



HIST 13900 4, REES 26011 4, SOSC 24000 4 - Introduction to Russian Civilization I - Instructor(s): Yaroslav Gorbachov

Project Title: **College Course Feedback - Autumn 2023**

Number Enrolled: **18**

Number of Responses: **10**

Report Comments

Opinions expressed in these evaluations are those of students enrolled in the specific course and do not represent the University.

Creation Date: **Friday, February 2, 2024**

What are the most important things that you learned in this course? Please reflect on the knowledge and skills you gained.

Comments
I learned the basics of Russian history
Ivan the terrible, and also learned how to think historically.
The history of Russia from the 8th century to the late 19th century.
This class covered Russian history from the start of the Russian state up to the 1880s. It covered not only important historical writings but primary texts from the times as well.
Evolution of Russian history and identity from the Christianization of Kiev to 20th century Russia.
I learned about the history of Russia from the founding through the decemberist movement.
Pre–1800 Russian history
I learned an immense amount about Russian history from the 9th century through the Romanov dynasty. Beyond historical material, my ability to critically approach primary source material and my writing skills improved.

Describe how aspects of this course (lectures, discussions, labs, assignments, etc.) contributed to your learning.

Comments
Lectures are a bit autocratic (i.e. primarily dictated by the professor), but this course is about Russia after all. The readings and subsequent discussion (though limited) was most helpful to solidify my understanding.
Lectures were really really high level and fun. Slava is a great lecturer.
The discussions helped explain the course of Russian history. The essays helped solidify my understanding of Russian history.
Lectures were the main help as the professor went over the section of history for the day. The readings as well as the required discussion post helped to get more specific information for the days.
Lectures, discussions at the end of lectures, and daily readings.
The lectures were very informative
Lectures and readings were very informative
Class time doubled as a lecture and an opportunity for discussion, both of which solidified material that was covered in the reading. Papers offered me the chance to making longer form arguments than I could otherwise do in class.

Please respond to the following:

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
This course challenged me intellectually.	4.40	4.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	60.00%	40.00%
I understood the purpose of this course and what I was expected to gain from it.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	30.00%	60.00%
I understood the standards for success on assignments.	4.10	4.50	0.00%	10.00%	20.00%	20.00%	50.00%
Class time enhanced my ability to succeed in graded assignments.	4.40	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	20.00%	60.00%
I received feedback on my performance that helped me improve my subsequent work.	4.60	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	20.00%	70.00%
My work was evaluated fairly.	4.80	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	80.00%
I felt respected in this class.	4.90	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	90.00%
Overall, this was an excellent course.	4.70	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	30.00%	70.00%

Additional comments about the course:

Comments
I just wish the professor would allow more time for discussion
Challenging to understand the concepts at times because Russian History has several nuances that maybe some other history courses do not.
I don't know whether the course was actually good in terms of the content we were supposed to glean from it. The assignments took a while to be graded and to be honest I never knew my grade in the class until the end. However, Slava is absolutely a great professor who loves the content. It's difficult to not get excited when in his class. His enthusiasm and fun facts were truly adorable and made the class worth it.
Slava is great. Very knowledgeable, interesting, and fair

I would recommend this course to:

	No	Yes
Highly-motivated and well-prepared students	10.00%	90.00%
Anyone interested in the topic	0.00%	100.00%

Thinking about your time in the class, what aspect of the instructor's teaching contributed most to your learning?

Comments
The discussion of readings was most helpful
Slava's sense of humor and helpfulness with learning the material
Going over the history of Russia and notable stories from it.
His teaching was very fun and kind of casual which made the lectures easier for me to digest as they weren't boring nor did they make me stressed with all the information.
The lecture slides were good
lectures were informative
Professor Gorbachov is extremely knowledgeable about the subject matter and whether he was going on a small tangent or presenting main ideas in the course, he had a wonderful command of the material that I feel as though I could absorb from his lectures. This was principally the case thanks to the helpful mix of critical analysis and historical overview that he provided in lectures.

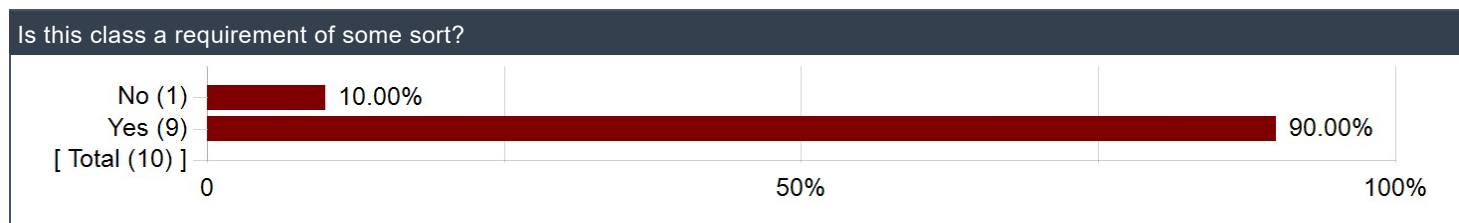
What could the instructor modify to help you learn more?

Comments
Allow more time for students to get involved in the discussion
Grading. It is the last week of the quarter and I have no idea how I am doing in the course.
Explaining the readings more in depth and grading our assignments in a more timely manner.
The one bit I struggled with was the timings of certain things. Trying to keep track and getting a grounding for time and the progression of it was a bit difficult, especially at the beginning but that I think is more due to my own weak points as a student.
It would be nice if he told us what we should be drawing from the texts before reading them because sometimes I would read and focus on something only to realise it was totally unimportant to what we were going to talk about
I really have nothing but positive feedback for Professor Gorbachov – he presented detailed lectures, offered helpful comments in discussions, and could always answer questions.

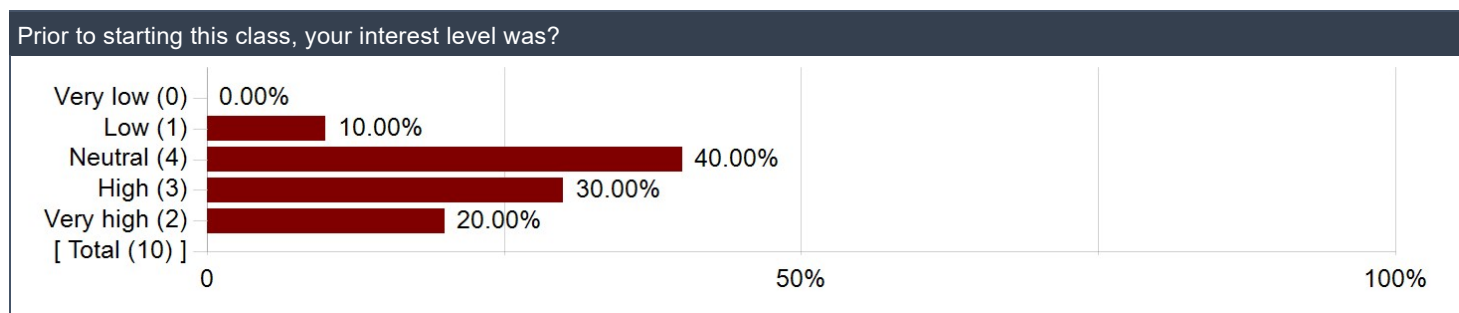
The Instructor . . .

	Mean	Median	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	N/A
Organized the course clearly.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Presented lectures that enhanced your understanding.	4.40	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	40.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Facilitated discussions that were engaging and useful.	4.40	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	40.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Stimulated your interest in the core ideas of the course.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Challenged you to learn.	4.50	4.50	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%
Helped you gain significant learning from the course content.	4.60	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	40.00%	60.00%	0.00%
Was available and helpful outside of class.	4.50	5.00	0.00%	10.00%	0.00%	20.00%	70.00%	0.00%
Motivated you to think independently.	4.70	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	30.00%	70.00%	0.00%
Worked to create an inclusive and welcoming learning environment.	4.70	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	30.00%	70.00%	0.00%
Overall, this instructor made a significant contribution to your learning.	4.60	5.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	40.00%	60.00%	0.00%

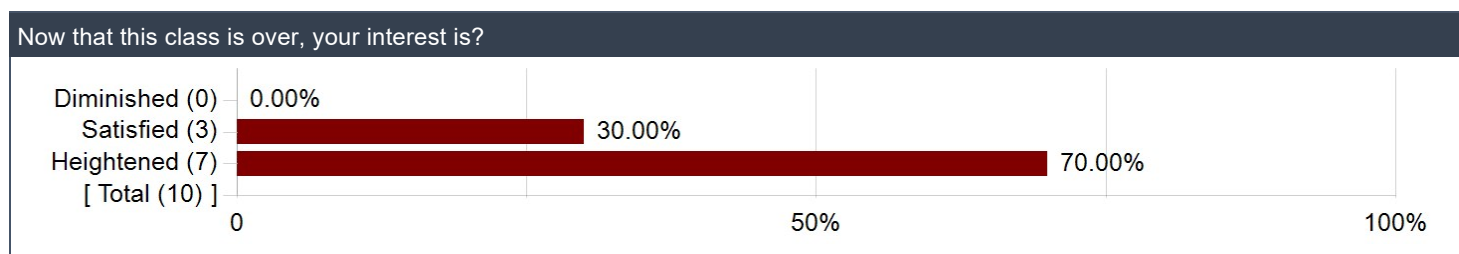
Is this class a requirement of some sort?



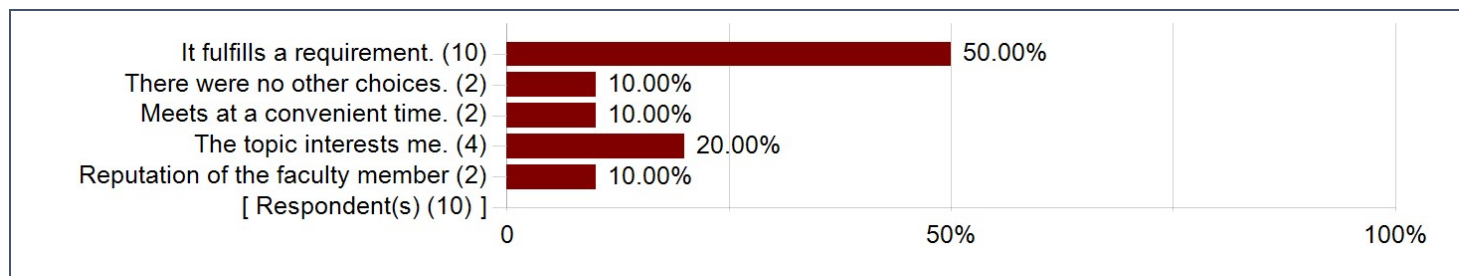
Prior to starting this class, your interest level was?



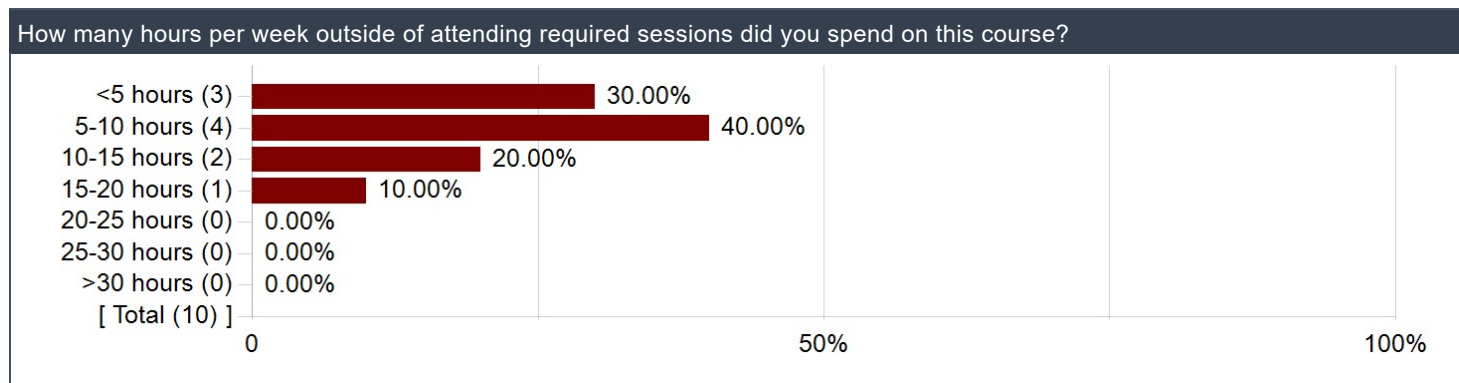
Now that this class is over, your interest is?



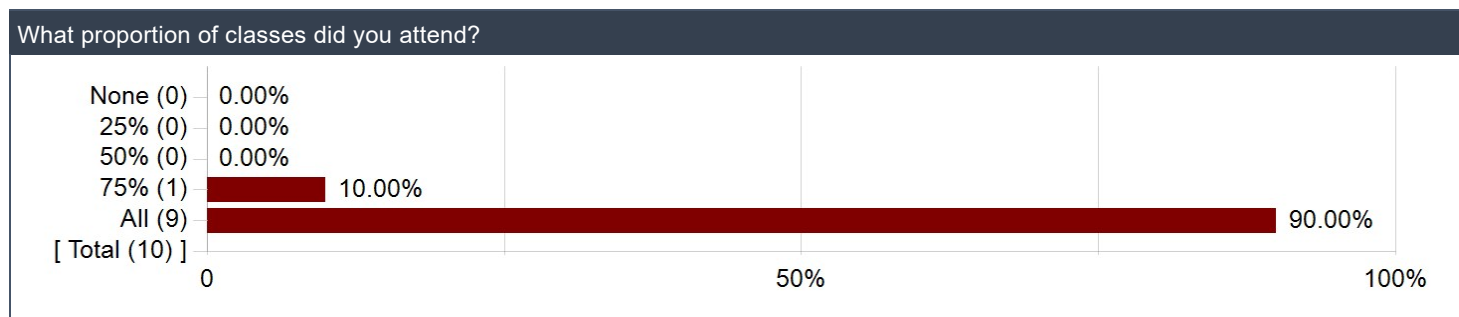
Why did you choose to take this course? (Select all that apply)



How many hours per week outside of attending required sessions did you spend on this course?



What proportion of classes did you attend?



Please comment on the level of difficulty of the course relative to your background and experience.

Comments
If you engage with the material thoughtfully, you should be alright
This class was challenging for me and I have a strong history background. I would take if you are a high level reader or willing to spend lots of time doing independent research.
No background in Russian history needed.
I know nothing about Russian history. I also am not the biggest fan of writing and writing assignments. That being said the class was easy to understand and at no point did I feel like I was behind.
Easy
Having taken other writing-based core classes, the expectations of this course were predictable.