STALINIST RUSSIA

Description: This graduate seminar will examine the history and historiography of the Stalinist period. The course will focus primarily on the interaction between the party-state and society: both how the policies of Stalin and his entourage affected people’s daily lives and how social and economic realities shaped and constrained state policy. We will focus on forced collectivization and industrialization, mass terror, the “Great Patriotic War,” and post-war Stalinism. We will end with a book on the intelligentsia after Stalin’s death. Over the course of the semester you will gain an
appreciation of the almost unimaginable suffering people experienced in Stalin’s Soviet Union.

Work/Grading: Weekly reviews of the readings, two pages in length each, constitute the written work for the course. The final grade will be based on class participation as well as on the written work.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

WEEK ONE: 8/26
Introduction

WEEK TWO: 9/2

WEEK THREE: 9/9
Viola, Lynne. The Unknown Gulag.

WEEK FOUR: 9/16

WEEK FIVE: 9/23

WEEK SIX: 9/30

WEEK SEVEN: 10/7

WEEK EIGHT: 10/14

WEEK NINE: 10/21

WEEK TEN: 10/28
Merridale, Catherine. *Ivan’s War: Life and Death in the Red Army, 1939-1945.*

WEEK ELEVEN: 11/4

WEEK TWELVE: 11/11

WEEK THIRTEEN: 11/18
ASSOCIATION FOR SLAVIC, EAST EUROPEAN AND EURASIAN STUDIES CONVENTION – NO CLASS

WEEK FOURTEEN: 11/25
THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY – NO CLASS

WEEK FIFTEEN: 12/2