

Module code: MOD000742	Version: 5 Date Amended: 18/Jul/2022
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1. Module Title
From Communism to Consumerism: Russia since 1917

2a. Module Leader
Jonathan Davis

2b. School
School of Humanities and Social Sciences

2c. Faculty
Faculty of Arts, Humanities, Education and Social Sciences

3a. Level
6

3b. Module Type
Standard (fine graded)

4a. Credits
15

4b. Study Hours
150

5. Restrictions			
Type	Module Code	Module Name	Condition
Pre-requisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
Courses to which this module is restricted:	None		

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

In this module, you will examine Russia's history from the revolutions in 1917 through to the World Cup in 2018. You will consider the Bolsheviks' success during the revolutionary era and examine what the formation of the Soviet system and the growth of the Stalinist dictatorship meant for the Russian people. You will assess the era of developed socialism and the emergence of Soviet consumerism, Mikhail Gorbachev's reforms in the 1980s, and the collapse of the USSR. And you will focus on Russia's troubled transition to a market-based democracy during the chaotic Yeltsin years and Vladimir Putin's nationalist-authoritarian turn. You will build your knowledge of contemporary Russian history and develop the ability to critically examine Russia's move from Tsarism to communism to a managed democracy with authoritarian characteristics. Through this module you will develop your analytical skills and your ability to engage in autonomous learning and problem solving.

6b. Outline Content

- The February Revolution and the end of Tsarism
- The October Revolution and the Civil War
- The Communist turn: Russia in the 1920s
- Stalin's Revolution from Above
- Society and terror in Stalin's Russia
- The Great Patriotic War and the death of Stalin
- Khrushchev and de-Stalinisation
- Consumerism and queues: the Brezhnev years
- Perestroika unravels: the collapse of the Soviet Union
- New Russia: consumerism, democracy, and oligarchs
- The Putin project: nationalism, security, and stability

6c. Key Texts/Literature

The reading list to support this module is available at: <https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/>

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

October', 1927, Sergei Eisenstein, DVD (available in Library) 'Tourists of the revolution'. Part 2/3: the people's flag BBC2, 2000, Video (available in Library) 'Burnt by the Sun', 1995 Nikita Mikhalkov, DVD (available in Library)

7. Learning Outcomes (threshold standards)		
No.	Type	On successful completion of this module the student will be expected to be able to:
1	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate a critical and substantial understanding of the causes and consequences of the Russian Revolutions.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Critically assess the changes and continuities in the Soviet system.
3	Knowledge and Understanding	Understand, explain and evaluate the changes in post-Soviet Russia.
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Demonstrate an ability to present an in-depth argument in written form.

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	Occurrence	Period	Location	Mode of Delivery
2026/7	ZZF	Template For Face To Face Learning Delivery		Face to Face

8b. Learning Activities for the above Module Occurrence			
Learning Activities	Hours	Learning Outcomes	Details of Duration, frequency and other comments
Lectures	12	1-4	1 hour weekly lecture.
Other teacher managed learning	12	1-4	1 hour weekly seminar.
Student managed learning	126	1-4	Students must organise and manage their own reading and research time, and prepare for seminars (126 hours).
TOTAL:	150		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence

The assessment for some modules includes a presentation (see below for details on how this particular module is assessed). We recognise that presenting, especially to a large group, can cause significant anxiety or distress for some students. If this may affect you, please contact your Module Leader or the Disability and Neurodiversity Service as early as possible. We will work with you to consider appropriate reasonable adjustments. Depending on your individual needs, these might include, for example, presenting to a smaller group or presenting only to a member of academic staff.

Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Coursework	1-4	50 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)

Essay: 1500 words.

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011	Coursework	1-4	50 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)

Essay: 1500 words.

In order to pass this module, students are required to achieve an overall mark of 40% (for modules at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6) or 50% (for modules at level 7*).

In addition, students are required to:

- (a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above**
- (b) pass any pass/fail elements**

[* the pass mark of 50% applies for all module occurrences from the academic year 2024/25 – see Section 3a of this MDF to check the level of the module and Section 8a of this MDF to check the academic year]