History 106:  
**HISTORY AND POLITICS OF RUSSIA**

Instructor, Dr. Levon Marashlian  
Office: SR 354 (818) 240-1000, ext. 5463  
Hours: MWF, 8:00-9:30  TTh, 8:30-10:15  
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I. **Course Description**  
This course is a study of the major political and economic developments that shaped the history of the Russian and Soviet peoples from the 9th Century to the 1990's. Special emphasis is on 19th century Russian political movements, the revolutions in the 20th century, Soviet nationalities policy, glasnost and perestroika, the C.I.S. and the ex-Soviet republics, and current relations between Russia and the United States.

II. **Prerequisites**  
Recommended preparation: Eligibility for English 120 or ESL 151.

III. **Course Objectives Include:**  
1. Understanding the geographic, economic, religious, ethnic, political and military factors that shaped major developments in the Russian Empire.  
2. Understanding the ideological, political, and military dimensions of the Russian revolutions and revolutionary movements.  
3. Understanding the formation and development of the Soviet Union from 1917 to 1985 and the continuities between Russian and Soviet foreign policies.  
4. Understanding glasnost, perestroika, and ethnic and political forces that led to the collapse of the Soviet Union and emergence of new republics and the C.I.S.  
5. Understanding current U.S. policy toward Russia and Moscow’s policies toward Washington and the ex-Soviet republics.

IV. **Student Learning Outcomes.**  
As a result of taking this class students will be able to:  
* Provide a factual narration of major events and developments in the history and politics of Russia.  
* Critically analyze the impact of various ideologies and political, economic, and social forces that shaped the course of Russian history during the Muscovite, Romanov and Soviet periods as well as the current developments involving the Russian Federation.
V. Course Materials
Readings:
* **Instructor handouts**.

**Videotapes**: A large collection of video resources, including documentaries as well as news coverage of Russian issues on American television.

VI. Attendance
Students are expected to attend all class meetings. Having more than 3 absences, unless cleared by the instructor, can lead to a lower grade. If a student wishes to withdraw from the class, it is the student’s responsibility to notify the Office of Admissions and Records before the deadline. Failure to do so may lead to a failing grade.

VII. Students With Disabilities
All students with disabilities requiring accommodations are responsible for making arrangements in a timely manner through the Center for Students with Disabilities

VIII. Examinations and Grades
There will be two one-hour exams and a two-and-a-half hour final exam. All exams are worth a maximum of 100 points. No grades can be dropped. The final grade will be an average of the four exam grades, according to the following percentage scale:

90 to 100 = A    80 to 89 = B    60 to 79 = C    50 to 59 = D    0 to 49 = F

IX. Examination Make-Up Policy
Make-up exams are allowed only if the instructor is convinced there was a good reason to miss the regularly scheduled exam.

X. Academic Dishonesty Policy
All students are expected to do their own work. All forms of cheating and plagiarism are absolutely forbidden. This is the official policy of Glendale Community College and the instructor of this course. Students found to be using unauthorized materials on exams, copying from other students’ exams, copying other written material without proper credit to the original author, or cheating in any other way, will have the particular assignment marked F and may receive a failing grade for the course.

XI. Special Interactive Video Format
The format of the course features an innovative combination of lecture/discussion and interactive video. Hours of specially edited videotapes will be incorporated into the learning experience.

XII. Course Outline
1. Introduction to the land & peoples of the Soviet Union & to themes in Russian history.
2. Survey of Russian history from the emergence of the Russian people in the 9th century to the Decembrist Revolt of 1825.

3. 19th Century political movements & the 1905 Revolution.

4. World War I & the fall of the Romanov Empire.


6. The Russian Civil War, 1918-1921.


8. Trotsky, Stalin, industrialization/collectivization, Gulag, & purges, 1924-1930's.


10. Emergence of Soviet power, the Cold War, & Soviet society, 1946-1953.


13. Gorbachev and glasnost/perestroika, the August 1991 coup and the formation of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

14. Nagorno-Karabakh, Chechnya, and other national conflicts in Russia and the newly independent ex-Soviet republics.

15. The Yeltsin, Putin, and Medvedev administrations.


17. US policies toward Russia and the other ex-Soviet republics into the 21st Century.