorado.edu. If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see [Temporary Injuries guidelines](http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices/students/temporary-medical-conditions) (<http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices/students/temporary-medical-conditions>) under the Quick Links at the [Disability Services website](http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices) (<http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices>) and discuss your needs with me.

Religious Observance

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. In this class, requests for special accommodations need to be presented in a timely manner meaning at least one week prior to scheduled exams/assignments. Although I will always try to accommodate requests, I reserve the right to deny requests for accommodations that are requested less than a week before the assignment or exam, or which are made after an assignment or exam.

Classroom Behavior

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, color, culture, religion, creed, politics, veteran's status, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity and gender expression, age, disability, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. For more information, see the [policies on classroom behavior](http://www.colorado.edu/policies/student-classroom-and-course-related-behavior) (<http://www.colorado.edu/policies/student-classroom-and-course-related-behavior>) and the student code (http://www.colorado.edu/osc/sites/default/files/attached-files/studentconductcode_15-16.pdf).

Discrimination and Harassment

The University of Colorado Boulder (CU-Boulder) is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working, and living environment. CU-Boulder will not tolerate acts of sexual misconduct, discrimination, harassment or related retaliation against or by any employee or student. CU's Sexual Misconduct Policy prohibits sexual assault, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, intimate partner abuse (dating or domestic violence), stalking or related retaliation. CU-Boulder's Discrimination and Harassment Policy prohibits discrimination, harassment or related retaliation based on race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. Individuals who believe they have been subject to misconduct under either policy should contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) at [303-492-2127](tel:303-492-2127). Information about the OIEC, the above referenced policies, and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding sexual misconduct, discrimination, harassment or related retaliation can be found at the [OIEC website](http://www.colorado.edu/institutionalequity) (<http://www.colorado.edu/institutionalequity>).

Academic Honesty & Student Conduct

All students enrolled in a University of Colorado Boulder course are responsible for knowing and adhering to [the academic integrity policy](http://www.colorado.edu/policies/academic-integrity-policy) (<http://www.colorado.edu/policies/academic-integrity-policy>) of the institution. Violations of the policy may include: plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, lying, bribery, threat, unauthorized access, clicker fraud, resubmission, and aiding academic dishonesty. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu; [303-735-2273](tel:303-735-2273)). Students who are found responsible of violating the academic integrity policy will be subject to nonacademic sanctions from the Honor Code Council as well as academic sanctions from the faculty member. Additional information regarding the academic integrity policy can be found at <http://honorcode.colorado.edu>.

All of the work you do in this course is expected to be your own and should not be work you have submitted in any other course. No cheating or plagiarism (using someone else's words or ideas without proper attribution) will be tolerated. Any cases of cheating or plagiarism will be handled according to university policy and reported to the Committee on Academic Misconduct. **If I find that you have plagiarized, you will fail the course.** Plagiarism does not only include lifting text verbatim from another source and using it as your own, but includes paraphrasing a work and not properly citing it in your paper (i.e., using an idea or argument without proper attribution).

When considering whether or not to plagiarize, consider whether you are willing to fail the course and possibly face other university sanctions for doing so. If you are having difficulty completing course assignments, consider alternatives to cheating including contacting me (or your other instructors) for help. The consequences of turning in a poorly done assignment, or not turning in an assignment at all, are much less severe than plagiarizing.

Extensions & Make-ups

As a general rule, I will not grant any extensions or make-ups. All deadlines have been clearly marked on the course schedule and you should make note of them. In case of extreme emergency (such as serious illness), extensions and make-ups must be discussed with the instructor individually and will be arranged on a case-by-case basis contingent on proper documentation of any incident preventing the student from meeting the deadline.

***IMPORTANT NOTE: Assignments should be submitted in class, not via e-mail or left in my mailbox in the political science department. If extenuating circumstances require you to submit your assignment by e-mail or by leaving it in my mailbox, it is your responsibility to make sure I get it. You should be sure to get confirmation that I have received your assignment in this case.

Grading

I will use the following scale in assessing grades:

A	94+	C+	77-79	F	59 and below
A-	90-93	C	74-76		
B+	87-89	C-	70-73		
B	84-86	D+	67-69		
B-	80-83	D-	60-66		

Course Schedule

Note: Readings that are not available from the required books will be posted on the D2L website for the course and will be indicated below with “D2L”. Please let me know prior to class if you have difficulty accessing any of the readings. Recommended readings can be completed for extra credit (see details above under “Extra Credit”).

Week 1	Mon, Jan. 11	Introduction and Overview of the Course <i>First, we begin the course by discussing the state of Russian politics today. We then look back at Russia from 1989 to the present in which we follow a (roughly) chronological coverage of Russian politics. Finally, after spring break, we will take a thematic approach in examining important social, economic, and political issues.</i>	
	Wed, Jan. 13	<i>What are the major issues in Russian politics today? What is the state of Russia's relations with the United States?</i> 1) Carl Schreck, “2015: The Year Putin Bounced Back,” RFE/RL, December 29, 2015 2) Michael McFaul, “A Tragic New Era,” <i>Hoover Digest</i> , July 9, 2014 (D2L) 2) Read <i>Russia Today</i> for a Russian perspective on current events and the BBC news website for a Western perspective.	
	Fri, Jan. 15	Remington, Chapter 1, “State and Regime in Russia,” pp. 1-27.	
Week 2	Mon, Jan. 18	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day No Class (campus closed)	
	Wed, Jan. 20	How Did we Get Here? A Very Brief Historical Background on the Soviet Union <i>Why was a system of terror part of Communism? What is a Communist economy & how is it different from a market-based economy?</i> 1) Mary McAuley, <i>Soviet Politics, 1917-1991</i> , Introduction, pp. 1-11 (D2L) 2) Mary McAuley, <i>Soviet Politics, 1917-1991</i> , Chapter 4: Terror, pp. 50-61 (D2L) <u>Recommended background reading on the Communist era:</u> * Richard Ericson, “The Classical Soviet-type Economy,” <i>Journal of Economic Perspectives</i> , 1991 (D2L) * Janos Kornai, <i>Economics of Shortage</i> , see a short biography of Kornai at: http://www.economics.harvard.edu/faculty/kornai/cv/bio.pdf * Maria Krenz, <i>Made in Hungary: A Life Forged by History</i> , Donner Publishing, 2009. (Ms. Krenz is a CU alum and was born and lived in Hungary during the Holocaust and under Communism until she left in 1957. This book gives an excellent personal account of life under Communism.) * Slavenka Drakulic, <i>How we Survived Communism & Even Laughed</i> * Alexander Solzhenitsyn, <i>The Gulag Archipelago</i>	

	Fri, Jan. 22	First Russian Republic (1991-1993): Yeltsin Era, Part I <i>How was the new Russian government organized? Why does Russia have the constitution it does today? Was this good or bad for democracy?</i> 1) Remington, Chapter 3, "Russia's Constitutional Order", pp. 56-82 2) Igor Klymakin and Lilia Shevtsova, "The Tactical Origins of Russia's New Political Institutions," 1999 (2-page excerpt from <i>This Omnipotent and Impotent Government: The Evolution of the Political System in Post-Communist Russia</i> , Moscow: Carnegie Moscow Center) (D2L)	Geography Quiz
Week 3	Mon, Jan. 25	Russian Democracy in the 1990s <i>What is democracy? How would we know if Russia was a democracy? Was Russia a democracy in the Yeltsin era? Is Russia a democracy today?</i> 1) Archie Brown, "Russia and Democratization," <i>Problems of Post-Communism</i> , 46/5 (Sept.-Oct.), 1999. (D2L) 2) Daniel Treisman, "Why Yeltsin Won," <i>Foreign Affairs</i> , 1996 (D2L); This article offers an explanation of Yeltsin's re-election—against the odds—in the summer of 1996. 3) SKIM: Phillipe Schmitter, "What Democracy is...And Is Not," <i>Journal of Democracy</i> , Vol. 2, No. 3 (Summer), 1991, pages 75-88 (D2L)	
	Wed, Jan. 27	Chechnya & Terrorism in Russia <i>What role has Chechnya played in Russia politics? Is it an important issue today? How is this related to terrorism in Russia?</i> 1) Shireen Hunter, "The Evolution of Russian Federalism: The Islamic Factor," in <i>Islam in Russia: The Politics of Identity and Security</i> , M.E. Sharpe, 2004, pp. 216-244. (D2L) 2) Nord-Ost chapter in Steven Levine's, <i>Putin's Russia</i> (D2L) <u>Recommended:</u> Anna Politkovskaya, "Chechnya: A Dirty War (1999-2002)" in <i>Tell Me No Lies: Investigative Journalism that Changed the World</i> , ed. John Pilger, 2005, pp. 409-433 (D2L); Anna Politkovskaya was a Russian journalist who covered the Chechen war. She was killed in Moscow in 2006. Her work on Chechnya is controversial.	
	Fri, Jan. 29	A Brief Divergence from the 1990s in Russia: Edward Snowden in Russia 1) Bryan Burrough, Sarah Ellison, Suzanna Andrews, "The Snowden Saga: A Shadowland of Secrets and Lights," <i>Vanity Fair</i> , April 30, 2014 2) <i>National Review</i> , "Snowden: Living in Russia is 'Great,'" January 8, 2015 3) <i>The Guardian</i> , "Snowden criticises Russia for approach to internet and homosexuality," September 5, 2015. NOTE: Former National Security Agency system administrator Edward Snowden, currently living in Moscow, is scheduled to speak with CU students via video chat in Macky Auditorium on Tuesday, February 16. Tickets go on sale at the UMC on Monday, February 1st (\$2 for CU students).	

Week 4	Mon, Feb. 1	The Second Russian Republic (1993-1999): Yeltsin Era, Part 2 <i>What is the dual transition? What economic reforms did the Yeltsin administration pursue?</i> 1) Remington, Chapter 7, “Between State and Market,” pp. 191-214 2) Boris Yeltsin’s memoirs, Chapter 7, “A Rough Patch” (D2L)	
	Wed, Feb. 3	<i>The Rise of the Oligarchs</i> Mikhail Khodorkovsky chapter in David Hoffman’s, <i>The Oligarchs</i> (D2L)	
	Fri, Feb. 5	1) Boris Berezovsky chapter in David Hoffman’s, <i>The Oligarchs</i> (D2L) 2) Read <i>Russia Today</i> and <i>BBC News</i>	
Week 5	Mon, Feb. 8	<i>How are the events in the 1990s reflected in Russia’s current politics?</i> Read <i>Russia Today</i> and <i>BBC News</i>	
	Wed, Feb. 10	Review for Exam #1 Read <i>Russia Today</i> and <i>BBC News</i>	
	Fri, Feb. 12		Exam #1 in class
Week 6	Mon, Feb. 15	Interest Groups, Political Parties, and Elections in Russia <i>What are the major interest groups? How do they work to pressure the government? Which groups were and are the most influential? What are the major political parties today? For what policies do they advocate?</i> Remington, Chapter 6, “Interest Groups and Political Parties,” pages 150-184 REMINDER: Edward Snowden is participating in video chat at CU at Macky Auditorium on Tuesday, February 16th. You may write an extra credit reaction paper about this event if you attend.	
	Wed, Feb. 17	<i>Putin & The Orthodox Church</i> John Anderson, “Putin and the Russian Orthodox Church,” <i>Journal of International Affairs</i> , vol. 61, no. 1, Fall/Winter 2007, pp.185-201.	
	Fri, Feb. 19	<i>Business & the State</i> Philip Hanson and Elizabeth Teague, “Big Business and the State in Russia,” <i>Europe-Asia Studies</i> , Vol. 57, Issue 5, 2005; You do not need to read the whole article. Focus on the first part of the article which discusses the development of the RUIE, specifically pages 657-665. You can read the rest of the article and write an extra credit reaction paper if you wish.	
Week 7	Mon, Feb. 22	Putin’s Rise to Power (in 2000) & Medvedev’s Election (in 2008) <i>How did Putin rise to power? Why was Putin initially popular in Russia? Is Putin popular today? Why was Medvedev elected in 2008?</i> Rutland, “Putin’s Rise to Power,” <i>Post-Soviet Affairs</i> , 2000 (D2L)	

	Wed, Feb. 24	<p>1) Konstantin Sonin, "A Shift in Authority," <i>The Moscow Times</i>, 15 April, 2008 (D2L)</p> <p>2) Scott Gehlbach, "Reflections on Putin & the Media," <i>Post-Soviet Affairs</i>, 26:1, 2010, pp. 77-87 (D2L)</p>	
	Fri, Feb. 26	<p>Steven Levine, <i>Putin's Labyrinth</i>, Chapter 5: Nord Ost, 2008.</p> <p><u>Recommended:</u> Debra Javeline and Vanessa Baird, "Who Sues the Government? Evidence from the Moscow Theater Hostage Crisis," <i>Comparative Political Studies</i>, 20:10, 2007, pp. 1-28; This article presents an original survey of the victims of the Nord-Ost hostage crisis and was written by one of CU's own political science professors. (D2L)</p>	
Week 8	Mon, Feb. 29	<p>Russian Political Culture <i>What is the basis of political culture in Russia? How was the role of the media changed from 1990 to the present? Look for news about recent protests and social opposition in Russia, especially surrounding recent elections.</i></p> <p>Remington, Chapter 5, "Political Culture and National Identity," pp. 117-143</p> <p><u>Recommended:</u> Timothy Colton and Michael McFaul, "Are Russians Undemocratic?" Carnegie Center Working Paper, 2001</p>	
	Wed, March 2	<p>1) Steven Levine, <i>Putin's Labyrinth</i>, Chapter 8: Murder on an Elevator, 2008.</p> <p>2) Andrew Kramer, "Boris Nemtsov, Putin Foe, is Shot Dead in Shadow of Kremlin," <i>New York Times</i>, February 27, 2015.</p> <p><u>Recommended:</u> Regina Smyth and Irina Soboleva, "Looking beyond the economy: Pussy Riot and the Kremlin's voting coalition," <i>Post-Soviet Affairs</i>, 30:4, 2014, pp.257-275.</p>	
	Fri, March 4	<p><i>Elections & Protests in 2011 & 2012</i></p> <p>1) Paul Chaisty and Stephen Whitefield, "Forward to democracy or back to authoritarianism? The attitudinal bases of mass support for the Russian election protests of 2011-2012," <i>Post-Soviet Affairs</i>, 29:5, 2012, pp. 387-403. (D2L)</p> <p>2) <i>Kommersant</i>, March 15, 2012, "Less Than 50% of Respondents Trust the Results of Elections" (D2L)</p> <p><u>Recommended:</u> 1) OSCE Preliminary Findings on Russian parliamentary elections in December 2011 (D2L) 2) OSCE Preliminary Findings on Russian presidential elections in March 2012 (D2L) 3) Ora John Reuter, "Regional patrons and hegemonic party electoral performance in Russia," <i>Post-Soviet Affairs</i>, 29:2, pp. 101-135.</p>	

Week 9	Mon, March 7	Russia & Ukraine in the Putin era, 2013-present <i>What is the current conflict between Russia and Ukraine? How has this influenced Russia's relations with Europe and the United States? Why is this likely to be a prolonged conflict? And what is the connection with Ukrainian politics?</i> 1) Anders Åslund, "Oligarchs, Corruption, and European Integration," <i>Journal of Democracy</i> , Vol. 25, No. 3 (July), 2014, pp. 64-73 (D2L) 2) Lilia Shvetsova, "The Russia Factor," <i>Journal of Democracy</i> , Vol. 25, No. 3 (July), 2014, pp. 74-82 (D2L) 3) Kremlin Press Release, "Vladimir Putin answered journalists' questions on the situation in Ukraine," March 4, 2014 (D2L) 4) Look for current news about Ukraine in <i>Russia Today</i> and in the <i>BBC</i>	
	Wed, March 9	Timothy Snyder, "Integration and Disintegration: Europe, Ukraine, and the World," <i>Slavic Review</i> , 74, no. 4 (winter), 2015, pp. 695-707 (D2L)	
	Fri, March 11	Andrey Kurkov, <i>Ukraine Diaries: Dispatches from Kiev</i> , Random House, 2015 (D2L) <u>Recommended:</u> Andrey Kurkov, <i>Death and the Penguin</i> (originally published in Russian in 1996, English translation in 2001) and <i>Penguin Lost</i> (originally published in Russian in 2005, English translation in 2010). These are novels set in post-communist Ukraine. The protagonist is a Ukrainian writer who gets entangled with the mafia and has a pet penguin given away when the Kiev zoo could not afford to care for all of its animals.	
Week 10	Mon, March 14	Review for Exam #2 Read <i>Russia Today</i> and <i>BBC News</i>	
	Wed, March 16		Exam #2

	Fri, March 18	<p>The Post-Communist Transition</p> <p><i>After spring break, we will shift to talking about how the post-communist transition varied across countries. The stakes for a successful political and economic transition are high. Countries that have failed to undergo a successful transition continue to suffer from problems like organized crime, rising mortality and morbidity, aging and shrinking populations, the provision of healthcare, conditions in the military, and sex trafficking.</i></p> <p>In class: Documentary on trafficking of women in the post-communist era: Mimi Chakarova, “The Price of Sex” (available at: www.priceofsex.org)</p> <p><u>Recommended:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Lauren McCarthy, “Beyond Corruption: An Assessment of Russian Law Enforcement’s Fight against Human Trafficking,” <i>Demokratiya</i>, 2010. (D2L) 2) Peter Baker & Susan Glasser, <i>Kremlin Rising</i>, “Sick Man of Europe,” 2005, pp. 179-196 (D2L) 3) <i>Military</i>: Peter Baker & Susan Glasser, <i>Kremlin Rising</i>, “Runaway Military,” 2005, pp. 179-196 (D2L) 4) <i>Demographic issues</i>: Mukesh Chawla, Gordon Betcherman, and Arup Banerji, <i>From Red to Gray</i>, World Bank, 2007, pp. 1-13 (overview), 22-34 (sections on pensions and healthcare) (D2L) 5) <i>Sex trafficking</i>: Gail Kligman & Stephanie Limoncelli, “Trafficking Women After Socialism: To, Through, and From Eastern Europe,” <i>Social Politics</i>, Vol. 12, No. 1, Spring 2005, pp. 118-140. (D2L) 6) Federico Varese, <i>The Russian Mafia</i>, Intro, Conclusion, and Chapter 3 (D2L) 7) Documentary: <i>Children Underground</i> (Edet Belzberg, 2001); about orphan’s living in the subway in Bucharest, Romania (available on Netflix) 	
Week 11	Mon, March 21	**Spring Break (No Class)**	
	Wed, March 23	**Spring Break (No Class)**	
	Fri, March 25	**Spring Break (No Class)**	
Week 12	Mon, March 28	<p>Post-Communist Transitions: Comparing Different Countries</p> <p><i>The Theory & Reality of Economic Reform</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Adam Przeworski, <i>Democracy and the Market</i>, Chapter 4: The political dynamics of economic reform, pp. 136-139 (just read the introduction section to the chapter) and Conclusion, pp. 188-191 (D2L) 2) Joel Hellman, “Winners Take All,” <i>World Politics</i>, 1998 (D2L) <p><u>Recommended:</u></p> <p>John Earle and Scott Gehlbach, “Did Mass Privatization Really Increase Mortality?” <i>The Lancet</i>, 375 (9712), 2010, pp.1-9 (D2L)</p>	

	Wed, March 30	<i>Democracy & the Market Simulation, Part 1</i> Timothy Frye, <i>Building States and Markets after Communism</i> , 2010, Intro and Conclusion, pp. 1-20, 244-253 <u>Note:</u> The Frye book gives you an excellent example of current political science research on post-communist political economy. We will read 6 chapters of this book as we complete a simulation in class in which you will form parties and participate in elections. Your participation in the simulation counts towards your participation grade.	
	Fri, April 1	<i>Democracy & the Market Simulation, Part 2</i> <i>Case Studies: Russia & Bulgaria</i> Timothy Frye, <i>Building States and Markets after Communism</i> , 2010, Russia and Bulgaria Chapters, pp. 168-212.	
Week 13	Mon, April 4	<i>Democracy & the Market Simulation, Part 3</i> <i>Case Studies: Poland & Uzbekistan</i> Timothy Frye, <i>Building States and Markets after Communism</i> , 2010, Poland and Uzbekistan chapters, 213-243 <u>Recommended:</u> European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) Report, 1999 (D2L); This report provides a good review of the arguments made by Przeworski and Hellman and an excellent overview of the trends across countries in the late 1990s.	
	Wed, April 6	<i>Real Life Experiences</i> In-class: <i>My Perestroika</i> . This is a 2010 documentary directed by Robin Hessman. We will watch and discuss part of this documentary in class. Read: <i>Discussion Guide: My Perestroika</i> , published by PBS. (D2L)	
	Fri, April 8	1) Read: <i>Discussion Guide: My Perestroika</i> , published by PBS. (D2L) 2) Read <i>Russia Today</i> and <i>BBC news</i>	
Week 14	Mon, April 11	Russia & the International Community <u><i>Russia & its Neighbors</i></u> Remington, Chapter 9, "Russia and the International Community," pp. 251-268	
	Wed, April 13	<u><i>Russia & Syria: 2011-2014</i></u> 1) Vladimir Putin, "A Pleas for Caution from Russia" <i>The New York Times</i> , September 11, 2013. 2) Roy Allison, "Russia and Syria: explaining alignment with a regime in crisis," <i>International Affairs</i> , 89:4, 2013, pp. 795-823.	

	Fri, April 15	<u><i>Russia & Syria: 2015</i></u> 1) Syrian conflict alliances, graphic from the <i>New York Times</i> , October 18, 2015 (D2L) 2) Ryan Browne, "U.S. blasts Russian 'indiscriminate attacks' in Syria," CNN, December 30, 2015. 3) Derek Averre and Lance Davies, "Russia, humanitarian intervention and the Responsibility to Protect: the case of Syria." <i>International Affairs</i> , 91:4. 2015, pp. 813-834.	
Week 15	Mon, April 18	<u><i>Russian-US relations</i></u> 1) Michael McFaul, "Can American and Russia Cooperate in Syria?" <i>The Moscow Times</i> , January 6, 2016. 2) Michael McFaul, "The Myth of Putin's Strategic Genius," <i>New York Times</i> , October 23, 2015. 3) Hiski Haukkala, "From Cooperative to Contested Europe? The Conflict in Ukraine as a Culmination of a Long-Term Crisis in EU-Russia Relations," <i>Journal of Contemporary European Studies</i> , 23:1, 2015; focus on pages 30-37 about the recent era <u>Recommended:</u> Michael McFaul, "To Beat Putin, Support Ukraine," <i>New York Times</i> , August 6, 2014.	
	Wed, April 20	<u><i>Sanctions</i></u> Vladimir Mau, "Between crises and sanctions: economic policy of the Russian Federation," <i>Post-Soviet Affairs</i> , 2015, pp. 1-28.	
	Fri, April 22	<u><i>Putin's Popularity amidst Sanctions, Economic Decline, & Conflict...</i></u> Timothy Frye, Scott Gehlbach, Kyle Marquardt, Ora John Reuter, "Is Putin's Popularity Real?" 2016 (Forthcoming), <i>Post-Soviet Affairs</i> .	Optional Research Paper Due
Week 16	Mon, April 25	Looking Ahead: The Future of Russian Politics <i>Duma elections will be held in September 2016. The next presidential elections will be in the spring of 2018.</i> 1) Girgorii V. Golosov, "The September 2015 Regional Elections in Russia: A Rehearsal for Next Year's National Legislative Races," <i>Regional and Federal Studies</i> , December 2015. (D2L) 2) <i>Russia Today</i> , "Putin orders all 2016 parliamentary polls move to a single election day," July 15, 2015. (D2L) 3) Current survey data will be provided closer to the data of this class and will be posted on D2L.	
	Wed, April 27	Review for Final Exam Read <i>Russia Today</i> and <i>BBC news</i> . Be knowledgeable about current events is especially important to prepare for the final exam.	
	Fri, April 29	Review for Final Exam Read <i>Russia Today</i> and <i>BBC news</i>	Last day to submit extra credit
Final Exam		Final Exam In Class: Sunday, May 1st, 4:30-7pm	