This course focuses on the major trends in Russia history during the twentieth century. Topics include the collapse of the Romanov dynasty, the Bolshevik seizure of power, the fate of the communist revolution, the rise of Stalin and the establishment of the Stalinist system, World War II, and de-Stalinization. We pay particular attention to the interaction between social forces and political policies and explore how the regime’s ideological imperatives and the nature of society shaped the contours of Russian history in the twentieth century.

**Course Requirements**

Two Five-Page Papers (Due on October 5 and November 2)
Final Examination
Ten-Page Research Paper (Due by December 16; Proposal Due by November 16)
Class Attendance and Participation

All students are expected to read the College’s policy on academic honesty and integrity that appears in the Swarthmore College Bulletin. The work you submit must be your own, and suspected instances of plagiarism will be submitted to the College Judiciary Council for adjudication. When in doubt, please check with me.

In addition, I will not accept late papers and will a failing grade for the assignment unless you notify me and receive permission to submit the paper after the due date. Students are required to attend class for the successful completion of the course. Unexcused absences will result in a lower grade.

The following books are available for purchase and are also on reserve in McCabe.

Sheila Fitzpatrick, *Everyday Stalinism*
Graham Gill, *Stalinism*
Evgenia Ginsburg, *Journey into the Whirlwind*
Fyodor Gladkov, *Cement*
Loren Graham, *The Ghost of an Executed Engineer*
Mark Steinberg, *Voices of Revolution*
I have not assigned one required text. However, I expect you to read one of the following texts that are on course reserve:

Gregory Freeze, ed., *Russia: A Historic*
Geoffrery Hosking, *The First Socialist Society*
Robert Service, *A History of Modern Russia from Nicholas II to Vladimir Putin*
Ronald Suny, *The Soviet Experiment: Russia, the USSR, and the Successor States*
John Thompson, *A Vision Unfulfilled: Russia and the Soviet Union in the Twentieth Century*

Finally, here is a list of websites you may find interesting.

Site devoted to the history of the mausoleum. Includes text, audio, and photographs, including those of Lenin and Stalin on display. Has links to other sites devoted to Lenin and Stalin.

Site devoted to the life of Lenin as presented in the Lenin Museum in Moscow.

A production of PBS, this website explores through texts and images the role of propaganda in the history of the Soviet Union.

REENIC: Russian and East European Network Information Center  [http://reenic.utexas.edu/reenic/index.html](http://reenic.utexas.edu/reenic/index.html)
A website from the University of Texas at Austin that provides an exhaustive list of websites about Russian and East European Studies.

The University of Pittsburgh has assembled a comprehensive website devoted to the field of Russian and East European Studies.

Collection of documents and photographs from the archives of the Soviet Union from the exhibit at the Library of Congress in 1992

A narrative history of Soviet history through an innovative use of texts, documents, music, images, and video assembled by two professors at Michigan State University and Carleton College.

Slavic and East European Library: Internet Resources  [http://www.library.uius.edu/spx](http://www.library.uius.edu/spx)
The reference library at the University of Illinois has assembled a site devoted to internet resources pertaining in part to the history of the Soviet Union.

A website devoted to music written under communism. It is a collection of songs about war, the military, patriotism, and leaders and also contains speeches and posters.
Stalinka: Digital Library of Staliniana
http://images.library.pitt.edu/s/stalinka
A digital library of texts and images about the Stalin phenomenon.

The Chairman Smiles
http://www.iisg.nl/exhibitions/chairman/
An on-line exhibit from the International Institute of Social History in the Netherlands that focuses on posters from the Soviet Union, Cuba and the People’s Republic of China.

Paintings of the Gulag
http://www.jamestown.org/getman/php
Paintings of Nikolai Getman, a Hungarian who spent eight years in the gulag.

September 4—Russia Enters the Twentieth Century

September 6—Russia on the Eve of Revolution

Vladimir Lenin’s Theory of the Party BB
Leon Trotsky, “The Peculiarities of Russia’s Development” BB

September 11—Russia on the Eve of Revolution

Leopold Haimson, “Dual Polarization in Urban Russia, 1905-1917” BB

September 13—No Class

September 18—Approaches to Understanding the Bolshevik Seizure of Power

Stephen Cohen, “Scholarly Missions” BB
Ronald Suny, “Revising the Old Story” BB

September 20—The Bolsheviks Come to Power

Mark Steinberg, Voices of Revolution

September 25—The Revolution Off-Track? Civil War and War Communism

September 27—The Revolution Off-Track? Civil War and War Communism

“The Kronstadt Revolt: What We Are Fighting For” BB
Moshe Lewin, “A Dictatorship in the Void” BB
“The Trade Union Controversy and the Workers’ Opposition” BB
“On Party Unity” BB

October 2: The Dilemmas of NEP
October 4—Soviet Power and the Women’s Question

Alexandra Kollontai, “Make Way for Winged Eros” and “The Family and the Communist State” BB
Nadezhda Krupksaia, “What a Communist Ought to be Like” BB
Polina Vinogradskaya, “The ‘Winged Eros’ of Comrade Kollontai” BB
Barbara Clements, “The Birth of the New Soviet Woman” BB

FIRST PAPER DUE ON OCTOBER 5

October 9—Soviet Power and the Nationality Question

October 11—The Dilemmas of NEP

Fyodor Gladkov, Cement

October 23—The Rise of Stalin

“Soviet Cultural Policy—The Liberal Period” BB

October 25—The Rise of Stalin

Moshe Lewin, “Lenin’s Testament” and “If Lenin Had Lived …” BB
Stephen Cohen, “Bolshevism and Stalinism” BB
“Condemnation of the Trotskyist Opposition,” “Stalin on Socialism in One Country,” and “Bukharin on the Opposition” BB
Watch PBS Documentary for Class (Part One)

October 30—The Cults of Lenin and Stalin: Celebrating the Revolution

November 1—The Great Leap Forward: Collectivization and Industrialization

“Bukharin on Peasant Policy,” “Bukharin on the Menace of Stalin,” “Stalin’s Revolution,” and “Stalin on the Liquidation of the Kulaks” BB
Lev Kopelev, “The Education of a True Believer” BB
Lynne Viola, “Bab’i Bunty and Peasant Women’s Protest during Collectivization” BB
“Victory of Socialism in the USSR” BB

SECOND PAPER DUE ON NOVEMBER 2

November 6—Explaining the Purges

Peter Holquist, “State Violence as Technique: The Logic of Violence in Soviet Totalitarianism” BB
Amir Weiner, “Nature and Nurture in a Socialist Utopia: Delineating the Soviet Socio-Ethnic Body in the Age of Socialism” BB
J. Arch Getty, “Afraid of Their Shadows: The Bolshevik Recourse to Terror, 1932-1938” BB

November 8—Defining Stalinism

Graham Gill, Stalinism
Watch PBS Documentary for Class (Part Two)

November 13—Defending the Motherland

November 15—Experiencing the Purges

Evgeniia Ginsburg, Journey into the Whirlwind
Watch Burnt by the Sun for class

FINAL PAPER PROPOSAL DUE ON NOVEMBER 16

November 20—The Final Years of Stalin

“The Arrest of a Group of Doctor-Saboteurs” and “Spies and Murderers in the Guise of Physicians and Scientists” BB

November 27—Khrushchev and De-Stalinization

Nikita Khrushchev, “Secret Speech at the Twentieth Party Congress, 1956” BB
Stephen Cohen, “The Stalin Question Since Stalin” BB

November 29—Experiencing Life in the 1930s

Sheila Fitzpatrick, Everyday Stalinism

December 4—Brezhnev and “Developed Socialism”

James Millar, “The Little Deal” BB
John Bushnell, “The `New Soviet Man” Turns Pessimist” BB
Natalya Baranskaia, “A Week Like Any Other Week” BB
Currents of Dissent BB

December 6—The Fate of the Revolution

Loren Graham, The Ghost of an Executed Engineer
Watch BAM ZONE for class

December 11—The Fate of the Revolution

Mikhail Gorbachev, “Speech from 1987” BB
Nina Andreyeva, “I Cannot Forego My Principles”  
Martin Malia, “To the Stalin Mausoleum”  
Alexander Dallin, “Causes of the Collapse of the USSR”

FINAL PAPER DUE ON DECEMBER 16