This seminar will focus on the complex and evolving relationship of Russia and Europe, and the Soviet Union and the World, from the middle ages to the present. The course will have both a thematic and chronological approach, investigating subjects including: Russia’s place between Europe and Asia, the multifarious ways in which Russia and the Soviet Union were imagined; Empire and nation, and the place of non-Russian nationalities in Imperial Russia and the Soviet Union in comparison with other European empires; the impact of Russia on European and world affairs; the Russian Revolution and European modernity; and the superpowers and the world during the Cold War.

The class will emphasize discussion of monographs and other scholarship in the field as well as original research using both primary and secondary sources. Each student will write two 3-5p. book reviews (each 10% of the final grade) and a 15-20p. final research paper (40% of final grade). You will be encouraged to find a topic for the research paper related to your own area(s) of interest. The book reviews may be on any of the monographs that we are reading for this class and are due the week that that book is assigned for. One of the reviews must be done by week seven. [You are welcome to do your book reviews the weeks that you are presenting, but you do not have to.]

All students are expected to participate actively in weekly discussions; there will be one-page response papers due at the beginning of each class on that week’s readings. [You do not have to do response papers the two weeks that you are turning in book reviews.] Each student will be responsible for giving brief presentations to the class twice over the course of the semester on that week’s topic (the response papers, class discussion, and presentations will collectively constitute 40% of final grade), and the presenter should have questions ready to lead the class discussion.

Required Texts
Dominic Lieven, Empire: The Russian Empire and Its Rivals. [List: $22.00]
Liah Greenfeld, Nationalism: Five Roads to Modernity [List: $31.50]
Martin Malia, Russia under Western Eyes. [List: $17.95]
Robert Crews, For Prophet and Tsar: Islam and Empire in Russia and Central Asia. [List: $29.95]
David L. Hoffmann, Stalinist Values: The Cultural Norms of Soviet Modernity. [List: $19.95]
Vladislav Zubok and Constantine Pleshkov, Inside the Kremlin’s Cold War (new ed.) [List: $23.00]
Robert English, Russia and the Idea of the West. [List: $26.00]

Selections on Electronic Reserves [https://ares.uflib.ufl.edu](https://ares.uflib.ufl.edu)
(These are required readings, and you should not only read these articles and selections, but also print them out to bring to class for the purpose of discussion.)
[There may be minor changes in the assigned readings each week, which will be announced in advance.]

**Week One** (Jan. 10th) – Introduction: Between Europe and Asia

**Readings:**

**Week Two** (Jan. 17th) – Russia and World Civilization

**Readings:**

**Week Three** (Jan. 24th) – Muscovy and its Surroundings

**Readings:**

**Week Four** (Jan. 31st) – Europe and Russia

**Readings:**

**Week Five** (February 7th) – The Development of European Nations

**Readings:**

**Week Six** (February 14th) – Empire, Nation, and Development in Comparative Perspective

**Readings:**
- Dominic Lieven, *Empire: The Russian Empire and Its Rivals.*
- Alexander Gerschenkron, “Economic Backwardness in Historical Perspective.” [Ares]
Week Seven (February 21st) – Russia’s Orient
Readings:
Robert Crews, For Prophet and Tsar.
Susan Layton, “Nineteenth-Century Russian Mythologies of Caucasian Savagery,” in Daniel Brower and Edward Lazzerini, eds., Russia’s Orient, 80-100. [Ares]

Week Eight (February 28th) – The Russian Revolution and European Modernity
Readings:
David L. Hoffmann, Stalinist Values.

Week Nine (March 6th) – Americans and Russian Development
Readings:
Malia, Russia Under Western Eyes, p.233-356.

Week Ten (March 20th) – research paper workshop

Week Eleven (March 27th) – The Soviet Superpower and the World
Readings:
Vladislav Zubok and Constantine Pleshkov, Inside the Kremlin’s Cold War.
Malia, Russia Under Western Eyes, p.357-407.

Week Twelve (April 3rd) – Russia and the Idea of the West
Readings:
English, Russia and the Idea of the West.

Week Thirteen (April 10th) – research paper workshop

Week Fourteen (April 17th) – Conclusions
Readings:
Malia, Russia Under Western Eyes, p.409-35.