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CURRICULUM PROPOSAL COVER SHEET
University-Wide Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

I. CONTACT

Contact Person Donald W. Buckwalter Phone 357-2250/3763
Department Geography and Regional Planning

II. PROPOSAL TYPE (Check All Appropriate Lines)

GE 254 COURSE

Russia&Soviet Sphere

Suggested 20 character title

New Course*

Course Number and Full Title

Course Revision

GE 254 Geography of Russia and the Soviet Sphere

Course Number and Full Title

Liberal Studies Approval +
for new or existing course

GE 254 Geography of Russia and the Soviet Sphere

Course Number and Full Title

Course Deletion

Course Number and Full Title

Number and/or Title Change GE 254 Geography of the U.S.S.R.

Old Number and/or Full Old Title

GE 254 Geography of Russia and the Soviet Sphere

New Number and/or Full New Title

Course or Catalog Description Change GE 254 Geography of Russia and the Soviet Sphere

Course Number and Full Title

Sphere

PROGRAM: Major Minor Track

New Program*

Program Name

Program Revision*

Program Name

Program Deletion*

Program Name

Title Change

Old Program Name

New Program Name

III. Approvals (signatures and date)

Gail S. Sechrist
Department Curriculum Committee

Susan Filer
Department Chair

[Signature]
College Curriculum Committee

[Signature] 3/30/92
College Dean

*Director of Liberal Studies (where applicable)

*Provost (where applicable)

GE 254: GEOGRAPHY OF RUSSIA AND THE SOVIET SPHERE
INDIANA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
 3 credits, 3 lecture hours

I. Catalog Description:

(3c-0l-3sh)

Prerequisites: none

Examines the Russian Republic and the former Soviet empire including the new nations emerging from the U.S.S.R. and former satellite nations. Settlement patterns, economics, cultures, and physical environments are studied. Contemporary topical emphasis is placed on efforts at transformation from communist to market economics and the geo-political status of the new nations.

II. Course Objectives:

1. Students will be able to realistically evaluate relations of Russia and the Soviet sphere of influence with the Western realm led by the United States.
2. Students will know the long term geographical context of current events.
3. Students will demonstrate an understanding of landscapes, especially the human contributions that are the artifacts of cultural, economic, military, and political activities.

III. Detailed Course Outline:

LECTURE TOPIC	READING ASSIGNMENT
A. Introduction (1 hour)	
B. Concepts of Regional Geography (1 hour)	
C. Physical Geography (3 hours)	Bater Ch. 1
1. Terrain regions	
2. Climate	
3. Relationship to culture	
D. Pre-Soviet history (6 hours)	Bater Ch. 2
1. Medieval migrations	
2. Emergence of the Russian empire	
3. Feudalism	
4. Multi-nationalism and nationalism	
5. Emergence of spatially fragmented culture groups	

DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE: continued

LECTURE TOPIC	READING ASSIGNMENT
E. The Soviet System (5 hours) 1. Administration 2. Economic and social policies	Bater Chs. 3 & 4
FIRST EXAM (1 hour)	
F. Natural resource management and agriculture (6 hours) 1. Small holdings 2. Collectivization 3. Possibilism	Bater Chs. 7, & 8
G. Urbanization: multi-national and socialist influences on form and function (6 hours)	Bater Ch. 5
SECOND EXAMINATION (1 hour)	
H. Industrialization and regional development (6 hours) 1. Basic industry 2. Spatial allocation policies 3. Foreign investments and joint ventures	Bater Ch. 9
I. Contemporary eastern Europe: the example of the Ukraine (6 hours) 1. De-industrialization 2. Nationalism 3. Political and economic transitions	Motyl
J. Conclusion: optimistic and pessimistic assessments	
Final Exam Period	THIRD EXAMINATION

EVALUATION: You will be evaluated on three examinations, a book review, and a mapping assignment. The distribution of points for the course is as follows:

First Examination	100 points
Second Examination	100 points
Third Examination	100 points
Book Review--written	50 points
Book Reviews--discussion	<u>50 points</u>

TOTAL: 400 points

Examination questions are taken from lectures, reading assignments, and handouts. Each examination will cover approximately one-third of the course and consist of a variety of question formats. Some of the exams will include essay questions. The book review is your analysis of the assigned reading, Dilemmas of Independence by Motyl. Students write a review of the book and lead a classroom discussion of one chapter.

The final grade of the course is based on the following scale:

A	360 to 400 points
B	320 to 359 points
C	280 to 319 points
D	240 to 279 points
F	0 to 239 points

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

Bater, James H. The Soviet Scene: A Geographical Perspective. London: Edward Arnold, 1989.

Motyl, Alexander J. Dilemmas of Independence: Ukraine After Totalitarianism. New York: Council on Foreign Relations Press, 1993.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Books

- Bernat, Tivadar, et al. An Economic Geography of Hungary, 2nd ed., English edition translated by I. Veges and revised by P. A. Compton. Budapest: Akademiai Kiado, 1989.
- Bremmen, Ian; and Naimark, Norman, eds. Soviet Nationalities Problems. Palo Alto, California: Stanford University Center for Russian and East European Studies, 1990.
- Burke, Peter, editor. Economy and Society in Early Modern Europe: Essays from Annales. New York: Harper and Row, 1972.
- Lydolph, Paul E. Geography of the U.S.S.R., 5th ed. Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin: Misty Valley Publishing, 1990.
- Nagy-Talavera, Nicholas M. The Green Shirts and the Others: a History of Fascism in Hungary and Romania. Stanford, California: Hoover Institution Press, 1970.
- Pecsi, Marton; and Probal, Ferenc, ed.; [English text edited by Paul Compton]. Man and Environment. Budapest: Akademiai Kiado, 1974.
- Pryde, Philip. Environmental Management in the Soviet Union. Cambridge, U.K.: Cambridge University Press, 1991.
- Rugg, Dean S. Eastern Europe. The World's Landscapes Series. London: Longman, 1985.
- Simons, Thomas W., Jr. Eastern Europe in the Postwar World. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1991.
- Soviet Studies. Periodical.
- Stiles, William Henry. Austria in 1848-1849. New York: Arno Press, 1971.
- Szemak, J. Living History of Hungary. McIntosh, Florida: Danubian Research and Information Center, 1969.
- Taylor, Alan J. P. The Habsburg Monarchy, 1809-1918; a History of the Austrian Empire and Austria-Hungary. London: H. Hamilton, 1948.
- Turnock, David. Eastern Europe: An Economic and Political Geography. London: Routledge, 1989.
- _____. The Human Geography of Eastern Europe. London: Routledge, 1989.

Articles and Papers

- Farago, Laszlo; and Hrubí, Laszlo. Development Possibilities of Backward Areas in Hungary. Discussion Paper No. 7. Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Center for Regional Studies, series editor Laszlo Hrubí, 1988.
- Palne Dovacs, Ilona. Chance of Local Interdependence in Hungary. Discussion Paper No. 6. Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Center for Regional Studies, series editor Laszlo Hrubí, 1988.
- Volgyes, Ivan. "Attitudinal and Behavioral Changes Among the Peasantry of Eastern Europe." In Rural Change and Public Policy, pp. 83-110. Edited by W. P. Avery, R. E. Lonsdale, and I. Volgyes. New York: Pergamon, 1980.

STATISTICAL REFERENCE SOURCES:

- Jones, D.B. (ed.). Oxford Economic Atlas of the World, 4th edition. London: Oxford University Press 1972.
- Paxton, John (ed.). Statesman's Yearbook 1987-88, 124th edition. New York: St. Martin's Press.
- United States Central Intelligence Agency. Atlas of Eastern Europe. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1990.
- World Bank. World Tables, 3rd edition. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1983.
- World Bank. World Development Report, 1987. New York: Oxford University Press.

January 31, 1994

SUMMARY OF COURSE REVISIONS:

The course title is changed from "Geography of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics" to "Geography of Russia and the Soviet Sphere."

The catalog description is changed as indicated on the attached sheet.

The syllabus of record is modified to keep abreast of changes in the field and reflect updated readings. Copies of the old and new syllabi are attached.

The updated readings include a substantive work other than the textbook (Motyl's Dilemmas of Independence) as a requirement for a liberal studies elective course.

Evaluation now includes a written book report, a classroom presentation pertaining to Motyl's book, and discussion of the readings.

Content of the lectures is updated to reflect recent changes in the economic and political situation.

NEW CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

GE 254 Geography of Russia and the Soviet Sphere 3c-01-3sh
Examines the Russian Republic and the former Soviet empire including the new nations emerging from the U.S.S.R. and former satellite nations. Settlement patterns, economics, cultures, and physical environments are studied. Contemporary topical emphasis is placed on efforts at transformation from communist to market economics and the geo-political status of the new nations.

OLD CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

GE 254 Geography of the U.S.S.R. 3c-01-3sh
Regions of the Soviet Union, natural resources, cultural patterns, population, strategic areas, and related geopolitical problems are studied.

JUSTIFICATION FOR THE CHANGE:

Well known recent events have made the old title and description obsolete. The Soviet Union no longer exists as a political entity, but the territory that it controlled shares the legacy of Communist regimes and, before that, a cultural, economic, and political history that differs decidedly from that of Western Europe. Late industrialization, persistence of serfdom and feudalism, predominance of Slavic, Turkic, and Finno-Ugric culture traits (especially languages), and climates that are more continental and less humid all helped to distinguish the region from Western Europe before the Soviet empire sealed the boundary with the Iron Curtain. The physical and historical factors suggest that eastern European countries will not blend quickly and seamlessly into the fabric of Western Europe, while the Trans-Caucasus and Central Asian realms constitute a transition zone with Asia. The purpose of this revision is to include contemporary economic and political processes in a balanced view that recognizes both global commonalities and unique features within a distinctive region.

Course Outline
Geography of the USSR
Geography 254

Instructor: Dr. Maurice M. Zacur

Book: Geography of the U.S.S.R
(Topical Analysis)
Paul E. Lydolph
Misty Valley Pub. Co.
Elkhart Lake, Wisc. 1979

Catalogue Description (Revised to read as follows)

The USSR, a nation whose land area exceeds that of any other nation on the earth's surface, is faced with the problem of economic development under conditions of great environmental restriction. The major emphasis in the course of geography of the USSR is to bring into proper focus, the role of geography as it relates to the problem of economic development. Particular emphasis is given to the natural situation of the USSR in terms of landform, climate, soils and vegetational patterns, and natural resources. The geographic factors that contribute to the development of one of the worlds most powerful nations are identified and studied.

Course Objectives:

The course, Geography of the USSR, has 4 main objectives: 1) the acquisition of basic knowledge of the USSR that reflects the physical situation in terms of landform, climate, soils, vegetational patterns and natural resources; 2) the acquisition of basic knowledge that reflects the economic development of the USSR in terms of energy, mineral and human resources; 3) the acquisition of basic knowledge that affects the distribution of the industrial and agricultural communities; and 4) the acquisition of basic knowledge that reflects the restrictions imposed on

economic development by conditions of location, size and latitude, landform and drainage patterns.

Many other objectives are involved in the study of the USSR; they are, however, attendant to the four objectives stated above, and are attained through normal academic techniques.

Course Outline: The outline presented is a study guide designed to enable the student to accomplish the objectives of the course as previously stated.

I. General Introduction of the USSR

- A. USSR as a Political State: Location and identification of the political sub-divisions of the USSR.
- B. Landforms of the USSR: Location identification of the landform sub-divisions of the USSR.
- C. Climates of the USSR: Location and descriptive characteristics of the climatic divisions of the USSR.
- D. Soils of the USSR: Location of soil regions and the factors that contribute to the formation of the soil type. Soil problems are identified and described.
- E. Vegetational patterns of the USSR: Location and identifying characteristics of the vegetational zones of the USSR. Factors contributing to the formation of natural vegetational zones are identified and described.
- F. Natural Resources of the USSR: The natural resources are identified and located. The natural resources consist of:
 - 1. Ferrous ores
 - 2. Non-ferrous ores
 - 3. Coal (all types)
 - 4. Petroleum and natural gas
 - 5. Water resources (lakes, rivers, etc.)

II. Economic Development in the USSR

- A. The Five Year Plan System in the USSR
- B. Agriculture

1. Characteristics of Agricultural practices of the past
2. Role of the State Farm
3. Role of the Collective Farm
4. Crops grown in the USSR
5. Livestock farming in the USSR

C. Industry

1. Sources of Power
2. Raw materials
3. Growth of Specific industries
 - a. textiles
 - b. clothing
 - c. wood based industries
 - d. iron and steel industries
 - e. extractive industries
 1. coal
 2. petroleum
 3. natural gas
 4. ferrous materials
 5. non-ferrous materials
 - f. the chemical industry
 - g. the power equipment industry
4. Transport and Commerce
 - a. the highway system
 - b. waterways
 - c. railways
 - d. airways
 - e. foreign trade
 - f. internal trade

III. Restrictions to Economic Development in the USSR

A. Landforms of the Soviet Union

1. Mountain areas
2. Hilly areas
3. Lowland areas (poorly drained)

B. Climate of the Soviet Union

1. Regions with short growing season
2. Regions of semi-aridity and aridity

C. Permafrost as a restrictive element

D. Drainage problems in the Soviet Union

IV. Population Characteristics of the USSR

- A. Ethnic Groups of the USSR
 - B. Distribution of the Population of the USSR
 - C. Conditions of Rural Life
 - D. Conditions of Town Life
- V. The regions of the USSR - An examination of the major regions of the USSR is undertaken with the intent to discover the following about each region:
- A. Location of the Region
 - B. Physical characteristics of the region
 - C. Economic characteristics of the region
 - D. Population characteristics of the region

The regional approach provides the student with the opportunity to integrate the geographical characteristics of a place in a meaningful setting. Several regions from the following list are selected for more thorough investigation.

1. The Central Industrial Region
2. The Central Black Earth Region
3. The Povolzhye and the Lower Don
4. The Ukraine and Moldavia
5. The European West
6. The European North
7. The Urals
8. The Caucasus and North Caucasian Foreland
9. Soviet Middle Asia and Southern Kazakhstan
10. Western Siberia and Northern Kazakhstan
11. Eastern Siberia and the Far East

Course Procedures:

The instructional procedures have a dualistic character. The major technique is lecture and discussion that centers about the major topics on the course outline and of the outside readings done by each student.

Each student is required to do approximately 20 outside readings. Readings are essentially centered on the bibliography and of documents in the library. Recency of the article is of paramount importance. Particular stress is placed on the Joint Research Publications from the Government Printing Office as an important reading source. Students are encouraged to present for discussion, questions that have developed as a result of their reading.

Depending on several factors, students are provided with the opportunity of presenting a paper on any important geographical aspect of the Soviet Union. Such presentation is oral with a discussion period to follow.

Regional summaries are required of each student and limited map work is necessary to illustrate factors of distribution, etc.

Liberal Studies Course Approval Form Instruction Sheet

Use this form only if you wish to have a course included in a Liberal Studies Learning Skill or Knowledge Area category. Do not use this form for synthesis or writing-intensive sections; different forms are available for these. If you have questions, contact the Liberal Studies Offices, 352 Sutton Hall, telephone 357-5715.

This form is intended to assist you in developing your course to meet IUP's Criteria for Liberal Studies and to arrange your proposal in a standard order for consideration by the Liberal Studies Committee (LSC) and the University-wide Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (UWUCC). When you have finished, your proposal will have these parts:

- Standard UWUCC Course Proposal Cover Sheet, with signatures (one page)
- Completed copy of LS General Information Check-List—Parts 1-3 of this form. (one page)
- One sheet of paper for your answers to the four questions in Part IV of this form. (one page)
- Completed check-list for each curriculum category in which your course is to be listed—e.g. Non-Western Cultures, Fine Arts, etc. (one page each) [Check-lists are found in Appendix to this Handbook.]
- Course Syllabus in UWUCC Format.

Note: If this is a new course not previously approved by the University Senate, you will also need answers to the UWUCC Course Analysis Questionnaire. These are not considered by the LSC but will be forwarded to the UWUCC along with the rest of the proposal after the LSC completes its review. For information on UWUCC procedures for new courses or course revisions, see appropriate sections of this Handbook.

Submit one (1) copy of the completed proposal to the Liberal Studies Office (352) Sutton Hall. The Liberal Studies Committee will make its own copies from your original; the committee does reserve the right to return excessively long proposals for editing before they are duplicated. (If you happen to have extra copies of the proposal, you are invited to send multiple copies to the LSC to save unnecessary copying.)

Please Number All Pages

LIBERAL STUDIES COURSE APPROVAL, PARTS 1-3: GENERAL INFORMATION CHECK-LIST

I. Please indicate the LS category(ies) for which you are applying:

LEARNING SKILLS:

First Composition Course
 Mathematics

Second Composition Course

KNOWLEDGE AREAS:

Humanities: History
 Humanities: Philos/Rel Studies
 Humanities: Literature
 Natural Sci: Laboratory
 Natural Sci: Non-laboratory

Fine Arts
 Social Sciences
 Non-Western Cultures
 Health & Wellness
 Liberal Studies Elective

II. Please use check marks to indicate which LS goals are primary, secondary, incidental, or not applicable. When you meet with the LSC to discuss the course, you may be asked to explain how these will be achieved.

Prim Sec Incid N/A

A. Intellectual Skills and Modes of Thinking:

1. Inquiry, abstract logical thinking, critical analysis, synthesis, decision making, and other aspects of the critical process.
2. Literacy—writing, reading, speaking, listening.
3. Understanding numerical data.
4. Historical consciousness.
5. Scientific inquiry.
6. Values (ethical mode of thinking or application of ethical perception).
7. Aesthetic mode of thinking.

B. Acquiring a Body of Knowledge or Understanding Essential to an Educated Person

C. Understanding the Physical Nature of Human Beings

D. Collateral Skills:

1. Use of the library.
2. Use of computing technology.

III. The LS criteria indicate six ways that courses should contribute to students' abilities. Please check all that apply. When you meet with the LSC, you may be asked to explain your check marks.

1. Confront the major ethical issues which pertain to the subject matter; realize that although "suspended judgment" is a necessity of intellectual inquiry, one cannot live forever in suspension; and make ethical choices and take responsibility for them.
2. Define and analyze problems, frame questions, evaluate available solutions and make choices.
3. Communicate knowledge and exchange ideas by various forms of expression, in most cases writing and speaking.
4. Recognize creativity and engage in creative thinking.
5. Continue learning even after the completion of their formal education.
6. Recognize relationships between what is being studied and current issues, thoughts, institutions, and/or events.

LIBERAL STUDIES COURSE APPROVAL, PART IV

- A. The course will be offered once per academic year as a single-section course. Reference to the syllabus on file in the department, individual consultation, and the periodic meetings of instructors teaching liberal studies courses within the department will ensure a basic equivalency if other instructors teach the course.
- B. Gender and minority issues are prominent in the former Soviet sphere of influence today. Soviet planners implemented distinctive policies regarding gender issues. Also, World War II had an effect on the gender structure of the population. The effects of these policies and events are discussed in terms of occupational structure of the labor force, politics, demographics, housing, and social status. Research by eastern European geographers such as Ilona Palne-Kovacs and Judit Timar are incorporated into the lectures to shed light on gender-significant issues and to demonstrate the role of women scholars in the intellectual life of the region.

Minority issues regarding the plethora of ethnic groups that constituted the Soviet Union are a major theme of the course. Again, Soviet policies leave a distinctive legacy that includes the potential for conflict. Minority groups are present in every nation of the region covered by this course. Ethnicity issues control the structure of new international boundaries and affect the internal stability of new governments. They are treated explicitly and in detail in both readings and in the lectures.

- C. As the syllabus indicates, a substantial work of nonfiction is required for this course. An appropriate example is Dilemmas of Independence: Ukraine After Totalitarianism by Alexander J. Motyl. The book is issue oriented and deliberately provocative. Students will discuss it in class and write a review that incorporates ideas from Soviet Geography, a journal of translated scholarly articles originally published in the former Soviet-controlled countries.
- D. N/A

CHECK LIST – NON-WESTERN CULTURES

Knowledge Area Criteria which the course must meet:

- Treat concepts, themes and events in sufficient depth to enable students to appreciate the complexity, history and current implications of what is being studied; and not be merely cursory coverage of lists of topics.
- Suggest the major intellectual questions/problems which interest practitioners of a discipline and explore critically the important theories and principles presented by the discipline.
- Allow students to understand and apply the methods of inquiry and vocabulary commonly used in the discipline.
- Encourage students to use and enhance, wherever possible, the composition and mathematics skills built in the Skill Areas of Liberal Studies.

Non-Western Culture Criteria which the course must meet:

- Develop an understanding of contemporary cultures that differ substantially from the prevailing cultures of the United States, Canada, Western Europe, New Zealand and Australia.
- Present cultures on their own terms with an appreciation of their dimensions, going beyond mere description of a culture. Those dimensions may include religion, economics, politics, art, language, literature, ethics, as well as other dimensions of the cultural milieu.
- Address, where appropriate, the experience of women and/or the roles of men and women.

Additional Non-Western Culture Criteria which the course should meet:

- Encourage the use of indigenous material whenever possible rather than rely on secondary instructional material, reviews of the literature, or textbooks exclusively.
- Encourage the student to acquire cultural appreciation and understanding, and provide students with an opportunity to demonstrate the ability to analyze and synthesize information about culture.

These additional Non-Western Cultures guidelines indicate the various forms which appropriate courses may take; check all that apply.

- Although a course may deal with a single culture,...
- ... comparative courses addressing relationships among cultures are encouraged.
- A course may present one or more cultures by emphasizing a single dimension, e.g. art, music, dance, politics, religion. Such a course is appropriate if the dimension is represented in its cultural context, emphasizing cultural ideals, norms and issues.
- A variety of perspectives or methodologies—anthropological, geographical, historical, sociological, and so forth—may be employed so long as the course emphasizes the cultural phenomena, issues and values in contemporary society.
- Literature courses, either in translation or in the language of the culture(s), can be appropriate if the dimension is represented in its cultural context, emphasizing cultural ideals, norms and issues.
- An approved exchange/study abroad program, which meets the general criteria of the non-Western requirements, may meet the requirements of the Liberal Studies program.
- An internship can meet the requirements for a non-Western course. A research paper or a report should be required that demonstrates learning appropriate to the Non-Western Culture criteria.
- Interdisciplinary courses that treat cultural issues apart from the dominant United States, Canada, Western Europe, New Zealand and Australian cultures are encouraged.

CHECK LIST - LIBERAL STUDIES ELECTIVES

Knowledge Area Criteria which the course must meet:

- Treat concepts, themes and events in sufficient depth to enable students to appreciate the complexity, history and current implications of what is being studied; and not be merely cursory coverage of lists of topics.
- Suggest the major intellectual questions/problems which interest practitioners of a discipline and explore critically the important theories and principles presented by the discipline.
- Allow students to understand and apply the methods of inquiry and vocabulary commonly used in the discipline.
- Encourage students to use and enhance, wherever possible, the composition and mathematics skills built in the Skill Areas of Liberal Studies.

Liberal Studies Elective Criteria which the course must meet:

- Meet the "General Criteria Which Apply to All Liberal Studies Courses."
- Not be a technical, professional or pre-professional course.

Explanation: Appropriate courses are to be characterized by learning in its broad, liberal sense rather than in the sense of technique or preprofessional proficiency. For instance, assuming it met all the other criteria for Liberal Studies, a course in "Theater History" might be appropriate, while one in "The Craft of Set Construction" probably would not; or, a course in "Modern American Poetry" might be appropriate, while one in "New Techniques for Teaching Writing in Secondary Schools" probably would not; or, a course on "Mass Media and American Society" might be appropriate, while one in "Television Production Skills" probably would not; or, a course in "Human Anatomy" might be appropriate, while one in "Strategies for Biological Field Work" probably would not; or, a course in "Intermediate French" might be appropriate, while one in "Practical Methods for Professional Translators" probably would not.

February 7, 1994

Subject: Syllabus for GE 254 Geography of Russia and the Soviet Sphere

To: Don Buckwalter

From: Bob Morris *BM*

Thank you for sharing the new syllabus for GE 254 with me. I congratulate you for the thoughtful revisions you have made. I am pleased to see that you will not neglect the Soviet sphere aspects of the subject in favor of a Russian, wholly Western approach.

Thank you, too, for including a sample reading list and suggested reviews and references to be recommended to those who enroll in the course. Your contemporary topical emphasis will be of great interest to contemporary students; however, you are wise to emphasize the continuities that are an equally important part of the proposed subject area.

It is clear that the course belongs in the non-Western part of the curriculum not only because of the Central Asian and Trans-Caucasus units, but also because the Russian heritage is in part a reaction to as well as an assimilation of Western Civilization.

I wish you luck with the revised course and look forward to sharing some materials with you as we both strive to keep our courses abreast of the rapid changes in that part of the world.