Prof. Ekaterina Pravilova  
kprav@princeton.edu  
Tuesday, Thursday, 3.00 - 4.20 pm  
Office hours: Tuesday, Thursday, 1.30 pm – 2.30 pm.

Assistant instructor: Alexander Jacobson.  
alj3@princeton.edu

Class website:  
https://commons.princeton.edu/his360-f23/

Grading:  
Grades will be calculated according to the following formula:  
• class participation - 30%  
• midterm exam 30%  
• research-based final paper - 40%

Absence policy: if you have to miss a class, please submit a short (2-3 pages) essay based on the class readings.  
AI use policy: all written works must be original, although AI tools could be used for proofreading (for ex. Grammarly) and translation from Russian (Google translator, Deepl, Reverso, ChatGPT, etc.) ChatGPT /Bard, etc. can be used for translation only.

Consider buying (recommended but not mandatory):  
❖ Will Eisner ; with an introduction by Umberto Eco. The plot : the secret story of The protocols of the Elders of Zion (2015)  
❖ Olga Semyonova-Tian-Shanskaia. Village Life in Late Tsarist Russia (1993)
Week 1.
September 5. Muscovy as an empire.
September 7. Russia's wars and the arms race of the early 18th century.

Week 2.
September 12. Reforms and terror.
- Decrees: on a new calendar, on the Duties of the Senate, on compulsory education of the Russian nobility, on primogeniture, an instruction to Russian students abroad, on the Right of Factories to buy villages, Table of ranks, a decree on the Founding of the Academy. Basil Dmytryshin, ed., *Imperial Russia. A source book*, 12-20
- “Decree on Western dress and shaving,” George Verndadsky, ed. *A Source Book for Russian History* v.1 (1972)

September 14. How to organize a coup d'état (and stay alive)?
- “Events surrounding the Assumption of Power by Empress Anna, 1730”
- “Events surrounding the Assumption of Power by Empress Elizabeth, 1741,”

Week 3.
September 19. Catherine the Great and the Enlightenment.
- Catherine’s Nakaz (Instruction to the Legislative Commission) *Imperial Russia. A source book*, 64-88

September 21. Autocracy and Serfdom.
- Estate Instructions, *A Source Book for Russian History*

Week 4.
September 26. Enlightenment and Colonialism.

September 28. Gender and Power. Russia in the era of the Napoleonic Wars.


Ruth Averbach, “The (un)making of a Man: Aleksandr Aleksandrov / Nadezhda Durova.” Slavic Review 81, no.4 (Winter 2022) 976-993

Week 5.

October 3. Constitutionalism, liberalism, and political dissent.


October 5. The age of “questions.”


Week 6.

October 10. Discussion: How to write a research paper.
October 12. Mid-term exam.

FALL BREAK

Week 7.


October 26 **Visit to the Princeton Art Museum. Sheldon Jackson collection of Alaskan art.**

**Week 8**

October 31. **Russia in the Caucasus.**

November 2. **The “Great Reforms.” Serfdom and Slavery.**

**Week 9.**

November 7. **The “Roots of Revolution”: Populist Movement in the 1860s-1880s.**
- Palen’s description of the movement “Going to the People” (1875) *A Source Book for Russian History*

November 9. **Russian Marxism.**
- Karl Marx and Vera Zasulich, correspondence. [https://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1881/zasulich/index.html](https://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1881/zasulich/index.html)
- Vladimir Lenin and Georgi Plekhanov on peasantry and proletariat. The RSDWP’s programs, *A Source Book for Russian History*

**Week 10.**

November 14. **Russian colonialism in Central Asia.**
November 18. **Capitalism à-la Russe.**

**Week 11.**
**November 21. Anti-Semitism and conspiracy theories.**

**November 23.** THANKSGIVING break

**Week 12.**
**November 28. Revolution 1905.**
   - Watch: Serguei Eisenstein, *The Battleship Potemkin*.

**November 30. Russia after 1905: a constitutional police state.**

**Week 13.**
**December 5 World War I and the revolutionary crisis**
   - Durnovo’s Memorandum, February, 1914.

**December 7. Presentations.**