

Political Science 369

The Politics of Post-Soviet Russia

Northwestern University
Department of Political Science
Spring 2014
Tues. & Thur. 12:30-1:50PM, Kresge Centennial Hall 2415

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COURSE SUMMARY

From civil war to nuclear weapons, mafia thugs to oligarchs, and natural resource battles to modern-day dictators, Russia has experienced a remarkable range of political phenomena over the past two decades. This course analyzes the political, economic, and foreign policy revolutions that shook Russia after the collapse of the Soviet Union. Through the lens of the Russian experience, we will examine key concepts in comparative politics, such as revolution, regime change, market formation, nationalism, and state building.

Whether you plan to professionally engage in politics, conduct international business, or simply be a well-educated global citizen, you need to know about Russia. It is the world's largest country by geographic size and the ninth¹ largest country by population. It remains one of the world's only two nuclear superpowers. It is the world's largest oil producer and exporter. And it widely is considered – along with China, India, and Brazil – to be one of the world's most important emerging economies.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students are expected to complete all required readings prior to each lecture and to attend all lectures and discussion sections. If a student has a legitimate reason to miss a session (e.g., a religious holiday), please discuss this with the professor and TA at the beginning of the term. Neither the readings nor the lecture slides will provide comprehensive coverage of the materials you are expected to know for the papers and exam.

¹ This is according to the CIA World Factbook. Some sources place Russia as the eighth largest country by population.

There will be three assignments: a midterm exam, a 5- to 7-page paper, and a final exam. The paper assignment and exams will be based on the lectures and required readings. Evaluation in the course will be decided as follows:

Midterm: 25%

Paper: 25%

Final: 30%

Attendance and Participation: 20%

The midterm will be held on **Thursday, May 1** during the regular lecture time. The paper will be due on **Friday, May 30** at **noon**. The final exam will be held on **Friday, June 13** from **3:00-5:00PM**.

No late assignments will be accepted, with the exception of documented cases of illness or family crisis. In such cases, a request must be made to the professor and TA prior to the assignment's due date. The failure to turn in a paper or to attend an exam session will result in an F for the given assignment. Papers previously or simultaneously submitted for another course will not be accepted.

RESEARCH STUDY PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENT

Students enrolled in this course are required to complete a research assignment that can include up to four hours of research study participation. These studies require that students set up an appointment to complete participation at a laboratory on campus (or via an on-line survey). Students will learn how studies are conducted and will receive a synopsis at the conclusion of the quarter describing the study's goal, result, and relevance to the class. Students who prefer not to participate in research as a subject may opt for an alternative that entails reading any one chapter about political science research and writing a 5-page reaction paper. The typical chapter is about 20 pages and thus reading it and writing a 5-page paper should take approximately four hours.

During the first week of the quarter, students will receive an e-mail asking them whether they prefer study participation or the alternative assignment. The e-mail will also include details on how to complete either requirement. Failure to complete the requirement during the quarter will result in an incomplete. Failure to complete the requirement during the following quarter will result in a failing grade for the class. *Note that if you are enrolled in multiple classes that require participation, you only need to satisfy the requirement one time. Also, if you already completed the requirement in another course in a previous quarter, you are excused from the requirement.*

IN-CLASS ELECTRONICS POLICY

Please turn all phones off before the lecture. Note that this implies no texting as well as no calls. Laptops may be used for note taking only. Use of email, Facebook, or other activities unrelated to lecture is strictly prohibited and may result in a grade deduction.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Instructors are required by university policy to report violations of academic integrity standards to the Dean's Office. A non-exhaustive list of behaviors that violate standards of academic integrity includes: cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, obtaining an unfair advantage, aiding and abetting dishonesty, falsification of records and official documents, and unauthorized access to computerized academic or administrative records or systems. Note that even unintentional plagiarism is still plagiarism. If you are unsure about whether to cite or how to cite a source, then confer with the professor or teaching assistant. Information about Northwestern's academic integrity policies can be found at <http://www.northwestern.edu/provost/students/integrity/>.

You are strongly encouraged to take issues of academic integrity seriously. Nearly 20 Northwestern students were suspended last year due to violations of academic integrity standards. Such violations can end up on your academic record and may become a red flag for employers and graduate schools.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

All necessary accommodations will be made for students with disabilities. Please contact the professor at the beginning of the term so that we can work together with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities to make arrangements.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course, the aim is that you will have improved your ability to:

- Apply critical thinking and analytical writing skills to the study of contemporary political and economic events;
- Discuss intelligently the political and economic developments in Russia and surrounding post-communist countries;
- Use theories of comparative politics and political economy to develop explanations of variation across political systems.

COURSE MATERIALS

The following two books are required:

- Daniel Treisman, *The Return: Russia's Journey from Gorbachev to Medvedev* (Free Press, 2011)
- Stephen K. Wegren, ed., *Return to Putin's Russia: Past Imperfect, Future Uncertain*, 5th Edition (Rowman & Littlefield, 2013)

Other readings will be made available through Blackboard (these latter readings are marked with a BB in the overview below).

You are strongly encouraged to follow current events in the former Soviet Union by reading *The New York Times*, *The Economist*, or the news source of your choice. An excellent source of news on Russia is Johnson's Russia List (JRL), which can be found online at: <http://www.russialist.org/johnsons-russia-list-newsletter-table-contents.php>. You can subscribe to the free JRL email newsletter by emailing David Johnson at davidjohnson@starpower.net. Simply state that you are a student and would like to be added to the JRL subscription list.

COURSE OVERVIEW

PART I: Pre-1992

Tuesday, April 1

Lecture 1: Introduction

Readings:

- Mary McAuley, *Soviet Politics, 1917-1991* (Oxford University Press, 1992)
 - Introduction (pp. 1-11) (BB)

Thursday, April 3

Lecture 2: Origins of the Soviet System

Key themes:

- Rise of capitalism
- The socialist response to capitalism
- Socialism in Russia
- The Russian Revolution

Readings:

- Archie Brown, *The Rise and Fall of Communism* (New York: HarpersCollins, 2009)
 - Excerpts from Chp 1: The Idea of Communism (pp. 9-11, 18-25) (BB)
 - Excerpts from Chp 2: Communism and Socialism – The Early Years (pp. 30-37) (BB)
 - Chp 3: The Russian Revolutions and Civil War (pp. 40-55) (BB)

Further Background Materials:

- Ronald Suny, *The Soviet Experiment* (Oxford University Press, 1997)

Tuesday, April 8

Lecture 3: Development of the Soviet System

Key themes:

- Building socialism
- Stalinism

Readings:

- Archie Brown, *The Rise and Fall of Communism* (New York: HarpersCollins, 2009)
 - Chp 4: Building Socialism: Russia and the Soviet Union, 1917-1940 (pp. 56-77) (BB)
- Mary McAuley, *Soviet Politics, 1917-1991* (Oxford University Press, 1992)
 - Chp 4: Terror (pp. 50-62) (BB)

Further Background Materials:

- Ronald Suny, *The Soviet Experiment* (Oxford University Press, 1997)

Thursday, April 10

Lecture 4: The “Developed” Soviet System

Key themes:

- The USSR after Stalin
- Totalitarianism: A new political order
- The Soviet command economy

Readings:

- Archie Brown, *The Rise and Fall of Communism* (New York: HarpersCollins, 2009)
 - Chp 13: Khrushchev and the Twentieth Party Congress (pp. 227-244) (BB)
- Anders Åslund, *Building Capitalism: The Transformation of the Former Soviet Bloc* (Cambridge University Press, 2002)
 - Chp 1: What Communism Actually Was (pp. 20-38) (BB)

Further Background Materials:

- Janos Kornai, *The Soviet System: The Political Economy of Communism* (Oxford University Press, 1992)
- Zbigniew Brzezinski and Carl Friedrich, *Totalitarian Dictatorship and Autocracy* (Harvard University Press, 1956)
- Juan Linz and Alfred Stepan, *Problems of Democratic Transition and Consolidation: Southern Europe, South America, and Post-Communist Europe* (John Hopkins University Press, 1996) (Chapter 3)
- M. Steven Fish, *Democracy From Scratch: Opposition and Regime in the New Russian Revolution* (Princeton University Press, 1996) (Chapter 1)

Tuesday, April 15

Lecture 5: Collapse of the Soviet System

Key themes:

- Structural pressures: Economics, demographics, and foreign policy
- Gorbachev's economic and political reforms
- Societal mobilization: Nationalism, social movements, and civil society
- Eastern European democratization and fall of the Iron Curtain
- The August 1991 coup and the Soviet Empire's last days

Readings:

- Daniel Treisman, *The Return: Russia's Journey from Gorbachev to Medvedev* (Free Press, 2011)
 - Chp 1: The Captain (pp. 1-40)
- Victoria Bonnell, Ann Cooper, and Gregory Freidin, *Russia at the Barricades: Eyewitness Accounts of the August 1991 Coup* (M.E. Sharpe, 1994)
 - Part I, Chp 3: Statements and Explanations by the Putschists (pp. 55-68) (BB)
 - Part II, Chps 1 and 4: The Public Reacts (pp. 71-77, 100-110) (BB)

Further Background Materials:

- David Remnick, *Lenin's Tomb: The Last Days of the Soviet Empire* (Vintage Press, 1994)
- Mikhail Gorbachev, *Memoirs* (Doubleday Press, 1996)

Thursday, April 17

Lecture 6: Explaining the Collapse

Key Themes:

- Structural explanations
- Contingent explanations
- Institutional explanations

Readings:

- Daniel Treisman, *The Return: Russia's Journey from Gorbachev to Medvedev* (Free Press, 2011)
 - Chp 5: The Unraveling (pp. 163-196)
- Alexander Dallin, "Causes of the Collapse of the USSR," *Post-Soviet Affairs* 8, 4 (1992) (BB)

Further Background Materials:

- Michael McFaul, *Russia's Unfinished Revolution: Political Change from Gorbachev to Putin* (Cornell University Press, 2001)
- Henry Brady and Cynthia Kaplan, *Gathering Voices: Political Mobilization and the Collapse of the Soviet Union* (Cambridge University Press, 2011)
- Ronald Suny, *The Revenge of the Past: Nationalism, Revolution, and the Collapse of the Soviet Union* (Stanford University Press, 1993)

PART II: 1992-1999

Tuesday, April 22

Lecture 7: Politics, Part 1 – The Attempt to Build Democracy

Key themes:

- Building institutions for democracy
- The October 1993 constitutional crisis: A second attempt at democracy
- The 1996 presidential elections: Putting communism in the rearview mirror

Readings:

- Daniel Treisman, *The Return: Russia's Journey from Gorbachev to Medvedev* (Free Press, 2011)
 - Excerpts from Chp 2: The Natural (pp. 41-70)
- Matt Bivens and Jonas Bernstein, "The Russia You Never Met," *Demokratizatsiya* 6, 4 (1998)

Further Background Materials:

- Lilia Shevtsova, *Yeltsin's Russia: Challenges and Constraints* (Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 1997)
- M. Steven Fish, "The Travails of Liberalism," *Journal of Democracy* 7, 2 (1996)
- Michael McFaul, *Russia's Unfinished Revolution: Political Change from Gorbachev to Putin* (Cornell University Press, 2001)
- Stephen Cohen, *Failed Crusade: America and the Tragedy of Post-Communist Russia* (WW Norton & Company, 2001)

Thursday, April 24

Lecture 8: Politics, Part 2 – The Attempt to Build a Nation-State

Key themes:

- Nationalism and pseudo-federalism in the Soviet Union and post-Soviet Russia
- Ethnic sovereignty and the fragmentation of the Russian state
- The wars in Chechnya

Readings:

- Daniel Treisman, *The Return: Russia's Journey from Gorbachev to Medvedev* (Free Press, 2011)
 - Excerpts from Chp 8: The Mountains (pp. 262-298)
- Anatol Lieven, *Chechnya: Tombstone of Russian Power* (Yale University Press, 1999)
 - Chp 1: A Personal Memoir of Grozny and the Chechen War (pp. 17-55) (BB)

Further Background Materials:

- Jeffrey Kahn, "The Parade of Sovereignties: Establishing the Vocabulary of the New Russian Federalism," *Post-Soviet Affairs* 16, 1 (2000)
- Daniel Treisman, "Russia's Ethnic Revival," *World Politics* 49, 2 (1997)
- Yurii Slezkine, "The USSR as a Communal Apartment, or How a Socialist State Promoted Ethnic Particularism," *Slavic Review* 53, 2 (1994)
- Mark Beissinger, *Nationalist Mobilization and the Collapse of the Soviet State* (Cambridge University Press, 2002)
- Ronald Suny, *The Revenge of the Past: Nationalism, Revolution, and the Collapse of the Soviet Union* (Stanford University Press, 1993)

Tuesday, April 29

Lecture 9: Economics – The Attempt to Build a Market Economy

Key themes:

- The politics of economic reform
- The Soviet legacy and economic crisis
- "Wild East" Capitalism: Oligarchs, mafia, and barter

Readings:

- Daniel Treisman, *The Return: Russia's Journey from Gorbachev to Medvedev* (Free Press, 2011)
 - Excerpts from Chp 6: The Transformation (pp. 197-232)
- David Hoffman, *The Oligarchs: Wealth and Power in the New Russia* (Public Affairs, 2002)
 - Choose one of the following:
 - Chp 5: Mikhail Khodorkovsky (pp. 100-126) (BB)
 - Chp 6: Boris Berezovsky (pp. 127-149) (BB)

Further Background Material:

- Anders Åslund, *How Russia Became a Market Economy* (Brookings Institution Press, 1995)

- Clifford Gaddy, *The Price of the Past: Russia's Struggle with the Legacy of a Militarized Economy* (Brookings Institution Press, 1998)
- Andrei Shleifer and Daniel Treisman, *Without a Map: Political Tactics and Economic Reform in Russia* (The MIT Press, 2001)
- Clifford Gaddy and Barry Ickes, *Russia's Virtual Economy* (Brookings Institution Press, 2002)
- Vadim Volkov, *Violent Entrepreneurs: The Use of Force in the Making of Russian Capitalism* (Cornell University Press, 2002)
- Yegor Gaidar, *Days of Victory and Defeat* (University of Washington Press, 1999)
- Seymour Hersh, "The Wild East," *The Atlantic Monthly* (June 1994)
- Andrei Shleifer, "Government in Transition," *European Economic Review* 41, 3 (1997)
- Stephen Holmes, "What Russia Teaches Us Now: How Weak States Threaten Freedom," *The American Prospect* (July 1997)

Thursday, May 1: MIDTERM

Tuesday, May 6

Lecture 10: Foreign Policy – The Attempt to Join the West

Key themes:

- Russia's "near abroad": Civil wars and nuclear weapons during the Soviet collapse
- The search for a new identity: Westernizers, Eurasianists, and Statists
- NATO expansion and the Kosovo bombings

Readings:

- Daniel Treisman, *The Return: Russia's Journey from Gorbachev to Medvedev* (Free Press, 2011)
 - Chp 9: Falling Apart (pp. 310-339)
- Strobe Talbott, *The Russia Hand: A Memoir of Presidential Diplomacy* (Random House, 2003)
 - Excerpts from Chp 1: The Hedgehog and the Bear (pp. 3-10) (BB)
 - Chp 13: The Jaws of Victory (pp. 332-349) (BB)

Further Background Materials:

- Bobo Lo, *Russian Foreign Policy in the Post-Soviet Era: Reality, Illusion, and Mythmaking* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2002)
- Sergei Stankevich, "Russia in Search of Itself," *The National Interest* (Summer 1992)
- James Goldgeier and Michael McFaul, *Power and Purpose: US Policy Toward Russia After the Cold War* (Brookings Institutions Press, 2003)
- Michael McFaul, "Revolutionary Ideas, State Interests, and Foreign Policy," in Vladimir Tismaneanu, ed., *Political Culture and Civil Society in Russia and the New States of Eurasia* (M.E. Sharpe, 1995)

PART III: 2000 – present

Thursday, May 8

Lecture 11: Politics, Part 1 – The Collapse of Democracy, the Resurgence of the State

Key themes:

- Putin’s rise and the recentralization of power
- Conflict in the Caucasus and domestic terrorism
- Changing political institutions: Elections, legislatures, and federalism

Readings:

- Daniel Treisman, *The Return: Russia’s Journey from Gorbachev to Medvedev* (Free Press, 2011)
 - Excerpts from Chp 3: Unreasonable Doubt (pp. 80-108)
 - Excerpts from Chp 4: The Mountains (pp. 298-309)
- Nikolai Petrov and Darrell Slider, “The Regions Under Putin and After,” in Stephen K. Wegren, ed., *Return to Putin’s Russia: Past Imperfect, Future Uncertain*, 5th Edition (Rowman & Littlefield, 2013)

Further Background Materials:

- Michael McFaul and Kathryn Stoner-Weiss, “The Myth of the Authoritarian Model: How Putin’s Crackdown Holds Russia Back,” *Foreign Affairs* 87, 1 (2008)
- Andrew Wilson, *Virtual Politics: Faking Democracy in the Post-Soviet World* (Yale University Press, 2005)
- M. Steven Fish, *Democracy Derailed in Russia: The Failure of Open Politics* (Cambridge University Press, 2005)
- Lilia Shevtsova, *Putin’s Russia* (Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 2003)

Tuesday, May 13

Lecture 12: Politics, Part 2 – How Russia is Ruled

Key themes:

- United Russia and the formation of a single-party system
- The resurgence of the KGB successors
- Medvedev and the creation of “tandemocracy”

Readings:

- Daniel Treisman, *The Return: Russia’s Journey from Gorbachev to Medvedev* (Free Press, 2011)
 - Excerpts from Chp 4: The Understudy (pp. 134-159)

- Thomas Remington, “Parliament and the Dominant Party Regime,” in Stephen K. Wegren, ed., *Return to Putin’s Russia: Past Imperfect, Future Uncertain*, 5th Edition (Rowman & Littlefield, 2013)
- Fiona Hill and Clifford Gaddy, *Mr. Putin: Operative in the Kremlin* (Brookings Institution Press, 2013)
 - Excerpts from Chp 9: The System (pp. 210-224, 231-240) (BB)

Further Background Materials:

- Vladimir Putin, *First Person: An Astonishingly Frank Self-Portrait by Russia’s President* (Public Affairs, 2000)
- Vladimir Gelman, “Party Politics in Russia: From Competition to Hierarchy,” *Europe-Asia Studies* 60, 6 (2008)
- Daniel Treisman, “Putin’s Silovarchs,” *Orbis* 5, 1 (2008)

Thursday, May 15

Lecture 13: Economics – Oil, Growth, and State Capitalism

Key themes:

- Economic revival and the petro-state
- The rise of state corporations
- Civilizing capitalism: Taming oligarchs, building law and order

Readings:

- Daniel Treisman, *The Return: Russia’s Journey from Gorbachev to Medvedev* (Free Press, 2011)
 - Excerpts from Chp 6: The Transformation (pp. 232-239)
- Jordan Gans-Morse, “Threats to Property Rights in Russia: From Private Coercion to State Aggression,” *Post-Soviet Affairs* 28, 3 (2012): 263-295.

Further Background Materials:

- Sergei Guriev and Aleh Tsyvinski, “Challenges Facing the Russian Economy After the Crisis,” in Anders Åslund, Sergei Guriev, and Andrew Kuchins, eds., *Russia After the Global Crisis* (Peterson Institute, 2010)
- Peter Rutland, “The Oligarchs and Economic Development,” in Stephen K. Wegren and Dale R. Herspring, eds., *After Putin’s Russia: Past Imperfect, Future Uncertain*, 4th Edition (Rowman & Littlefield, 2010)
- Thomas Firestone, “Criminal Corporate Raiding in Russia,” *International Law* 42 (2008)
- Pauline Jones Luong and Erika Weinthal, *Oil Is Not a Curse: Ownership Structure and Institutions in Soviet Successor States* (Cambridge University Press, 2010).

Tuesday, May 20

Lecture 14: Foreign Policy – Seeking Great Power Status

Key themes:

- 9/11, Afghanistan, Iraq, and the global war on terrorism
- Oil politics
- The “color” revolutions
- The US-Russian “Reset”
- Conflicts with Georgia and Ukraine

Readings:

- Andrei Tsygankov, “Foreign Policy,” in Stephen K. Wegren, ed., *Return to Putin’s Russia: Past Imperfect, Future Uncertain*, 5th Edition (Rowman & Littlefield, 2013)
- Peter Baker, “U.S.-Russian Ties Still Fall Short of ‘Reset’ Goal,” *The New York Times* (September 2, 2013)

Further Background Materials:

- Karen Dawisha, “Is Russia’s Foreign Policy That of a Corporatist-Kleptocratic Regime?” *Post-Soviet Affairs* 27, 4 (2011): 331-365
- Robert Legvold, *Russian Foreign Policy in the 21st Century and the Shadow of the Past* (Columbia University Press, 2007)
- Sergei Karaganov, “Lucky Russia,” *Russia in Global Affairs* (January/March 2011)
- Bobo Lo, *Vladimir Putin and the Evolution of Russian Foreign Policy* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2003)
- Peter Rutland, “Russia as an Energy Superpower,” *New Political Economy* 13, 2 (2008)
- Andrei Tsygankov, “Preserving Influence in a Changing World: Russia’s Grand Strategy,” *Problems of Post-Communism* 58, 1 (2011)

Thursday, May 22

Lecture 15: Russia’s Future

Key themes:

- Election fraud and the rise of an opposition
- Putin’s return to power

Readings:

- Joshua Yaffa, “Reading Putin: The Mind and State of Russia’s President,” *Foreign Affairs* 91,4 (2012): 126-133
- Andrew Jarrell, “Local Democracy in Russia: An Antidote for an Aimless Protest Movement,” *Russian Analytical Digest* 118, 2 (2012): 8-10

- David Brooks, “Putin Can’t Stop,” *The New York Times* (March 3, 2014)

PART IV: RUSSIA IN CONTEXT

Tuesday, May 27

Lecture 16: Russia, the former Soviet Union, and Eastern Europe

Key themes:

- Roots of democracy and dictatorship
- Foundations of market economies
- Diversity of political and economic outcomes in the post-communist world

Readings:

- Michael McFaul, “The Fourth Wave of Democracy and Dictatorship: Noncooperative Transitions in the Postcommunist World,” *World Politics* 54, 2 (2002)
- Daniel Treisman, *The Return: Russia’s Journey from Gorbachev to Medvedev* (Free Press, 2011)
 - Excerpts from Chp 10: The Russia that Has Returned (pp. 340-367)

Further Background Materials:

- David Cameron and Mitchell Orenstein, “Post-Soviet Authoritarianism: The Influence of Russia in its ‘Near Abroad’,” *Post-Soviet Affairs* 28, 1 (2012): 1-44
- Lucan Way, “The Real Causes of the Color Revolutions,” *Journal of Democracy* 19, 3 (2008)
- Cheng Chen and Rudra Sil, “Stretching Postcommunism: Diversity, Context, and Comparative–Historical Analysis,” *Post-Soviet Affairs* 23, 4 (2007)
- Timothy Frye, *Building States and Markets After Communism: The Perils of Polarized Democracy* (Cambridge University Press, 2010)
- Michael McFaul, “Transitions from Postcommunism,” *Journal of Democracy* 16, 3 (2005)
- Valerie Bunce and Sharon Wolchik, “Defeating Dictators: Electoral Change and Stability in Competitive Authoritarian Regimes,” *World Politics* 62, 1 (2010)
- Lucan Way, “Authoritarian State Building and the Source of Regime Competitiveness in the Fourth Wave: The Cases of Belarus, Moldova, Russia, and Ukraine,” *World Politics* 57, 2 (2005)
- Jeffrey Kopstein and David Reilly, “Geographic Diffusion and the Transformation of the Postcommunist World,” *World Politics* 53, 1 (2000)
- Andrew Roberts, “What Kind of Democracy Is Emerging in Eastern Europe,” *Post-Soviet Affairs* 22, 1 (2006)
- Grzegorz Ekiert, Jan Kubik, and Milada Anna Vachudova, “Democracy in the Post-Communist World: An Unending Quest?” *East European Politics and Societies* 21, 1 (2007)

- Mitchell Orenstein, “What Happened in East European (Political) Economies? A Balance Sheet for Neoliberal Reform,” *East European Politics and Societies* 23, 4 (2009)
- Grigore Pops-Eleches, “Historical Legacies and Post-Communist Regime Change,” *The Journal of Politics* 69, 4 (2007): 908-926

Thursday, May 29

Lecture 17: Russia and the Developing World

- Roots of democracy and dictatorship
- Foundations of market economies
- What Russia teaches us about politics and economics

Readings:

- Valerie Bunce, “Rethinking Recent Democratization: Lessons from the Postcommunist Experience,” *World Politics* 55, 2 (2003)
- Stephen Holmes, “What Russia Teaches Us Now: How Weak States Threaten Freedom,” *The American Prospect* (July 1997)

Further Background Materials:

- M. Steven Fish, *Democracy Derailed in Russia: The Failure of Open Politics* (Cambridge University Press, 2005)
- Andrei Shleifer and Daniel Treisman, “A Normal Country,” *Foreign Affairs* 83, 2 (2004)

FRIDAY, MAY 30: PAPER DUE BY NOON

FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 3:00-5:00PM: FINAL EXAM