

# POL 2074 POLITICS OF RUSSIA<sup>1</sup>

Spring Semester 2022  
Department of Political Science  
University of Cincinnati

Instructor: Dr. Ivan Dinev Ivanov  
Class meeting time: MWF 2:30-3:25pm  
Location: Swift 519  
Instructor's phone: 513-556-3318

Instructor's email: [Ivan.Ivanov@uc.edu](mailto:Ivan.Ivanov@uc.edu)\*  
Office Hours: 10:30-noon  
Instructor's Office: 1209 Crosley Tower  
Or via WebEx:  
<https://ucincinnati.webex.com/meet/ivanovid>

\* I prefer to contact me via email and I should be able to respond you within next 12-24 hrs.

## COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The course surveys the politics of Russia, including its historical development, culture, social, and economic characteristics. It focuses on Russia's modern political system that include its political institutions, political parties, public opinion, civic and participation. The course also studies Russia's social, economic, linguistic, and cultural traditions and how those relate to similar traditions of other countries. Next, students will examine closely Russian foreign policy in different parts of the world (e.g., Europe, the Middle East, and East Asia), as well as Moscow's relations with its neighbors and other major powers such as the United States and China. Special attention will be paid to Russia's security policy and its relations with key international institutions such as the United Nations, NATO, and OSCE.

## STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to meet the following outcomes: (1) they will be able to demonstrate knowledge of key features about Russia's social, political, economic and cultural system and its evolution in the last two centuries; (2) students will identify key sources, events, players and patterns shaping modern Russian politics; (3) they will apply various perspectives, ethical decisions and explanations in Russia and in the West to analyze sources and outcomes of Russian domestic politics and foreign policy; (4) students will critically evaluate changing patterns of democratic and non-democratic rule and how those have shaped Russian domestic and foreign policy over time. (5) Finally, students will produce original oral and written work that uses social science methods to explain various aspects of Russian domestic politics and foreign policy and how those shape Moscow's behavior in the international arena.

## REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING:

<i>Course Requirements:</i>	<u>% of final grade</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
Two in-class midterm exams	40% (2x20)	2/28 and 3/25
Team presentations and discussion	15%	check tentative schedule
Take home final exam	30%	5/TBD @ 11:59 pm EST via Canvas
Attendance and participation	15%	throughout the semester

---

<sup>1</sup> This syllabus is subject to change. I reserve the right to add supplementary readings if necessary.

*Grading Scale:*

93-100%	A	73-76%	C
90-92%	A-	70-72%	C-
87-89%	B+	67-69%	D+
83-86%	B	63-66%	D
80-82%	B-	60-62%	D-
77-79%	C+	0-59%	F

Please note that grades represent **NON-NEGOTIABLE** assessments of a student's comprehension of course material.

**A NOTE ABOUT TEAM PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION**

Students will be divided into 6 teams with a minimum of 5-6 students and will be asked to present and discuss a specific topic/ aspect of Russian politics. The team will have 55 min to organize the class presentation and discussion. The presentation should take no more than 20-25 min, with about 10 min for Q&A and the rest of the time should be allocated to discussion. The instructor will provide background information and guidance but most of the research will be conducted the team. Power Point and other visual presentations are recommended if they are considered necessary. The team will be asked to appoint a leader who will coordinate the team efforts, provide advice and guidance to the individual team members and report to the instructor any issues that may arise among team members. A detailed list of the research assignments and further instructions will be provided in class and posted on Canvas.

**POLICIES AND CAVEATS:**

If you have a disability that affects your performance in class, please notify the instructor **at the beginning of the semester** in order to find an accommodation that meets best student's interests. Also, for advice and assistance you may contact the university's disability services office, located in 210 University Pavilion, Phone 513-556-6823, Email: [disabisv@ucmail.uc.edu](mailto:disabisv@ucmail.uc.edu).

Students are expected to attend the class regularly; attendance will be recorded at each class meeting. If student is not able to attend a scheduled exam due to extraordinary circumstances (medical), I should be informed **PRIOR** to the test about his or her impending absence and documentation must be provided when you return to class. Absences due to illness or injury will not be excused retroactively unless documentation is provided to the instructor. A student who misses a total of **ONE-THIRD** or more class meetings will receive a class participation grade of zero (0) and may also have his or her overall course grade reduced. A student who has a total of **HALF** or more unexcused absences will receive a course grade of F. Even though I do NOT necessarily require a note from the doctor, I expect you to contact me in advance (preferably by email) and inform me if you are not feeling well.

I do **NOT** plan makeup examinations or quizzes. Missing an exam without prior permission of the instructor may result in a zero on that exam. Make-up tests will only be arranged in extreme cases, so please be sure to let me know as soon as possible if you will not be able to attend at

the scheduled time.

Please note that most readings will be available on the course's webpage on Blackboard or via links posted on Blackboard. When electronic versions of readings are unavailable, paper copies will be provided in class or course pack will be available in the library and/or one of the university bookstores.

Lastly, I need to remind you that all of the work you submit in this course is expected to be your own. Students should review the UC student code of conduct and be aware of all activities defined as academic dishonesty. Although I do encourage students to exchange ideas and/or work together on certain assignments, *each student is responsible for completing and submitting his or her own work*. Please be advised that according to the UC Student Code of Conduct plagiarism is defined as:

Submitting another's published or unpublished work in whole, in part or in paraphrase, as one's own without fully and properly crediting the author with footnotes, quotation marks, citations, or bibliographical reference.

Submitting as one's own original work, material obtained from an individual or agency without reference to the person or agency as the source of the material.

Submitting as one's own original work material that has been produced through unacknowledged collaboration with others without release in writing from collaborators.<sup>2</sup>

For further information sample citation styles visit the Princeton University's website on academic integrity: <http://www.princeton.edu/pr/pub/integrity/pages/styles/>

#### **USE OF TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM:**

**Please, understand the proper use of technology in the classroom. Laptop computers, tablets, cell phone and other electronic devices can be used strictly for academic purposes and with discretion. Their volume should be muted at all times in class.** If students use online resources for anything other than the course content (e.g., watching sport events, shopping online, or participating in other non-academic activities), they will be penalized. Penalties may include dismissal from class, zero (0) points on course participation, or failing the course altogether.

#### **READINGS:**

1) The following book is required:

Stephen K. Wergen (ed.), *Putin's Russia: Past Imperfect, Future Uncertain (7<sup>th</sup> Editions)*. Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield, 2018.

There are readings in addition to the required textbook. Most readings will be available on the course's web page on Canvas in pdf format.

---

<sup>2</sup> The University of Cincinnati Student Code of Conduct, Last revised on 4/29/04. Also available on the Internet: [http://www.uc.edu/conduct/Code\\_of\\_Conduct.html](http://www.uc.edu/conduct/Code_of_Conduct.html) (06/23/2007).

2) Highly recommended books (selected excerpts will be posted on Canvas):

Mary McAuley, *Soviet politics 1917-1991*. New York, N.Y.: Oxford University Press, 1992.

Thomas F. Remington, *Politics in Russia* (7th edition). London and New York: Routledge, 2016 (paperback).

Joel Ostrow (ed.), *Politics in Russia: A Reader*. Los Angeles, CA: Sage/ CQ Press, 2012.

Stephen White, *Understanding Russian Politics*. London and New York: Cambridge University Press, 2011.

Pål Kolstø and Helge Blakkisrud (eds), *The new Russian nationalism: imperialism, ethnicity and authoritarianism 2000-15*. Edinburgh, U.K.: Edinburgh University Press, 2016.

Richard Sakwa, *Russia against the Rest: The Post-Cold War Crisis of World Order*. London and New York: Cambridge University Press, 2017.

Marcel van Herpen, *Putin's wars: the rise of Russia's new imperialism*. Lanham, M.D.: Rowman & Littlefield, 2015.

#### **COURSE STRUCTURE AND READINGS (SEE TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR DETAILS):**

##### **Week 1: Introduction to Russian Politics: nationalism, revisionism and Eurasianism**

Nadya Arbatova, "Three Faces of Russia's Neo-Eurasianism," *Survival: Global Politics and Strategy* 61(6), 2019, pp. 7-24.

Graeme Gill, "The Basis of Putin's Power," *Russian Politics* 1(1), 2016, pp. 46-69

Richard Sakwa, "Russian Neo-Revisionism," *Russian Politics* 4(1), 2019, pp. 1-21

Watch PBS Documentary: *Inside Putin's Russia*, [https://youtu.be/\\_AkAZik73FO](https://youtu.be/_AkAZik73FO)

##### **Week 2. Historical Legacies of Russian Politics: Tsarist Russia**

Andreas Kappeler, "Ukraine and Russia: Legacies of the Imperial Past and Competing Memories," *Journal of Eurasian Studies* 5 (2014), pp. 107-115.

Thomas F. Remington, *Politics in Russia* (7th edition). London and New York: Routledge (2016), pp. 32-33 (The Soviet System and Its Demise: The Tsarist Regime).

Anders Åslund and Andrew Kuchins, *The Russia Balance Sheet*. Washington, DC: Peterson Institute for International Economics, 2009. Chapter 1, "Russia's Historical Roots," pp. 11-15.

Dominic Lieven, "Russian, Imperial and Soviet Identities," *Transactions of the Royal Historical Society* 8 (1998), pp. 253-269.

##### **Week 3. Historical Legacies Russian Politics: The Soviet Union**

Thomas F. Remington, *Politics in Russia* (7th edition). London and New York: Routledge (2016), pp. 34-49 (The Soviet System and Its Demise: The Soviet Regime).

Joel Ostrow (ed.), *Politics in Russia: A Reader*. Los Angeles, CA: Sage/ CQ Press (2012), pp. 16-43 (Chapter 1.2 "Terror as a System of Power").

Mary McAuley, *Soviet politics 1917-1991*. New York, N.Y.: Oxford University Press, 1992. (Chapter 6 “The Administrative Command System Under Brezhnev”).

Andrew Wood, “How the Soviet Inheritance Holds Back Russia's Development,” *Chatham House* (July 2013).

#### **Week 4. Russia’s Political Transition: from perestroika to Putin**

Stephen White, *Understanding Russian Politics*, Cambridge University Press (2011), pp. 1-26 (Chapter 1 “From Communist to Post-Communist Rule”).

Joel Ostrow (ed.), *Politics in Russia: A Reader*. Los Angeles, CA: Sage/ CQ Press (2012), pp. 84-114 (Chapter 2.2 “Glasnost Guttled the Party”).

Henry E. Hale, “25 Years After the USSR: What’s Gone Wrong?” *Journal of Democracy* 27(3), July 2016, pp. 24-35.

Recommended: Kora Andrieu, “An Unfinished Business: Transitional Justice and Democratization in Post-Soviet Russia,” *The International Journal of Transitional Justice*, 5, 2011, pp. 198–220.

#### **Week 5: Russia’s Economic Transition: reforms, economic collapse and the power of the oligarchs**

Wergen (ed.), *Putin’s Russia: Past Imperfect, Future Uncertain* (2018), pp. 149-166 (Chapter 7 “Economic Policy”).

Stephen White, *Understanding Russian Politics*, Cambridge University Press (2011), pp. 115-162 (Chapter 4 “From Plan to Market”).

Wergen (ed.), *Putin’s Russia: Past Imperfect, Future Uncertain* (2018), pp. 167-188 (Chapter 8 “Crime and Corruption”).

Leslie Holmes, “Corruption in Post-Soviet Russia,” *Global Change, Peace & Security* (formerly *Pacifica Review: Peace, Security & Global Change*) 24(2), June 2012, pp. 235–250.

Recommended: Vladimir Gelman, “Politics versus Policy: Technocratic Traps of Russia’s Policy Reforms,” *Russian Politics* 3 (2018), pp. 282-304.

#### **Week 6: Russia’s Constitutional Design: branches of government, federalism, and (de)centralization**

Wergen (ed.), *Putin’s Russia: Past Imperfect, Future Uncertain* (2018), pp. 49-68 (Chapter 2 “Regional Politics”).

Wergen (ed.), *Putin’s Russia: Past Imperfect, Future Uncertain* (2018), pp. 27-48 (Chapter 1 “Political Leadership”).

Joel Ostrow, *Politics in Russia: A Reader* (2012), pp. 253-267 (Chapter 5.3 “Majority Control and Executive Dominance”).

#### **Week 7: Russia’s Constitutional Design: parties, elections, media and civil society**

Yury Korgunyuk, “Classification of Russian Parties,” *Russian Politics* 2(3), 2017, pp. 255-286.

Grigorii V. Golosov, “Authoritarian Learning in the Development of Russia’s Electoral System,” *Russian Politics* 2(3), 2017, pp. 182-205.

Wergen (ed.), *Putin’s Russia: Past Imperfect, Future Uncertain* (2018), pp. 89-108 (Chapter 4 “Civil Society and Protest”).

Dougherty, “How the Media Became One of Putin’s Most Powerful Weapons,” *The Atlantic* (April 2015).

### **Week 8: The Russian Ideas of Nationalism and Conservatism and the Rise of Vladimir Putin**

Olga Kryshchanovskaya and Stephen White, “The Sovietization of Russian Politics,” *Post-Soviet Affairs*, 25(4), 2009, pp. 283-309.

Nicu Popescu, “Putinism Under Siege,” The Strange alliance of Democrats and Nationalists,” *Journal of Democracy* 23(3), 2012, pp. 46-54.

Petrov, Lipman and Hale, “Three Dilemmas of Hybrid Regime Governance: Russia from Putin to Putin,” *Post-Soviet Affairs* 30(1), 2014, pp. 1-26.

Polyakov, “‘Conservatism’ in Russia: Political Tool or Historical Choice?” *Russia/NIS Center* 90, Paris, France 2015.

Recommended: Regina Smyth, “Studying Russia’s Authoritarian Turn: New Directions in Political Research on Russia,” *Russian Politics* 1(4), 2016, pp. 337-346.

### **Week 9. Overview of Russian Foreign Policy: relations with Ukraine and Georgia**

Nicolai N. Petro, “How the West Lost Russia: Explaining the Conservative Turn in Russian Foreign Policy,” *Russian Politics* 3(3), 2018, pp. 305-332.

Irakli Gelukashvili, “Georgia in Russia’s Discourse,” *Russian Politics* 3(3), 2018, pp. 396-429.

Andrei Tsygankov, “Vladimir Putin’s last stand: the sources of Russia’s Ukraine Policy,” *Post-Soviet Affairs* 31(4), 2015, pp. 279–303.

### **Week 10: Frozen Conflicts in Russia’s Periphery: the cases of Ukraine and Georgia (Abkhazia & Ossetia)**

Marcel Van Herpen, Putin’s Wars: *The Rise of Russia’s New Imperialism*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers (2015), pp. 205-237 (Chapters 13, 14, 15: “The War with Georgia Parts 1, 2 and 3”).

Marcel Van Herpen, Putin’s Wars: *The Rise of Russia’s New Imperialism*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers (2015), pp. 239-263 (Chapter 16: “Origins of the War in Ukraine”).

Marcel Van Herpen, Putin’s Wars: *The Rise of Russia’s New Imperialism*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers (2015), pp. 265-279 (Chapter 17: “Russia’s ‘Hybrid War’ in Ukraine”).

Recommended: Tuomas Forsberg, “Russian Discourse on Borders and Territorial Questions—Crimea as a Watershed?” *Russian Politics* 4(2), 2019, pp. 211-241.

### **Week 11: Russian Foreign Policy and Global Outreach: Middle East, Asia and Africa**

Stephen White, *Understanding Russian Politics*. Cambridge University Press (2011), pp. 263-320 (Chapter: “Russia in the Wider World”).

Ekaterina Stepanova, “Russia in the Middle East: Back to a ‘Grand Strategy’ or Enforcing Multilateralism?” *Politique Étrangère* 2, 2016, pp. 1-14.

Alexander Lukin, “Russia’s Pivot to Asia: Myth or Reality?” *Strategic Analysis* 40(6), 2016, pp. 573-589.

Tobias Schumacher & Cristian Nitoiu, "Russia's Foreign Policy Towards North Africa in the Wake of the Arab Spring," *Mediterranean Politics* 20(1), 2015, pp. 97-104.

### **Week 12: Russia's Security Policy in the 21 Century: nuclear security, energy security and cybersecurity**

Dmitry (Dima) Adamsky, "If War Comes Tomorrow: Russian Thinking About 'Regional Nuclear Deterrence,'" *The Journal of Slavic Military Studies* 27(1), 2014, pp. 163-188.  
Wergen (ed.), *Putin's Russia: Past Imperfect, Future Uncertain* (2018), pp. 291-312 (Chapter 14 "Energy").

Julien Nocetti, "Contest and Conquest: Russia and Global Internet Governance," *International Affairs* 91(1), 2015, pp. 111-130.

Recommended: Marco Siddi, "EU-Russia Energy Relations: From a Liberal to a Realist Paradigm?" *Russian Politics* 2(3), 2017, pp. 364-381.

### **Week 13: Russia's Relations with International Institutions: the EU, NATO, OSCE and others**

Rick Fawn (ed), *Realignments in Russian Foreign Policy*. London, U.K.: Frank Cass & Co. Ch. 1 ("An Introduction"), pp. 1-9.

Martin Smith, *Russia and NATO Since 1991: from Cold War through Cold Peace to Partnership*. London, U.K.: Routledge, 2003. Ch. 3 ("Unfulfilled Partnerships: Russia and NATO from 'Honeymoon' to Kosovo), pp. 88; Ch 4 ("The New Millennium: September 11, Iraq and the NATO-Russia Council"), pp. 89-105.

Wergen (ed.), *Putin's Russia: Past Imperfect, Future Uncertain* (2018), pp. 227-246 (Chapter 11 "Relations with the European Union").

Mikhail Mohammedinov, "What's the Point of the Eurasian Economic Union?" *Russian Politics* 2(3), 2017, pp. 334-363.

### **Week 14: Russia in the 21 Century Great Power Politics: overview of relations with the US and China**

Wergen (ed.), *Putin's Russia: Past Imperfect, Future Uncertain* (2018), pp. 209-226 (Chapter 10 "Relations with the United States").

Wergen (ed.), *Putin's Russia: Past Imperfect, Future Uncertain* (2018), pp. 247-268 (Chapter 12 "Russia-China Relations").

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

### Books:

Mark Beissinger, *Nationalist Mobilization and the Collapse of the Soviet State*. London and New York: Cambridge University Press, 2002.

Masha Gessen, *The man without a face: the unlikely rise of Vladimir Putin*. New York, N.Y.: Riverhead Books, 2012.

Karen Dawisha, *Putin's Kleptocracy: Who Owns Russia?* New York, N.Y.: Simon and Schuster Publishers, 2015.

Timothy Snyder, *The Road to Unfreedom: Russia, Europe, America*. New York, N.Y.: Penguin Random House LLC, 2018.

Susanne Oxenstierna and Veli-Pekka Tynkkynen (eds.), *Russian Energy and Security up to 2030*. London and New York: Routledge, 2014.

William Taubman, *Gorbachev: His Life and Times*. New York and London: W.W. Norton and Company, 2017.

Marc Bennetts, *I'm Going To Ruin Their Lives: Inside Putin's War on Russia's Opposition*. London, U.K.: Oneworld Publishers, 2016.

Pål Kolstø and Helge Blakkisrud (eds.), *The New Russian Nationalism: Imperialism, Ethnicity and Authoritarianism 2000-15*. Edinburgh, U.K.: Edinburgh University Press, 2016.

Archie Brown, *The rise and fall of Communism*. New York: HarperCollins/Random House, 2009.

Valerie Bunce, Michael McFaul and Kathryn Stoner-Weiss (eds.), *Democracy and Authoritarianism in the post-Communist world*. Cambridge University Press, 2010.

Stephen Kotkin, *Uncivil Society: 1989 and the Implosion of the Communist Establishment*. New York, N.Y.: Modern Library, 2009.

Andrew Radin et al, *The Future of Russian Military*. Santa Monica, CA: Rand Corporation, 2019.

#### Selected Journal Articles:

Michael Rochlitz, “The Return of the Siloviki: An Introduction,” *Russian Politics* 4(4), 2019, pp. 493–498.

Linda J. Cook, Jørn Holm-Hansen, Markku Kivinen and Stein Kuhnle, “Introduction: The Russian Welfare State in a Time of Economic Stagnation,” *Russian Politics* 4(3), 2019, pp. 291–301.

Henry E. Hale, Maria Lipman and Nikolay Petrov, “Russia’s Regime-on-the-Move,” *Russian Politics* 4(2), 2019, pp. 168–195.

Andrei Melville, Andrei Akhremenko and Mikhail Mironyuk, “What Russia Can Teach Us about Power and Influence in World Politics,” *Russian Politics* 4(2), 2019, pp. 137–167.

Andrew M. Akin, “Role Conceptions and Belligerent Foreign Policy: Why Russia is Remaking the International Order,” *Russian Politics* 4(1), 2019, pp. 112–135

Mari Aburamoto, “An Indispensable Party of Power? United Russia and Putin’s Return to the Presidency, 2011–14” *Russian Politics* 4(1), 2019, pp. 22–41

Yana Gorokhovskaia, “Russian Politics: From Local Activism to Local Politics: The Case of Moscow”

Rostislav Turovsky and Elizaveta Korneeva, “The Institutional Impact on Voter Turnout: The Case of Russia and its Regions (2011–2016),” *Russian Politics* 3(3), 2018, pp. 372–395.



- Derek Hutcheson and Ian McAllister, “Putin versus the Turnout? Mapping the Kremlin’s 2018 Presidential Election Support,” *Russian Politics* 3(3), 2018, pp. 333–358.
- Jussi Lassila, “Putin as a Non-populist Autocrat,” *Russian Politics* 3(2), 2018, pp. 175–195.
- Andrey Starodubtsev, “Coordination, Subordination and Control in Russian Territorial Governance” *Russian Politics* 3(2), 2018, pp. 260–281.
- Anastasia Stepanovich, “Reform of the Russian Healthcare System and the Foreign Dimension of Russian Health Policies,” *Russian Politics* 3(1), 2018, pp. 114–134
- David White, “Modifying Electoral Authoritarianism. What the 2016 Parliamentary Elections Tell us about the Nature and Resilience of the Putin Regime,” *Russian Politics* 2(4), 2017, pp. 482–501.
- Derek S. Hutcheson, “Contextualizing the 2016 State Duma Election,” *Russian Politics* 2(4), 2017, pp. 383–410.
- Paul Chaisty and Stephen Whitefield, “Understandings of the Nation in Russian Public Opinion: Survey Evidence from Putin’s Russia (2001–2014),” *Russian Politics* 2(2), 2017, pp. 123–154.
- Oksana Drozdova and Paul Robinson, “In Others’ Words: Quotations and Recontextualization in Putin’s Speeches,” *Russian Politics* 2(2), 2017, pp. 227–253.
- Vasily Gatov, Elisabeth Schimpfössl and Ilya Yablokov, “From Soviet to Russian Media Managers,” *Russian Politics* 2(1), 2017, pp. 7–31.
- Magdalena B. Leichtova, “Why Crimea was Always Ours: Legitimacy-Building in Russia in the Wake of the Crisis in Ukraine and the Annexation of Crimea,” *Russian Politics* 1(3), 2016, pp. 291–315.
- Henry Hale, “Yabloko and the Challenge of Building a Liberal Party in Russia,” *Europe-Asia Studies* 56(7), 2004, pp. 993-1020.
- Pierre Noël, “Nord Stream II and Europe’s Strategic Autonomy,” *Survival* 61(6), 2019, pp. 89-95.
- Roland Dannreuther, “Russia and the Middle East: A Cold War Paradigm?” *Europe-Asia Studies* 64(3), 2012, pp. 543-560.
- Ivan Krastev and Stephen Holms, “Putinism Under Siege: An Autopsy of Managed Democracy,” *Journal of Democracy* 23(3), 2012, 33-45.

Recommended Academic Journals Specializing in Russian Politics:

*Russian Politics*: <https://brill.com/view/journals/rupe/rupe-overview.xml>

*Post-Soviet Affairs* (Formerly known as *Soviet Economy*):  
<https://www.tandfonline.com/loi/rpsa20>

*The Journal of Slavic Military Studies* (formerly *Soviet Military Studies*):  
<https://www.tandfonline.com/loi/fslv20>

*Journal of Democracy*: <https://www.journalofdemocracy.org/>

## POL 2074 TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

*Spring Semester 2022  
Department of Political Science  
University of Cincinnati*

<i>Week</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
Week One 1/10-1/14	1/10 Introduction to the class	1/12 Introduction: Three Faces of Neo-Eurasionism	1/14 Q&A about Russia's Neo-Eurasionism
Week Two 1/17-1/21	1/17 MLK Birthday <b>No classes</b>	1/19 Legacies of Tsarist Russia	1/21 Q&A about Legacies of Tsarist Russia
Week Three 1/24-1/28	1/24 Legacies of the Soviet political system	1/26 Legacies of the Soviet economic system	1/28 Q&A about Soviet legacies influencing Russian politics
Week Four 1/31-2/4	1/31 Russia's Political Transition: from perestroika to democratization	2/2 Russia's Political Transition: failed democratization	2/4 Q&A about Russia's Political Transition
Week Five 2/7-2/11	2/7 <b>Mon discussion:</b> Why Russia's democratization deviated from CEE?	2/9 Russia's Economic Transformation: liberalization & marketization	2/11 Russia's Economic Transformation: privatization & oligarchs
Week Six 2/14-2/18	2/14 <b>Mon discussion:</b> What are the sources of corruption in Russia and why is it tolerated by society?	2/16 Russia's Constitution: federalism and institutions	2/18 <b>Midterm I</b>
Week Seven 2/21-2/25	2/21 Russia's political parties	2/23 Elections and civil society in Russia	2/25 Q&A about Russian parties, elections & civil society
Week Eight 2/28-3/4	2/28 V. Putin's rise to power	3/2 Putinism, nationalism and conservatism	3/4 Q&A about Russia's ideas of Putinism and conservatism
Week Nine 3/7-3/11	3/7 <b>Mon discussion:</b> Why Putin chose conservatism as preferred ideology?	3/9 Russia and near abroad	3/11 Q&A about Russia's role in the conflicts in Transnistria and the Caucasus.
Spring Break	3/14 No classes	3/16 No classes	3/18 No classes
Week Ten 3/21-3/25	3/21 Russia's role in the conflicts in Georgia and Ukraine	3/23 Russia's global outreach: the Middle East, Asia and Africa	3/25 <b>Midterm II</b>
Week Eleven 3/28-4/1	3/28 <b>Mon discussion:</b> Why can't Russia "win the hearts" of the public in near abroad?	3/30 No class meeting	4/1 No class meeting
Week Twelve 4/4-4/8	4/4 <b>Mon discussion:</b> what tools does Russia have to expand its global influence?	4/6 Russia's energy security policy	4/8 Russia's cyber-security policy
Week Thirteen 4/11-4/15	4/11 Russia's nuclear security policy	4/13 Russia-NATO Relations	4/15 Russia in the European security
Week Fourteen 4/18-4/22	4/18 <b>Mon discussion:</b> what mechanisms does Russia have to influence NATO politics?	4/20 US-Russian relations in the 21 Century	4/22 Russo-Chinese relations in the 21 Century

Final Take Home Exam due May 26, 2022, at noon (12 pm) EST via Canvas.