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PSC 322.01: Politics of Europe

Forest L. Grieves

The University Of Montana, forest.grieves@umontana.edu

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UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA
Department of Political Science

Political Science 322H
Soviet/Post-Soviet Politics
Spring Semester, 2001

F.L. Grieves
Office: LA 350
Hrs:

Course purpose is to examine the culture, ideology and political institutions of the former Soviet Union and its successor states.

Course objectives: Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to demonstrate 1) factual knowledge of the historical-cultural context and the government institutions/processes of the countries studied; 2) familiarity with Soviet-era/eastern European relevant research sources; and 3) competence in preparing a short research paper and presenting it to a class.

1. Texts: 1) Dusko Doder & Louise Branson, Gorbachev: Heretic in the Kremlin (Penguin, Paper)
2) Thomas Remington, Politics in Russia (Longman, 1999, Paper)
3) Michael Roskin, The Rebirth of East Europe (Prentice Hall, 3rd edition, Paper)

2. Paper (5-10 double-space, typed pages--including endnotes & bibliography; no cover sheet)/oral discussion: Explained in class; topic picked by Feb. 27; written part due at beginning of class March 27; late papers will not be graded! Submission of a paper, however, is required to receive a grade for the course. Style manual: Kate L. Turabian, A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations (6th ed.). Dates of oral discussion announced in class.

Papers are graded on the basis of use of scholarly research sources, organization and clarity of prose (incl. grammar, punctuation & spelling) and formal paper mechanics (Turabian manual). (10 points, 5 % of final grade)

3. Regular attention to current events concerning "Soviet"/Russian affairs is expected. Some publications that deal with Russia, former "Soviet" area and Communist world include CURRENT DIGEST OF THE (POST) SOVIET PRESS, SURVEY, PROBLEMS OF COMMUNISM, SOVIET STUDIES, SLAVIC REVIEW, RUSSIAN REVIEW, UKRAINIAN QUARTERLY, RUSSIAN LIFE, CENTRAL EUROPEAN HISTORY, INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS (Moscow), NEW TIMES (Moscow) and COMMUNIST & POST-COMMUNIST STUDIES (formerly STUDIES IN COMPARATIVE COMMUNISM).

4. EXAMS: Midterm (1 hr.) - Tues., March 13 (90 points, 45 % of final grade)

Final (1 hr.)- Tues., May 15 (8:00-10:00) (100 points, 50 % of final grade)

COURSE OUTLINE

(Readings)

- I. INTRODUCTION Doder/Branson, Roskin (Ch. 1-5)
& Remington (Ch. 1) by Midterm
- II. POLITICAL HERITAGE
- III. THEORY
- IV. PARTY
- V. GOVERNMENT Roskin (Ch. 6-10) & Remington
(Ch. 2-8) by Final
- VI. BUREAUCRACY & ECONOMY
- VII. PERSPECTIVES: WHAT HAPPENED TO THE "UNION OF FEWER AND
FEWER REPUBLICS?"

NOTE: MONDAY, MARCH 12 IS THE LAST DAY TO DROP CLASSES OR CHANGE
GRADING OPTION