

## OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

Note: The University reserves the right to amend course outlines as needed without notice.

Course Code and Number: HIST 392

Number of Credits: 4 [Course credit policy \(105\)](#)

Course Full Title: The Soviet Union in the Cold War Era  
 Course Short Title:

Faculty: Faculty of Humanities

Department (or program if no department): History

### Calendar Description:

An examination of factors that helped sustain the territorial and ideological unity, military strength, and international influence of the Soviet Union, and the reasons behind the gradual liberalization of society, the fall of Communism, and eventual disintegration of the USSR.

Note: Students with credit for HIST 397G cannot take this course for further credit.

Prerequisites (or NONE): 9 credits of lower-level history or 45 university-level credits.

Corequisites (if applicable, or NONE): NONE

Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE): NONE

### Equivalent Courses (cannot be taken for additional credit)

Former course code/number: HIST 397G

Cross-listed with:

Equivalent course(s): HIST 397G

Note: Equivalent course(s) should be included in the calendar description by way of a note that students with credit for the equivalent course(s) cannot take this course for further credit.

### Transfer Credit

Transfer credit already exists: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Transfer credit requested (OReg to submit to BCCAT):

☐ Yes ☒ No (Note: If yes, fill in transfer credit form)

Resubmit revised outline for articulation: ☐ Yes ☒ No

To find out how this course transfers, see [bctransferguide.ca](http://bctransferguide.ca).

Total Hours: 60

Typical structure of instructional hours:

Lecture hours	30
Seminars/tutorials/workshops	30
Laboratory hours	
Field experience hours	
Experiential (practicum, internship, etc.)	
Online learning activities	
Other contact hours:	
<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>

### Special Topics

Will the course be offered with different topics?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes,

Different lettered courses may be taken for credit:

☐ No ☐ Yes, repeat(s) ☐ Yes, no limit

Note: The specific topic will be recorded when offered.

Maximum enrolment (for information only): 30

Expected frequency of course offerings

(every semester, annually, etc.): Every second year

Department / Program Head or Director: Chris Leach

Date approved: November 2016

Campus-Wide Consultation (CWC)

Date of posting: n/a

Faculty Council approval

Date approved: December 2016

Dean/Associate VP: Jacqueline Nolte

Date approved: December 2016

Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval

Date of meeting: February 24, 2017

**Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify and analyze key components in Russian History during the Cold War era.
- Discuss themes and issues in Russian History during the Cold War era.
- Articulate historical debates on the subject.
- Demonstrate in-depth knowledge of the importance of context, evidence, perspective, and research in the study of history.
- Work with multiple sources, both primary and secondary.
- Write for historical audiences.

**Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)**

☒ Yes ☐ No, PLAR cannot be awarded for this course because

**Typical Instructional Methods (guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.; may vary at department's discretion)**

Teaching methods will include lectures, seminar discussions/debates and examinations, guest lectures and field trips. Relevant audio/visual materials will also be used.

**NOTE: The following sections may vary by instructor. Please see course syllabus available from the instructor.**

**Typical Text(s) and Resource Materials (if more space is required, download supplemental Texts and Resource Materials form)**

<u>Author Surname, Initials</u>	<u>Title (article, book, journal, etc.)</u>	<u>Current Edition</u>	<u>Place of Publication</u>	<u>Year Published</u>
1. Suny, R. G.	The Soviet Experiment: Russia, the USSR, and the Successor States	<input type="checkbox"/>	Oxford University Press	2003
2. Kennedy-Pipe, C.	Russia and the World: 1917-1991	<input type="checkbox"/>	Oxford University Press	1998
3.	On-line readings (articles and essays).	<input type="checkbox"/>		
4.		<input type="checkbox"/>		
5.		<input type="checkbox"/>		

**Required Additional Supplies and Materials (Eg. Software, hardware, tools, specialized clothing)**

N/A

**Typical Evaluation Methods and Weighting**

Final exam:	25%	Assignments:	%	Midterm exam:	20 %	Practicum:	%
Quizzes/tests:	10%	Lab work:	%	Field experience:	%	Shop work:	%
Other: Oral Presentation	5%	Other: Research Paper (Memoir Analysis)	30%	Other: Participation	10%	Total:	100%

**Grading system:** Letter Grades: ☒ Credit/No Credit: ☐ Labs to be scheduled independent of lecture hours: Yes ☐ No ☒

**Typical Course Content and Topics**

Week 1: Introduction: The Soviet Union and the leading world powers before and after the Cold War; historiography and sources.  
 Week 2: Soviet Russia in the inter-war period: search for identity, security and co-existence with the West.  
 Week 3: The Second World War and its aftermath: The imposition of the Stalinist orthodoxy at home and abroad.  
 Week 4: USSR, the United States, and the "First" Cold War: the dawn of the communist superpower, 1945-1953.  
 Week 5: De-Stalinization: Khrushchev's "Thaw" and adventurism in foreign policy.  
 Week 6: Midterm examination. Field trip.  
 Week 7: The Brezhnev era: Stability, bureaucracy and status quo, 1964-1982.  
 Week 8: Towards a global role? Soviet foreign policy under Brezhnev and beyond.  
 Week 9: Rule of gerontocracy, 1980-1985; Gorbachev and the beginning of democratic reforms, 1985-1991.  
 Week 10: The "Second" Cold War and the end of the bi-polar world, 1985-1991.  
 Week 11: Fall of Soviet and Eastern European communism; disintegration of the Soviet Union.  
 Week 12: Yeltsin's Russia and the post-Soviet states of Eurasia: confusion and co-existence.  
 Week 13: National idea and geo-political priorities at the turn of the 21st century: sovereign democracy in Putin's Russia.