

Modern Russian History and Society

Last Updated: Fri, 01/09/2026

Course prefix: HTS

Course number: 3048

Section: A

CRN (you may add up to five):

33382

Instructor First Name: Kate Pride

Instructor Last Name: Brown

Semester: Spring

Academic year: 2026

Course description:

This course examines contemporary Russian society and social institutions and the historical legacy that shaped present conditions.

Course learning outcomes:

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

Identify key characteristics of contemporary Russian society

Explain the influence of history on contemporary Russian social institutions

Consider the potential trajectory of Russian political, economic and social development

Apply lessons from the history and sociology of modern Russia to other countries, including the United States

Required course materials:

The Russian Revolution, by Sheila Fitzpatrick

Armageddon Averted: The Soviet Collapse 1970-2000, by Stephen Kotkin

Grading policy:

60% Participation

10% Final Presentation

30% Final Paper

Attendance policy:

Students are expected to attend every class, but students are allowed three unexcused absences without penalty. Missing more than three class sessions will negatively impact the participation grade. Repeated tardiness will also result in lost participation points.

Academic honesty/integrity statement:

Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. All work submitted must be original and properly cited. Plagiarism, cheating, or any form of academic dishonesty will result in immediate consequences as outlined in the university's academic integrity policy.

Core IMPACTS statement(s) (if applicable):

Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help master course content, and support students' broad academic and career goals.

This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:

- How do I understand human experiences and connections?

Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning Outcome:

- Students will effectively analyze the complexity of human behavior, and how historical, economic, political, social, or geographic relationships develop, persist, or change.

Course content, activities and exercises in this course should help students develop the following Career-Ready Competencies:

- Intercultural Competence
- Perspective-Taking

Persuasion