

Professor Robert Edelman
Department of History
Office: H&SS 6056
Hours: Tuesday-Thursday 10-11
e-mail: redelman@ucsd.edu

HIEU 178/278 THE LAST SOVIET DECADES: 1945-1991, NEW APPROACHES

With the collapse of Communism, the study of the history of the Cold War passed from political science to history. Since the end of World War II, the study of the USSR had been thoroughly enmeshed in contemporary political struggles. Detached scholarship now became possible. In the last twenty-three years, Soviet-era archives have opened up and a flood of scholars, both Western and Russian, have produced pioneering work that is in the process of thoroughly revising our understanding of Soviet history. The purpose of this colloquium is to introduce the students to some of the best examples of this research and demonstrate the ways historical thinking evolves.

Students are expected to do the readings, show up in class and be prepared to participate. Each week, each student will write a one paragraph description of the reading and pose one question she or he would like to have discussed. Those paragraphs and questions should be submitted electronically the day before the class meets. Finally, the primary goal will be for each student to prepare a 15-20 page focused research paper. The topic will be discussed and shaped in consultations between the students and the instructor. They will meet and discuss their progress over the course of the quarter. Drafts will be reviewed and improved. That paper will be due during exam week.

The final grade will be based as follows:

Preparatory paragraphs	25%
In class participation	25%
Focused research paper	50%

Readings on reserve at Geisel or obtainable in any other way

Week 1. Introduction – How to pick a topic

Week 2. Elena Zubkova - Russia after the War

Week 3. Ethan Pollock – Stalin and the Soviet Science Wars (available online at Roger)
pp. 1-103; 212-222

Juliana Furst – Stalin's Last Generation pp.1-31; 167-291

- Week 4. Muriel Dobson – Khrushchev’s Cold Summer pp. 1-20; 109-155; 215-240
Steven Bittner – The Many Lives of Khrushchev’s Thaw pp. 1-140
- Week 5. Ann Gorsuch and Diane Koenker – The Socialist Sixties. pp. 1-83; 193-212
Diane Koenker – Club Red (available online at Roger) pp. 128-261
- Week 6. Vladislav Zubok- A Failed Empire , pp. 29-266
- Week 7. Aleksei Yurchak – Everything Was Forever Until it Was No More, pp. 1-36; 126-281
- Week 8. Robert Edelman – Spartak Moscow, pp. 136-302
Gulnaz Sharafutdinova – Soviet Society in the Era of Late Socialism , pp. 1-142
- Week 9. Kristen Roth-Ey – Moscow Prime Time pp. 1-280
- Week 10. Moshe Lewin – The Soviet Century (available online at Roger) pp. 153-270