

DR. CAROL MELTON

SYLLABUS FOR  
HISTORY 4290  
CRN 26901  
HISTORY OF MODERN RUSSIA  
3 Credit Hours  
COAS 202  
TR 12:30 - 1:45 p.m.  
Prerequisite: C or better in History 1112

carol.melton@mga.edu (checked weekdays)  
105 COAS Building  
Office Number (478) 471-5749  
Office Hours : MW 1:45 - 2:45 p.m.  
TR 11:30a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

**And by appointment**

website: [www.carolmelton.com](http://www.carolmelton.com)

**Required Texts:**

Geoffrey Hosking, *Russian History: A Very Short Introduction*

Boris B. Gorshkov, ed., *A Life under Russian Serfdom: Memoirs of Savva Dmitrievich Purlevskii*

Sheila Fitzpatrick, *Everyday Stalinism: Ordinary Life in Extraordinary Times: Soviet Russia in the 1930s*

John MacKay, ed., *Four Russian Serf Narratives*

**Course descriptions and objectives:** This course covers Russian history from Peter the Great to the collapse of the U.S.S.R., focusing on the economic and political development of Russia in both the imperial and Soviet periods. Particular emphasis is placed on the role of class divisions and the evolution of the state managed economy.

By the end of the course the successful student should:

1. Possess a substantial knowledge of the facts presented in the course.
2. Understand the principles of historical cause and effect.
3. Be able to evaluate primary and secondary sources.
4. Be able to express his knowledge clearly in writing.

**Examinations:** There will be three examinations in this class. They are mandatory. No makeup exams will be given. Examinations are each 25% of your grade. The other 25% will be based on a paper (see below). Borderline or indeterminate grade will be adjusted according to class attendance and performance. All exams must be taken in class on the day designated in the schedule. If you have a documented emergency you may be allowed to drop the grade for a missed exam. You may exempt only 1 exam. There will be no make-ups for missed exams or quizzes. There will be no individual extra credit.

**Paper:** Each student will submit a paper based on the texts listed above. The paper instructions can be found at [www.carolmelton.com](http://www.carolmelton.com). The paper must be typed and double-spaced. It must be turned in by class time on the assigned date. N.B. for everyday, or portion thereof, that a paper is late - regardless of the reason - the instructor will reduce the grade by 10 points. Papers should be properly documented using the Turabian/*Chicago Manual of Style* citation method. Failure to do so will result in an automatic deduction of twenty points from the paper grade.

**Class Participation:** The instructor expects and encourages student participation and comment in class. Good class participation requires that students keep up with their reading assignments. A student's lack of participation will not reduce his final grade, but informed participation can only help it.

**Attendance policies:** Students whose number of absences is more than twice the number of class meetings per week (4 per semester) may be assigned a failing grade for the course at the discretion of the instructor. Students who have more absences than the number of class meetings per week but less than twice the number of class meetings per week (3 per semester), may be docked a letter grade for the class at the discretion of the instructor. Students who have absences which are less than or equal to the number of class meetings per week (1 or 2 per semester) will not be penalized.

The instructor endeavors to begin class punctually. If a student is not in his seat when the roll is called, or if a student leaves class early, the student will be recorded as tardy. Two tardies equals one absence. If you anticipate being late to class please notify the instructor beforehand.

**Student Code of Conduct:** Middle Georgia State University students are responsible for reading, understanding, and abiding by the MGSU Student Code of Conduct. Student Code of Conduct, Responsibilities, Procedures, and Rights are found at:

<http://www.mga.edu/student-conduct/code-of-conduct.aspx>.

Examinations and other assignments should always be the students own work. Plagiarism or cheating will be punished by an F in the course and other sanctions may be imposed by the university. Please read Code of Conduct carefully to make sure that you understand these concepts, and ask the instructor if you have any questions.

**Campus Carry:** <http://www.mga.edu/police/campus-carry.aspx>

**Electronics Policy:** Cell phones should be switched off and stored. In the event of a family emergency, please request permission in advance to leave your phone on. Computers should be used for class purposes only, e.g. taking notes.

**Disability Accommodation:** Students seeking academic accommodations for a special need must contact Middle Georgia State University Office of Disability Services in Macon at (478) 471-2985 or in Cochran at (478) 934-3023.  
<http://www.mga.edu/disability-services/>

**Withdrawal Policy:** Students are encouraged to read the withdrawal policy found at <http://www.mga.edu/registrar/dropadd.aspx> before dropping or withdrawing from a class

**Delayed Opening or Closing of the University:** Please consult the local media and/or the university websites for campus closings due to weather etc.

**End of course evaluations:** Student evaluations of faculty are administered online at the end of each term/session for all courses with five or more students. Students will receive an email containing a link to a survey for each course in which they are enrolled. All responses are anonymous.

**Grading System:**

100 – 90 A  
89.9 – 80 B  
79.9 – 70 C  
69.9 – 60 D  
59.9 – 0 F

**Tentative Course Schedule:** Please see attached.

Additional copies of the syllabus and schedule are available at [www.carolmelton.com](http://www.carolmelton.com)

Please seek me out if you have any problems, questions or concerns about the course.