

University of Waterloo, Department of Political Science

POLITICS IN RUSSIA

PSCI 253 -- Fall 2012

Instructor: John (Ivan) Jaworsky, Rm. 307 HH, telephone -- ext. 36566
Instructor e-mail address: jjaworsk@uwaterloo.ca

Class held on Mondays and Wednesdays during the Fall 2012 term, 2:30-3:50, in DWE 2527
Office hours: Tues. 3:00-4:30; Thurs. 2:00-4:00 **N.B.** I am also available at other times during the week **by appointment**.

Undergraduate Secretary, Dept. of Political Science: Karen Walo, Rm. 313 HH, ext. 33396
Course TA (teaching assistant): Aleksandar (Aleks) Djeric

PREREQUISITE: Level at least 2A

FORMAT: Lectures and class discussions

DESCRIPTION: A comparative examination of political processes, institutions, and reforms in Russia, with a focus on the successes and failures of democratization.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: This is a comparative politics course. Students will learn about the meaning and significance of political processes and institutions, and the successes and failures of the process of democratization, by focusing on post-Soviet Russia. At the same time, students will gain interesting and useful insights concerning politics in an important and fascinating country undergoing very rapid and turbulent changes since the collapse of the Soviet Union.

REQUIREMENTS: There will be a mid-term exam, worth 20% of the final mark, held on Wednesday Nov. 14, and an end-of-term exam, held during the regular exam period, worth 40% of the final mark. Students are required to write a course essay worth 40% of the final mark. The essay topic must be approved by the instructor (additional information about the essay will be provided separately), and students are encouraged to consult with the instructor and/or course teaching assistant as they work on the essay. The deadline for the submission of the essay is the **last class** of the semester (Monday Dec. 3). **NB -- Students should not make end-of-semester travel plans until the final exam schedule has been confirmed.**

The course will be run as a **lecture** course; however, students are encouraged to ask questions and raise matters relevant to the course in class. Students are also encouraged to consult with the instructor during regular office hours. The course will be administered using the Desire2Learn (D2L) online course system, and all non-lecture information relevant to the course will be provided to students using this system.

TEXTBOOK: Stephen White, Understanding Russian Politics (2011). Other course materials will be available as E-readings (see the required readings list below), and can be accessed through the library's course reserve system (available from the library's home page), or by using the library's PRIMO system. If you have any problems accessing these materials, check with me, or with a librarian. Students will also be provided with information concerning internet resources relevant to the course (e.g., resources useful in preparing your course essays). Throughout the semester, the instructor may use the Desire2Learn system to provide students with brief items supplementing the course materials listed below. If you are not informed otherwise, you are responsible for reading **all** of these supplementary materials.

SCHEDULE OF LECTURES AND REQUIRED READINGS

Introduction to the Course and Course Requirements. The Context of Post-Communism: State and Regime in Russia (Sept. 10, 12)

From Communist to Postcommunist Rule: Historical Legacies and their Significance (Sept. 17, 19, 24)

Text: Chapter 1.

Andrieu, "An Unfinished Business: Transitional Justice and Democratization in Post-Soviet Russia," The International Journal of Transitional Justice, Vol. 5, No. 2 (July 2011): 198-220

Voters, Parties and Parliament (Sept. 26, Oct. 1, 3)

Text: Chapter 2.

Lyubarev, "An Evaluation of the Results of the Duma Elections," Russian Analytical Digest No. 108 (6 February 2012): 2-5, available for downloading at the following URL:
<http://www.isn.ethz.ch/isn/Digital-Library/Publications/Detail/?ots591=0c54e3b3-1e9c-be1e-2c24-a6a8c7060233&lng=en&id=136568>

White, "The Russian Presidential Election: What Next?" Russian Analytical Digest No. 110 (16 March 2012): 2-4, available for downloading at the following URL:
<http://www.isn.ethz.ch/isn/Digital-Library/Publications/Detail/?ots591=0c54e3b3-1e9c-be1e-2c24-a6a8c7060233&lng=en&id=140077>

Henderson, "Civil Society in Russia: State-Soviet Relations in the Post-Yeltsin Era," Problems of Post-Communism, Vol. 58, No. 3 (May-June 2011): 11-27.

White, Dominant Party Systems: A Framework for Conceptualizing Opposition Strategies in Russia,” Democratization, Vol. 18, No. 3 (2011): 655-681.

Presidential Government (Oct. 9, 10, 17)

Text: Chapter 3.

Finkel and Brudny, “Russia and the Colour Revolutions,” Democratization, Vol. 19, No. 1 (February 2012): 15-36.

Monaghan, “The ‘Vertikal’: Power and Authority in Russia,” International Affairs, Vol. 88, No. 1 (January 2012): 1-16.

From Plan to Market (Oct. 22, 24, 29, 31)

Text: Chapter 4.

Rutland, "Putin's Economic Record: Is the Oil Boom Sustainable?" Europe-Asia Studies 60 (August 2008).

Ahrend, “Can Russia Break the "Resource Curse?"” Eurasian Geography and Economics Vol. 46, No. 8 (December 2005).

Heinrich and Pleines, “The Political Challenges of an Oil Boom,” Russian Analytical Digest No. 113 (15 May 2012): 2-6, available for downloading at the following URL:
<http://www.isn.ethz.ch/isn/Digital-Library/Publications/Detail/?ots591=0c54e3b3-1e9c-be1e-2c24-a6a8c7060233&lng=en&id=142464>

Holmes, “Corruption in Post-Soviet Russia,” Global Change, Peace and Society, Vol. 24, No. 2 (June 2012): 235-250.

Gelman, “Russia’s Crony Capitalism: The Swing of the Pendulum,” 14 November 2011, published on the *openDemocracy* site at the following URL: <http://www.opendemocracy.net/od-russia/vladimir-gelman/russia%E2%80%99s-crony-capitalism-swing-of-pendulum>

A Divided Society (Nov. 5, 7, 12)

Text: Chapter 5.

Makarkin, "The Russian Social Contract and Regime Legitimacy," International Affairs, Vol. 87, No. 6 (November 2011): 1459-1475.

NB -- Mid-term Exam – Nov. 14

Changing Times, Changing Values (Nov. 19, 21)

Text: Chapter 6.

Hale, "The Myth of Mass Public Support for Autocracy: The Public Opinion Foundations of a Hybrid Regime," Europe-Asia Studies, Vol. 63, No. 8 (October 2011): 1357-1375.

What Kind of System? (Nov. 26, 28, Dec. 3)

Text: Chapter 8.

Pomeranz, "Twenty Years of Russian Legal Reform," Demokratizatsiya, Vol. 20, No. 2 (Spring 2012): 141-148.

Krastev and Holmes, "An Autopsy of Managed Democracy," Journal of Democracy, Vol. 23, No. 3 (July 2012): 33-45.

Wilson, "Putin Returns, But Will Russia Revert to 'Virtual Democracy'?" published on the *openDemocracy* site at the following URL: <http://www.opendemocracy.net/od-russia/andrew-wilson/putin-returns-but-will-russia-revert-to-%E2%80%98virtual-democracy%E2%80%99>

Bunce, "The Tasks of Democratic Transition and Transferability," Orbis 52, No. 1 (2008).

Wolchik, "Can There Be A Color Revolution?" Journal of Democracy, Vol. 23, No. 3 (July 2012): 63-70.

Academic Integrity:

Academic Integrity: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility.

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student

who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline, <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm>.

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4, <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm>.

Appeals: A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read Policy 72 - Student Appeals, <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.htm>.

Academic Integrity website (Arts):

http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html

Academic Integrity Office (uWaterloo): <http://uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/>

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:

Note for students with disabilities: The Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD), located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the OPD at the beginning of each academic term.