

Fall. 2007
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History HIEU 134 The Rise of the Russian Empire: Origins to 1861

This is a general survey course designed to acquaint the students with the main themes and events of the lands that became parts of the Russian Empire from its ninth century origins up to the abolition of serfdom in the middle of the nineteenth century. Students will be responsible for attending lectures, doing readings and studying the visual materials made available in class and on reserve.

There will be an in-class mid-term and a take-home final.

Books include:

Nicholas Riasanovsky - A History of Russia
James Cracraft ed. - Major Problems in the History of Imperial Russia
M. Lermontov - Hero Of Our Time
V. Kliuchevskii - Peter the Great (only on reserve)

You should note that there are several editions of Riasanovsky. For our purposes, any one will do. They do have different page numbers, however. Basically, you are responsible for everything that occurs up to 1725 for the mid-term and everything that happens up to 1861 for the final. Yes, everything.

The following films are also on reserve at Geisel at Film and Video Reserves:

Alexander Nevsky
Andrei Rublev
Ivan The Terrible
Peter the Great

Sections of the films will be shown in class. They can be seen in their entirety on reserve.

Readings

Week one:

Introduction

The Kievan State

**Readings: Riasanovsky, chs. I-VI
Cracraft, pp. 4-36**

Film: Alexander Nevsky

Week two:

Early Russian Culture

The Russian Land

**Readings: Riasanovsky, chs. VII-X
Cracraft, pp. 37-45**

Film: Andrei Rublev

Week three:

Muscovite Ideology

Ivan the Terrible

**Readings: Riasanovsky, chs. XI-XV
Cracraft, pp. 46-78**

Film: Ivan the Terrible

Week four:

The Time of Troubles

The Rise of Serfdom

**Readings: Riasanovsky, chs. XVI-XIX
Cracraft, pp. 81-125**

Week five:

Peter the Great I

Peter the Great II

Readings: Riasanovsky, ch. XX Kliuchevskii (on reserve) chs. 2-10

Film: Peter the Great

Week six:

mid-term

18th Century Culture

Readings: Riasanovsky, chs, XXI-XXIV

Week seven:

18th Century Economy

Enlightened Despotism

**Readings: Riasanovsky, ch. XXV
Cracraft, pp. 128-251**

Week eight:

The Decembrists

Slavophiles and Westernizers

**Readings: Riasanovsky, chs. XXVI-XXVII
Cracraft, pp. 256-310**

Week nine:

Industrialization

Nicholas I

**Readings: Riasanovsky, ch. XXVIII
Lermontov**

Film: The Overcoat

Week ten:

The Eve of Emancipation

Review