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School of Diplomacy and International
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Fall 2022

DIPL 4185 Foreign Policies of Post-Soviet States

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Foreign Policy of Post-Soviet States



Russian President Vladimir Putin markedly called the collapse of the Soviet Union, "the gravest geopolitical catastrophe of the century." This course will explicate the political fragmentation and antagonism between states in the post-Soviet space. As the regional hegemon and the continuer state of the USSR, primacy of place will be given to the Russian Federation in the analysis of post-Soviet space. Since the ongoing conflict in Ukraine is of central significance for interstate relations between the West and Eurasia, much of the course will revolve around fleshing out the historical origins of the conflict and the geopolitical import of this contemporary conflagration for world politics. However, the smaller ex-Soviet Republics will

not fall by the wayside. Energy politics between core and periphery and the frozen conflicts in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus will be an integral part of the story, as well as the impact of the Chinese hegemon and the continuing expansion of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). In total, the intent of the course is to move beyond propaganda and mere ideology towards a critical analysis of the antagonisms that cut through the post-Soviet space.

When: Wednesday, 2:00-4:30pm

Where: SH-208

Office Hours: 5-6pm

Contact: john.feldmann@shu.edu

Required Work

Since this is an advanced-level course, there will be research papers in the place of written exams for the midterm and final periods of the semester. The first paper will be on a topic of the student's choice in consultation with the professor. The restrictions for the topic are merely that the paper be written in the domain of post-Soviet space and as foreign policy/international relations—that is, not merely a domestic policy paper. The length requirement is 12-15 pages, double-spaced, with a minimum of seven sources.

The second paper for the end of the semester will either be another research paper, the same as the first paper on a topic of the student's choice, or if the professor has deemed your first paper worthy of expansion, you can re-write the first paper. In other words, the second paper would be 24-30 pages expanding the topic of your first paper, with a source require of at least fourteen.

Throughout the course of the semester there will be a total of three subject papers written on a question to be determined from the part of the course in which it was assigned. That is, there will be one subject paper from Part I, Part II, and Part III. The due dates of the subject papers are marked on the reading list on the last part of the syllabus (see below). Each subject paper will be required to be between 1,000-1,500 words. The aim of the subject papers is to position the student in relation to the material covered during that part of the course.

During the final exam period, students will present a group presentation on a topic relevant to the subject matter of the course. The requirement is 15-20 minutes for the presentation and that each student shares the responsibility of presentation in turn. Ideally, a powerpoint presentation should be used. The intent of the group presentation is to select a subject of interest not covered in the course, related to the foreign policy of post-Soviet states. Students in the group should all figure out which topic they want to present in consultation with the professor.

Late and Missed Assignments

Your, soon to be, favorite professor is currently in the process of completing his doctoral dissertation and is hence a very busy man. Missed assignments required a documented excuse for the student's absence. In the presence of an acceptable excuse extension of the deadline will be granted. However, if you let me know in advance about difficulties you are having or any health related problems, it is much better than waiting until after the fact..

Absences

Students are allowed one undocumented absence over the course of the semester, though please let me know in advance if you do not plan to attend. Given that we are still living through the SARS-COV-2 pandemic, students should remain home and not attend class if they are feeling ill, sick or feverish. Let me know in advance.

Grading

Weight	Scale
First Paper: 20 percent	100-93 = A
Second Paper: 20 percent	92-90 = A-
Subject Papers: 20 percent	89-87 = B+
Group Presentation: 20 percent	86-83 = B
Class Participation: 20 percent	82-80 = B-
	79-77 = C+
	76-73 = C
	72-70 = C-
	69-60 = D
	X<60 = F

Disability Services Statement

It is the policy and practice of Seton Hall University to promote inclusive learning environments. If you have a documented disability you may be eligible for reasonable accommodations in compliance with University policy, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and/or the New Jersey Law against Discrimination. Please note, students are not permitted to negotiate accommodations directly with professors. To request accommodations or assistance, please self-identify with the Office for Disability Support Services (DSS), Duffy Hall, Room 67 at the beginning of the semester. For more information or to register for services, contact DSS at (973) 313-6003 or by e-mail at DSS@shu.edu.

CAPS

As part of our commitment to the health and well-being of all students, Seton Hall University's Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) offers initial assessments, counseling, crisis intervention, consultation, and referral services to the SHU community. The CAPS office is located on the second floor of Mooney Hall, room 27. Appointments can be made in-person or by calling 973-761-9500 during regular business hours, Monday-Friday, 8:45 a.m. - 4:45 p.m. In case of a psychological emergency, call CAPS (973-761-9500) at any time to speak to a crisis counselor. For more information, please visit: <https://www.shu.edu/counseling-psychological-services/index.cfm>

Policy on Incompletes

Incompletes will be given only in exceptional cases for emergencies. Students wishing to request a grade of Incomplete must provide documentation to support the request accompanied by a Course Adjustment Form (available from the Diplomacy Main Office) to the professor before the date of the final examination. If the incomplete request is approved, the professor reserves the right to specify the new submission date for all missing coursework. Students who fail to submit the missing course work within this time period will receive a failing grade for all missing coursework and a final grade based on all coursework assigned. Any Incomplete not resolved within one calendar year of receiving the Incomplete or by the time of graduation (whichever

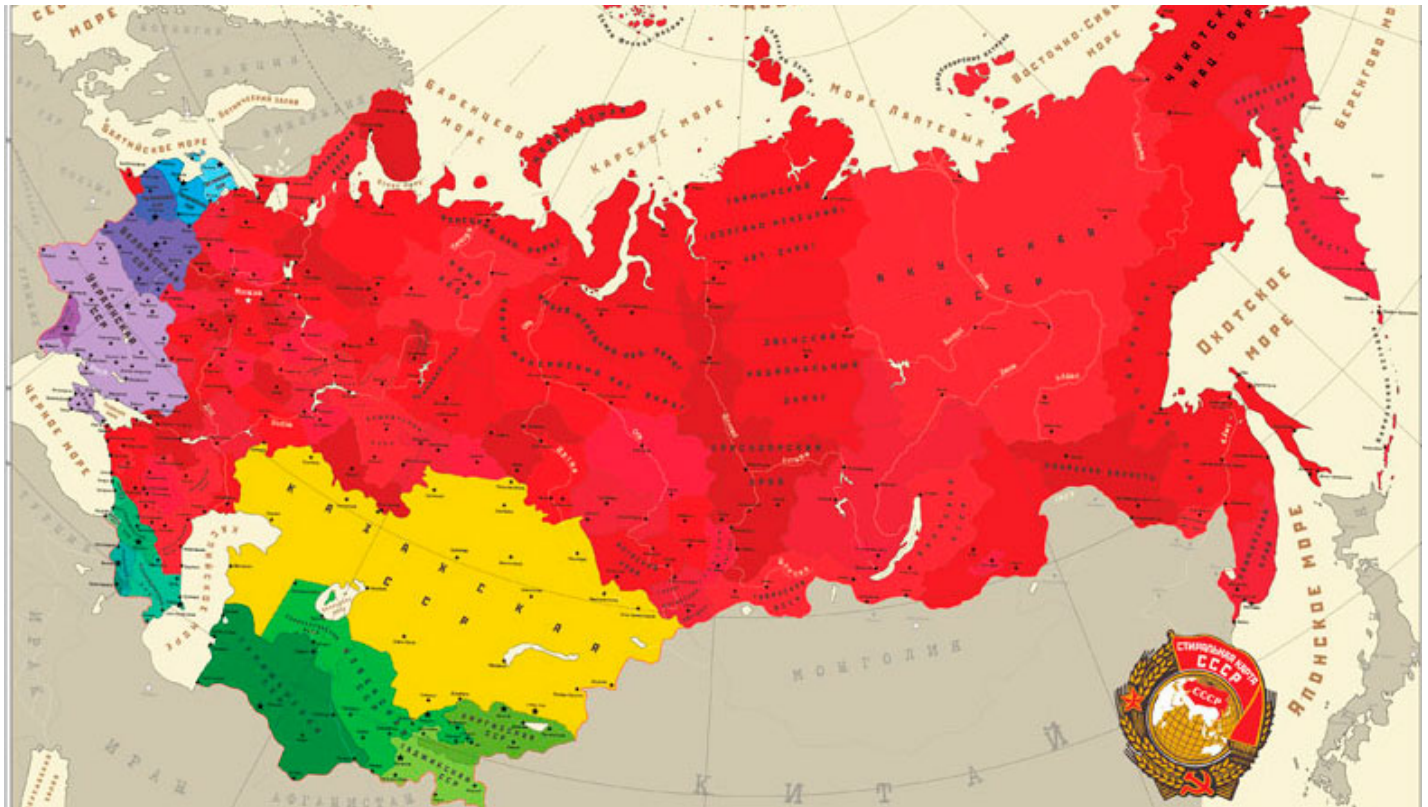
comes first) automatically becomes an "FI" (which is equivalent to an F). It is the responsibility of the student to make sure they have completed all course requirements within the timeframe allotted. Please be aware that Incompletes on your transcript will impact financial aid and academic standing.

Academic Integrity & Dishonesty

Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty will be reported to the administration, and may result in a lowered or failing grade for the course and up to possible dismissal from the School of Diplomacy. See University and School standards for academic conduct here: <https://www.shu.edu/student-life/upload/Student-Code-of-Conduct.pdf> and <http://www.shu.edu/academics/diplomacy/academic-conduct.cfm>. Resources for academic integrity are on the course Blackboard page.

Citation Formats (some version of the paragraph below)

Papers should utilize one of the Chicago Manual of Style citation formats: Author-Date or Notes and Bibliography. The guidelines for these formats are on the course Blackboard page.



Part I: Russian Foreign Policy

September 7

Andrei Tsygankov, *Russia's Foreign Policy: Change and Continuity in National Identity*, Sixth Edition (New York: Rowman & Littlefield).

Chapter I: Understanding Change and Continuity in Russia's Foreign Policy, 1-30.

Chapter II: The Cold War Crisis and Soviet New Thinking, 1985-1991, 31-54.

September 14

Andrei Tsygankov, *Russia's Foreign Policy: Change and Continuity in National Identity*, Sixth Edition (New York: Rowman & Littlefield).

Chapter III: The Post-Soviet Decline and Attempts at Cooperation, 1991-2004, 55-124.

September 21

Andrei Tsygankov, *Russia's Foreign Policy: Change and Continuity in National Identity*, Sixth Edition (New York: Rowman & Littlefield).

Chapter IV: Recovery and Assertiveness, 2005-2019, 125-196.

September 28

Andrei Tsygankov, *Russia's Foreign Policy: Change and Continuity in National Identity*, Sixth Edition (New York: Rowman & Littlefield).

Chapter V: From Assertiveness to Isolation: 2019-2022, 197-220.

Chapter VI: Conclusion and Lessons, 221-238.

FIRST SUBJECT PAPER DUE



Part II: Post-Imperialism

October 5

Margarita M. Balmaceda, *The Politics of Energy Dependency: Ukraine, Belarus, and Lithuania between Domestic Oligarchs and Russian Pressure* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2013).
Chapter II: The Legacy of the Common Soviet Energy Past, 42-60.
Chapter III: The Domestic Russian Background, 61-89.
Chapter V: Belarus: Turning Dependency into Power?, 154-207.

October 12

James J. Coyle, *Russia's Border Wars & Frozen Conflicts* (Cham: Palgrave Macmillan, 2018).
Chapter III: Moldova, 157-178.
Chapter IV: Georgia, 179-206.
Chapter V: Nagorno-Karabakh, 207-256.

October 19

Branislav Radeljić, "Kosovo in the Official Rhetoric of the European Union and Russia", in *Kosovo and Serbia: Contested Opinions and Shared Consequences*, edit. Leandrit I. Mehmeti and Branislav Radeljić (Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2016).
Paul Latawski and Martin A. Smith, *The Kosovo crisis and the evolution of post-Cold War European Security* (New York: Manchester University Press, 2003).
Chapter IV: Kosovo, NATO and Russia, 92-119.
Benedikt C. Harzl, "Conflicting Perceptions: Russia, the West and Kosovo," *Review of Central and East*

European Law 33 (2008): 491-518.

OCTOBER 21: Midterm Paper

October 26

Alexander Lukin, "Russia's Image of China and Russian-Chinese Relations," *East Asia* 17 (1999): 5-39.

Alexander Lukin, *China and Russia: The New Rapprochement* (Malden: Polity Press, 2018).

Chapter III: Russia's Pivot to Asia or Just China?, 67-95.

Chapter IV: From Normalization to Strategic Partnership, 96-127.

November 2

Ted Galen Carpenter, *NATO: The Dangerous Dinosaur* (Washington D.C.: The Cato Institute, 2019).

Chapter I: NATO's Worrisome Trends and Growing Fissures, 15-36.

Chapter II: Fateful Decision: NATO Expansion and the Road to a New Cold War, 37-60.

Chapter III: Comparing the Soviet and Russian "Threats", 61-86.

November 9

Ted Galen Carpenter, *NATO: The Dangerous Dinosaur* (Washington D.C.: The Cato Institute, 2019).

Chapter IV: A Sober Risk-Benefit Calculation for America, 87-108.

Chapter V: U.S. Paternalism Stifles Independent European Security, 109-133.

Conclusion, 133-150.

SECOND SUBJECT PAPER DUE



Part III: The Ukraine Crisis

November 16

Richard Sakwa, *Frontline Ukraine: Crisis in the Borderlands* (New York: I.B. Tauris, 2015).

Chapter I: Countdown to Confrontation, 1-25.

Chapter II: Two Europes, 26-49.

Chapter III: Ukraine Contested, 50-80.

Chapter IV: The February Revolution, 81-99.

November 30

Oleg Zhuravlev and Volodymyr Ishchenko, "Exclusiveness of civic nationalism: Euromaidan eventful nationalism in Ukraine" *Post-Soviet Affairs* 36 (2020): 226-245.

Mikhail A. Molchanov, "Russia as Ukraine's 'Other': Identity and Geopolitics," in *Ukraine and Russia: People, Politics, Propaganda and Perspectives*, edit. Agnieszka Pikulicka-Wilczewska and Richard Sakwa (Bristol: E-International Relations, 2015), 206-221.

Chris Kapspar de Ploeg, *Ukraine in the Crossfire* (Atlanta: Clarity Press, 2017).

Chapter I: A Divided Country, 12-20.

Chapter III: The Militarization of the Maidan, 29-45.

Chapter IV: Far Right-backed Regime Change, 36-44.

Chapter V: Oligarch-backed Regime Change, 45-53.

Chapter VI: Western-backed Regime Change, 54-68.

Chapter IX: Dismantling Russophone Ukraine, 104-114.

December 7

Ivan Katchanovski, "The Separatist War in Donbass: A Violent Break-up of Ukraine?," *European Politics and Society* (2016): 1-17.

Serhiy Kudelia, "Domestic Sources of the Donbas Insurgency," *PONARS Eurasia Policy Memo No. 351* (2014).

Serhiy Kudelia, "The Donbas Rift," *Russian Politics and Law*, 54 (2016): 5-27.

Richard Sakwa, *Frontline Ukraine: Crisis in the Borderlands* (New York: I.B. Tauris, 2015).
Chapter VII: The Novorossiia Rebellion, 148-182.

THIRD SUBJECT PAPER DUE
FINAL EXAM PERIOD: Final Paper