

HIST/CEES 435: Soviet Culture and Society after Stalin

Spring 2018
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Prof. Jonathan W. Daly
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Class: LH 103

Purpose of the course

*To learn about the historian's craft, how we use sources to figure out what happened in the past and why it matters today. Among the sources you may use are: secondary literature (monographs, journals, book reviews, textbooks) and primary sources (newspapers/magazines, TV/movies, music, letters, novels, advertisements, political and social cartoons, material artefacts, and photographs).

*For you to be able to take key concepts and approaches into consideration when doing history: context, dialogue/discussion, perspective/bias, credibility, analysis, cultural differences, comparison, empathy, argument/thesis, and evidence.

*To research and write a primary-source-based research paper.

For fuller details see:

https://uic.blackboard.com/webapps/blackboard/execute/courseMain?course_id=_130078_1

Course evaluation

Students will participate in weekly class discussion (20 points); submit 14 one-page weekly written reflection (2 points each = 28 points total); and write a final ten-fifteen-page research paper (52 points). Total possible for the semester: 100 points. Ninety will be an "A"; eighty, a "B"; seventy, a "C"; sixty, a "D"; anything below, an "F."

Assignments

*Class participation (20 points)

*Weekly written responses (28 points): One page double-spaced reflection on the readings with a brief discussion of a Soviet article and how it relates to the week's readings. The Soviet article should be located in one of the following periodicals:

Current Digest of the Soviet Press, 1949–1991. UIC (on the shelf) 1949–1991 Call # D 839 C872, 2d floor south of Daley Library. Electronically search all the volumes [here](#).

Soviet life. Monthly. 1956– [from 1991: Russian Life]. UIC has 1960–2000. Call # DK1.U672, 2d floor south of Daley Library.

New Times. 1945–1992. Weekly. OCLC: 4866398. UIC has 1966–1992. Call # D839.N483, 2d floor south of Daley Library.

Soviet Union. 1950–1992. Monthly. OCLC: 1642588. UIC has 1969–1992. Call # DK266.A2 S574, 2d floor south of Daley Library.

Foreign Broadcast Information Service. Title: Daily report. Soviet Union. From 1971–1991; UIC 1978–. Index. UIC: 3d fl Microforms. PrEx 7.10: FBIS-SOV.

Moscow News. 1944 -, Semiweekly. OCLC: 12542592. 1956- UIUC (order from **Interlibrary Loan desk**). Call Number: FILM 057.1 MOSN.

*Final research paper: 10–15-page investigation, drawing upon both historical scholarship and primary sources, of a topic relevant to Soviet Culture and Society after Stalin. Topic must be approved by the instructor. The primary sources should include both Soviet (*Current Digest of the Soviet Press* and/or *New Times*, etc.) and Western (the *NYT*, *Time*, *Newsweek*, the *Times* of London, etc.) media. The purpose of this project will be to give you the opportunity to study both specific topics in Soviet history and the Soviet media. Russian-speakers: available sources in Russian are vastly more extensive. (52 points)

Extra work required of graduate students

Graduate students will be expected to write longer, more developed essays drawing on more primary sources.

Online submission written work

This class is paperless. All written work will be submitted via Safe Assignment on Blackboard.

Deadlines

Students may request extensions for written assignments, but only with documentary proof of emergency (doctor's note, airline ticket, etc.) in each case. (For the university calendar, see <https://catalog.uic.edu/ucatalog/academic-calendar/#2016-2017>).

Missed classes

Each time you miss a class meeting, you will submit a four-page paper on that day's reading (or forfeit three points, deducted on Blackboard). You may miss classes for any reason without explanation (including for religious holidays), but you still need to submit a four-page paper on that day's reading.

Participation

Students begin the semester with 20 points on Blackboard. They will lose points each week that their participation is mediocre (1 point) or poor (2 points); these points can be won back with excellent participation in subsequent weeks.

Two sources for extra academic help

The Honors College: <https://www.honors.uic.edu/tutoring/> and the UIC Writing Center: <http://www.uic.edu/depts/engl/writing/>

On the written work

All written assignments must be typed and double-spaced. Proper spelling and grammatical usage are required. **If you take words from ANY SOURCE WHATSOEVER (books, magazines, the Internet, etc.), then YOU MUST ACKNOWLEDGE this source by using some form of citation. Even when you use your own words but have taken an idea, an argument, or facts from any source, you must cite the specific page numbers of the source where you found them. Failure to do so will disqualify your written work.**

Students with Special Requirements

Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access and participation in this course must be registered with the Disability Resource Center (DRC). You may contact the DRC at 312-413-2183 (v) or 773-649-4535 (VP/Relay) and consult the following: <http://drc.uic.edu/guide-to-accommodations>.

Grievance Procedures

UIC is committed to the most fundamental principles of academic freedom, equality of opportunity, and human dignity involving students and employees. Freedom from discrimination is a foundation for all decision making at UIC. Students are encouraged to study the University's "Nondiscrimination Statement." Students are also urged to read the document "Public Formal Grievance Procedures." Information on these policies and procedures is available on the University web pages of the Office of Access and Equity: <http://oae.uic.edu/>.

Course materials

REQUIRED BOOK (available at the UIC Bookstore):

Donald J. Raleigh, *Soviet Baby Boomers: An Oral History of Russia's Cold War Generation* (Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 2012).

OTHER REQUIRED READINGS: Available on course Blackboard page.

OPTIONAL BOOK (some excerpts available on Blackboard):

Robert Service, *A History of Modern Russia: From Tsarism to the Twenty-First Century*, 3d ed. (Harvard University Press, 2009).

Week 1: No class: Martin Luther King Day.

Week 2: Lecture: The USSR before the Cold War era. Discussion: The Stalin era. **READING:** Raleigh, pp. 3–58. **WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT:** one-page weekly written reflection submitted Monday by 10:00 AM on safe-assignment.

Week 3: The Khrushchev era. **READING:** Service, pp. 331–75; Raleigh, pp. 58–167. **WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT:** one-page weekly written reflection submitted Monday by 10:00 AM on safe-assignment.

Week 4: The Brezhnev era. **READING:** Service, 376–427; Raleigh, pp. 168–267. **WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT:** one-page weekly written reflection submitted Monday by 10:00 AM on safe-assignment.

Week 5: The Gorbachev era. **READING:** Service, pp. 428–507; Raleigh, pp. 268–328. **WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT:** one-page weekly written reflection submitted Monday by 10:00 AM on safe-assignment.

From this point in the semester, you will select and read at least three articles/book chapters each week and come to class prepared to discuss. (Graduate students should try to read all of the

entries for each week.)

Week 6: Daily life. READING (select three; graduate students, read all entries):

James R. Millar, "The Little Deal: Brezhnev's Contribution to Acquisitive Socialism," *Slavic Review* 44, no. 4 (Winter 1985): 694–706.

Svetlana Boym, "The Archeology of Banality: The Soviet Home," *Public Culture* 6, no. 2 (1994): 263–92.

Steven E. Harris, "'We Too Want to Live in Normal Apartments': Soviet Mass Housing and the Marginalization of the Elderly Under Khrushchev and Brezhnev," *The Soviet and Post-Soviet Review* 32, no. 1 (2005): 143–74.

Mark Edele, "Soviet Society, Social Structure, and Everyday Life: Major Frameworks Reconsidered," *Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History* 8, no. 2 (Spring 2007): 349–73.

Christine Varga-Harris, "Homemaking and the Aesthetic and Moral Perimeters of the Soviet Home during the Khrushchev Era," *Journal of Social History* 41, no. 3 (Spring 2008): 561–89.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT: one-page weekly written reflection submitted Monday by 10:00 AM on safe-assignment.

Week 7: Education and Upbringing. READING (select three; graduate students, read all entries):

Bruce Monk, "The Specialized Language School in the Soviet Union at the Time of 'Perestroika,'" *ELT Journal* 44, no. 1 (January 1990): 38–45.

Catriona Kelly, "'Thank-You for the Wonderful Book': Soviet Child Readers and the Management of Children's Reading, 1950-1975," *Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History* 6, no. 4 (Fall 2005): 717–53.

Alexander Karp, "The Cold War in the Soviet School: A Case Study of Mathematics Education," *European Education* 38, no. 4 (Winter 2006–7): 23–43.

Ann Livschiz, "Battling 'Unhealthy Relations': Soviet Youth Sexuality as a Political Problem," *Journal of Historical Sociology* 21, no. 4 (December 2008): 397–416.

Yulia Gradszkova, "Educating Parents: Public Preschools and Parenting in Soviet Pedagogical Publications, 1945-1989," *Journal of Family History* 35, no. 3 (2010): 271–85.

Natalia Chernyaeva, "'Upbringing à la Dr. Spock': Child-Care Manuals and Constructing Normative Motherhood in the Soviet Union, 1954–1970," *Ab Imperio*, no. 2 (2013): 223–51.

Alex Kuraev, "Soviet Higher Education: An Alternative Construct to the Western University Paradigm," *Higher Education* 71, no. 2 (February 2016): 181–93.

Robert Hornsby, "Soviet Youth on the March: The All-Union Tours of Military Glory, 1965–87," *Journal of Contemporary History* 52, no. 2 (2017): 418–45.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT: one-page weekly written reflection submitted Monday by 10:00 AM on safe-assignment.

Week 8: Health and Welfare. READING (select three; graduate students, read all entries):

Carol R. Nechemias, "The Krushchev and Brezhnev Eras: A Comparison of Social Welfare Policies," *Social Science Quarterly* 59, no. 3 (1978): 562–69.

Amy E. Randall, "'Abortion Will Deprive You of Happiness!' Soviet Reproductive Politics in the Post-Stalin Era," *Journal of Women's History* 23, no. 3 (2011): 13–38.

Mark B. Smith, "Faded Red Paradise: Welfare and the Soviet City after 1953," *Contemporary European History* 24, no. 4 (November 2015): 597–615.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT: one-page weekly written reflection submitted Monday by 10:00 AM on safe-assignment.

Week 9: Consumerism, Travel, and Sport. READING (select three; graduate students, read all entries):

Lewis H. Siegelbaum, "On the Side: Car Culture in the USSR, 1960s–1980s," *Technology and Culture* 50, no. 1 (January 2009): 1–23.

Diane P. Koenker, "Whose Right to Rest? Contesting the Family Vacation in the Postwar Soviet Union," *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 51, no. 2 (April 2009): 401–25.

Mikhail Iu. Prozumenshchikov, "Gamesmanship in the 'Game of Millions,'" *Russian Studies in History* 49, no. 2 (Fall 2010): 6–50.

Sergei Zhuk, "Popular National Culture and Advertising in the Soviet Travel Agencies, 1964–1984," *Memoria y Civilización*, 14, no. 1 (2011): 53–77.

Larissa Zakharova, "Soviet Fashion in the 1950s–1960s: Regimentation, Western Influences, and Consumption Strategies," in *The Thaw: Soviet Society and Culture During the 1950s and 1960s*, ed. Denis Kozlov and Eleonory Gilburd (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2013), 402–33.

S. E. Reid, "Cold War Binaries and the Culture of Consumption in the Late Soviet Home," *Journal of Historical Research in Marketing* 8, no. 1 (2016): 17–43.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT: one-page weekly written reflection submitted Monday by 10:00 AM on safe-assignment.

Week 10: Popular Culture. READING (select three; graduate students, read all entries):

John Bushnell, "A Popular Reading of Bulgakov: Explication des Graffiti," *Slavic Review* 47, no. 3 (Autumn, 1988): 502–11.

Polly McMichael, "'After All, You're a Rock and Roll Star (At Least, That's What They Say)': Roksi and the Creation of the Soviet Rock Musician," *The Slavonic and East European Review* 83, no. 4 (October 2005): 664–84.

Sudha Rajagopalan, "Emblematic of the Thaw: Early Indian Films in Soviet Cinemas," *South Asian Popular Culture* 4, no. 2 (2006): 83–100.

Yuliya Minkova, "Our Man in Chile, Or Victor Jara's Posthumous Life in Soviet Media and Popular Culture," *The Slavic and East European Journal* 57, no. 4 (Winter 2013): 605–27.

Michelle Smirnova, "What is the Shortest Russian Joke? Communism. Russian Cultural Consciousness Expressed Through Soviet Humor," *Qualitative Sociology* 37, no. 3 (September 2014): 323–43.

Anne E. Gorsuch, "'Cuba, My Love': The Romance of Revolutionary Cuba in the Soviet Sixties," *The American Historical Review* 120, no. 2 (April 2015): 497–526.

Bradford Martin, "Musical Cultural Exchanges in the Age of Detente: Cultural Fixation, Trust, and the Permeability of Culture," *Journal of Contemporary History* 51, no. 2 (2016): 364–84.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT: one-page weekly written reflection submitted Monday by 10:00 AM on safe-assignment.

March 26: Spring break

Week 11: Religion and Faith. READING (select three; graduate students, read all entries):

Paul D. Steeves, "The June Plenum and the Post-Brezhnev Antireligious Campaign," *A Journal of Church and State* 28 (Fall 1986): 439–57.

Sergei I. Zhuk, "Popular Religiosity in the 'Closed City' of Soviet Ukraine: Cultural Consumption and Religion during Late Socialism, 1959-1984," *Russian History* 40 (2013): 183–200.

Irina Gordeeva, "Tolstoyism in the Late-Socialist Cultural Underground: Soviet Youth in Search of Religion, Individual Autonomy and Nonviolence in the 1970s–1980s," *Open Theology* 3 (2017): 494–515.

Natalia Naydenova, "'Let the Little Children Come to Me': (Anti-)Religious Films for Young Spectators of the Soviet and Post-Soviet Period," *Children's Literature in Education* 48, no. 4 (December 2017): 308–25.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT: one-page weekly written reflection submitted Monday by 10:00 AM on safe-assignment.

Week 12: Race and Ethnicity. READING (select three; graduate students, read all entries):

Adrienne Lynn Edgar, "Marriage, Modernity, and the 'Friendship of Nations': Interethnic Intimacy in Post-War Central Asia in Comparative Perspective," *Central Asian Survey* 26, no. 4 (December 2007): 581–99.

Irina L. Isaakyan, "Blood and Soil of the Soviet Academy: Politically Institutionalized Anti-Semitism in the Moscow Academic Circles of the Brezhnev Era through the Life Stories of Russian Academic Emigrants," *Nationalities Papers* 36, no. 5 (November 2008): 833–59.

Maxim Matusевич, "An Exotic Subversive: Africa, Africans and the Soviet Everyday," *Race & Class* 49, no. 4 (2008): 57–81.

Jeff Sahadeo, "Soviet 'Blacks' and Place Making in Leningrad and Moscow," *Slavic Review* 71, no. 2 (Summer 2012): 331–58.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT: one-page weekly written reflection submitted Monday by 10:00 AM on safe-assignment.

Week 13: Corruption, Criminal Justice, and Informal Practices. READING (select three; graduate students, read all entries):

A. Katsenelinboigen, "Coloured Markets in the Soviet Union," *Soviet Studies* 29, no. 1 (January 1977): 62–85.

Elena Zdravomyslova and Viktor Voronkov, "The Informal Public in Soviet Society: Double Morality at Work," *Social Research* 69, no. 1 (Spring 2002): 49–69.

Luc Duhamel, "The Last Campaign against Corruption in Soviet Moscow," *Europe-Asia Studies* 56, no. 2 (March 2004): 187–212

Alya Guseva, "Friends and Foes: Informal Networks in the Soviet Union," *East European Quarterly* 41, no. 3 (September 2007): 323–47.

Jonathan Daly, *Crime and Punishment in Russia: A Comparative History from Peter the Great to Vladimir Putin* (London and New York: Bloomsbury Academic, 2018), 125–50.

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Week 14: Surveillance and Social Control. READING (select three; graduate students, read all entries):

James E. Oberg, *Uncovering Soviet Disasters: Exploring the Limits of Glasnost* (New York: Random House, 1988), 116–36 (“Disasters in the Air”).

Alexander J. Groth and Stuart Britton, “Gorbachev and Lenin: Psychological Walls of the Soviet ‘Garrison State,’” *Political Psychology* 14, no. 4 (December 1993): 627–50.

Steven Richmond and Vladimir Solodin, “‘The Eye of the State’: An Interview with Soviet Chief Censor Vladimir Solodin,” *The Russian Review* 56, no. 4 (October 1997): 581–90.

Matthew A. Light, “What Does It Mean to Control Migration? Soviet Mobility Policies in Comparative Perspective,” *Law & Social Inquiry* 37, no. 2 (Spring 2012): 395–429.

Marina Levina, “Under Lenin’s Watchful Eye: Growing Up in the Former Soviet Union,” *Surveillance & Society* 15, nos. 3/4 (2017): 529–34.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT: one-page weekly written reflection submitted Monday by 10:00 AM on safe-assignment.

Week 15: Dissent. READING (select three; graduate students, read all entries):

Jay Bergman, “Was the Soviet Union Totalitarian? The View of Soviet Dissidents and the Reformers of the Gorbachev Era,” *Studies in East European Thought* 50, no. 4 (December 1998): 247–81.

Philip Boobbyer, “Truth-telling, Conscience and Dissent in Late Soviet Russia: Evidence from Oral Histories,” *European History Quarterly* 30, no. 4 (2000): 553–85.

Hyung-min Joo, “Voices of Freedom: Samizdat,” *Europe-Asia Studies* 56, no. 4 (June 2004): 571–94.

Aleksandr Pyzhikov, “Sources of Dissidence: Soviet Youth After the Twentieth Party Congress,” *Russian Politics and Law* 42, no. 5 (September–October 2004): 64–77.

Benjamin Tromly, “Soviet Patriotism and its Discontents among Higher Education Students in

Khrushchev-Era Russia and Ukraine,” *Nationalities Papers* 37, no. 3 (May 2009): 299–326.

N. Milewska-Pindor, “The Almanac ‘Woman and Russia’ and the Soviet Feminist Movement at the End of the 1970s,” *International Studies: Interdisciplinary Political and Cultural Journal* 15, no. 1 (2013): 5–20.

Andrei Kozovoi, “Dissonant Voices: Soviet Youth Mobilization and the Cuban Missile Crisis,” *Journal of Cold War Studies* 16, no. 3 (Summer 2014): 29–61.

Benjamin Nathans, “Talking Fish: On Soviet Dissident Memoirs,” *The Journal of Modern History* 87, no. 3 (September 2015): 579–614.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS: one-page weekly written reflection submitted Monday by 10:00 AM on safe-assignment. **Final papers due on Friday, April 27 at 9 PM via Safe Assignment.**

HOW TO FIND ARTICLES IN PERIODICALS ON-LINE

For secondary sources, use the UIC Library [search engine](#). For Western newspapers (primary sources), use [Proquest](#)—both accessible from the Blackboard page.

Guidelines for Research Papers

*Make sure you use page numbers (with Arabic numerals).

*Use past tense in almost all cases (exceptions: reporting on action/story/etc. within a film, novel, or song; mentioning assertions by authors of scholarly monographs who are still alive; recounting things that are still true).

*Provide a reference to where you found every significant fact, idea, concept, or excerpted text that you include in your paper. The reference must be to a specific page number (or specific URL in the case of online sources). For the short papers, feel free to insert your references into the body of the text in parentheses. For the research paper, footnotes are best, but endnotes are okay. See below for footnote style.

*Provide a bibliography at the end of your paper, which will include all the works cited.

Footnotes (<http://www.press.uchicago.edu/books/turabian/turabian_citationguide.html>):

Journal article: James R. Millar, “The Little Deal: Brezhnev’s Contribution to Acquisitive Socialism,” *Slavic Review* 44, no. 4 (Winter 1985): 694–706.

Book: Donald J. Raleigh, *Soviet Baby Boomers: An Oral History of Russia’s Cold War Generation* (Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 2012), 56–60.

Chapter in a book: Larissa Zakharova, “Soviet Fashion in the 1950s–1960s: Regimentation, Western Influences, and Consumption Strategies,” in *The Thaw: Soviet Society and Culture During the 1950s and 1960s*, ed. Denis Kozlov and Eleonory Gilburd (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2013), 402–33.

Excerpt from the Current Digest: “Chernobyl’s Concerns: Six Months Later,” *Pravda*

Ukrainy (October 1, 1986), in *Current Digest of the Soviet Press* [hereafter: *CDS*], vol. 38, no. 43, p. 16.

Book Review: Juliane Fürst, review of Donald J. Raleigh, *Soviet Baby Boomers: An Oral History of Russia's Cold War Generation*, *Slavic Review* 71, no. 4 (Winter 2012): 955–56.

For all references after the first one, use a short form, such as Millar, “The Little Deal,” 699; Raleigh, *Soviet Baby Boomers*, 77; Zakharova, “Soviet Fashion in the 1950s–1960s,” 405.

Bibliography (<http://www.press.uchicago.edu/books/turabian/turabian_citationguide.html>):

Journal article: Millar, James R. “The Little Deal: Brezhnev’s Contribution to Acquisitive Socialism.” *Slavic Review* 44, no. 4 (Winter 1985): 694–706.

Book: Raleigh, Donald J. *Soviet Baby Boomers: An Oral History of Russia's Cold War Generation*. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 2012.

Chapter in a book: Zakharova, Larissa. “Soviet Fashion in the 1950s–1960s: Regimentation, Western Influences, and Consumption Strategies.” In *The Thaw: Soviet Society and Culture During the 1950s and 1960s*. Edited by Denis Kozlov and Eleonory Gilburd. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2013. Pp. 402–33.

Excerpt from the Current Digest: “Chernobyl’s Concerns: Six Months Later.” *Pravda Ukrainy* (October 1, 1986). In *Current Digest of the Soviet Press*. Vol. 38. No. 43.

Book Review: Fürst, Juliane. Review of Donald J. Raleigh. *Soviet Baby Boomers: An Oral History of Russia's Cold War Generation*. *Slavic Review* 71, no. 4 (Winter 2012): 955–56.

List of topics for final papers:

Stalin's Death

The Secret Speech

The Thaw (Khrushchev Period)

Health and medicine

U2 incident

Cuban Missile Crisis

USSR's relations with other nations

Religious faith and practice

The church and religious institutions

Censorship

Women under Communism

Civil liberties/rights under Communism

Soviet propaganda

Marriage, divorce, family

Invasion of Afghanistan

1980 Olympics

Housing

Sports

Music in the Soviet Union

Chernobyl nuclear disaster

Collapse of Communism

Multiculturalism in the Soviet Union

Soviet Art

Soviet Cinema

Soviet popular culture

Hungarian resistance, 1956

Youth Festival, Moscow, 1957

Soviet Trade Fair, New York City, 1959

American Exposition, Moscow, 1959

Soviet Trade Fair, London, 1961

Prague Spring 1968

Soviet military

Soviet economy

Soviet science/scientists

The space program

Stagnation period (celebrations, awards, stability)

Welfare (retirement programs, lifetime employment)

Dissidents

Education

Leisure (vacations, sports, games, country cottages)

Ethnic differences (or Russia vs. republics)

The Western peace movements

Watergate

Racism in the West

The arms race

Evils of the west

Variations of any of these, or additional topics not listed, may be researched upon approval.