RUSS 4335 Technology, Society and Culture in the Soviet Union and Russia

Wks 1-2 Machines, speed, industry, and war in Futurist and Left art.

Wk 3 Vertov and his cine-eye.

Wk 4 Medicine and the creation of the new man.

Wk 5 Genetics and biology. Lysenko.

Wk 6 Collectivization: the village, tractor, and the symbiosis of man, machine and nature (Dovzhenko’s *Earth*). Collectivization: famine.

Wk 7 Industrialization. Heros of labor.

Wk 8 Electrification, electric stations and ecology. Rasputin and village prose.

Wk 9-10 Science fiction. Cosmic exploration.

Wk 11 BAM and the “conquest” of Siberia

Wk 12-14 Sustainability and culture; nuclear weapons testing and ecology; space (portions of Aitmatov’s *Day Lasts More Than a Hundred Years*).

Wk 15 Presentations

Assessment based on participation, weekly short papers, presentation, and final exam.

Participation: 20%  
Weekly short papers: 40%  
Presentation: 20%  
Final Exam: 20%

Conducted in Russian.

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| **ML PERFORMANCE GOAL #1: PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION** | |
| **ML Learning Outcome 1 : Demonstrate oral and aural proficiency in the target language** | Students will demonstrate oral proficiency at the intermediate or advanced level through class discussion and debate |
| **ML Learning Outcome 2:** Demonstrate effective presentation skills in the target language | Students will demonstrate the ability to make coherent formal research presentations of 10 minutes without written text and to engage audience into discussion |
| **ML Learning Outcome 3: Demonstrate writing proficiency in the target language** | Students will regularly produce coherent analytical writing on class-related topics |
| **ML Learning Outcome 4:**  Demonstrate proficiency in comprehension of authentic written texts in the target Language | Students will demonstrate ability to understand and analyze authentic literary, newspaper, and popular scientific texts on topics related to class discussion |
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| **ML PERFORMANCE GOAL #2: INTERCULTURAL SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE** | |
| **ML Learning Outcome 5: Demonstrate in-depth knowledge of a *specific* target-language country or region** | Students will demonstrate the ability to analyze the historical and cultural roots of problems related to technology and sustainable development in the Soviet Union and Russia |
| **ML Learning Outcome 6:**  Demonstrate the ability to analyze an issue from target-culture perspective(s) | Students will reflect on the ways in which issues of technological development, ecology, and sustainability are framed within Russian/Soviet(and anti-Soviet) discourse |
| **ML Learning Outcome 7:**  Demonstrate critical reflection on cultural complexity and context | Students will develop the ability to make sophisticated comparisons of perspectives and practices both within Russian/Soviet culture and between Russian and American cultures |