

RUSN 3060 / HIST 3091 / POLI 3820 Fall Term 2015/16

“PUTIN’S RUSSIA”



The course examines the politics, society, and economy of Russia during the first fifteen years of the 21st century. It will attempt to provide historical context for specific topics, beginning with the biography and personal agenda of Vladimir V. Putin; the role of natural resources -- especially oil -- in the growth of the economy, Russia’s increased international influence, and improved domestic infrastructure; official and unofficial corruption as well as crony capitalism (“Oligarchs”); expansion of NATO and deteriorating relations with the West, particularly America; reassertion of Russian hegemony in the “Near Abroad,” leading to bloody conflicts with Georgia and Ukraine; internal ethnic and religious tensions, notably in Muslim Chechnya; and the concentration of state power in Putin’s “Sovereign Democracy” with dire consequences for civil liberties, dissent, and political pluralism.

Instructor: Norman Pereira, Professor Emeritus Russian Studies and History

RUSN 3060 is taught in a 3-hour seminar format (Mondays 9:00 AM – Noon). The course is also taught as **POLI 3820** and **HIST 3091**. Thus, students can get credit for this course in either Russian Studies, Political Science, or History.

For additional information, please contact

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