

Modern History of the Caucasus

(JTB 241)

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Annotation

Since the 'long nineteenth century', the peoples, nationalities, and nations in the Caucasus region – comprising the North Caucasus, the small republics along the southern border of the Russian Federation, and the South Caucasus, with the nation-states of Azerbaijan, Armenia, and Georgia adjacent to it – have shared a history of tsarist and Soviet Russian occupation, control, and co-optation, interethnic conflict and cooperation, as well as social (under)development. Starting with a conceptual discussion of the region, its linguistic, ethnic, and cultural diversity, and its pre-Tsarist political history, this course traces the political, economic, and cultural processes the North and South Caucasus have undergone during the tsarist, Soviet, and post-Soviet periods, underscoring the factors, discourses, and legacies that have shaped its past, still impact its present, and potentially orient its future.

A. COURSE DESIGN

1. Introduction
2. Conceptualizing the Caucasus
3. The Political History of the Caucasus from the Medieval to Early Modern Periods & under Tsarist Rule in the Long Nineteenth Century
4. The First Transcaucasian Political Union, April-May 1918
5. Three Independent South Caucasus Republics, 1918-1920/1
6. The Caucasus in the Soviet Union, 1921-1991
7. Post-Soviet Azerbaijan
8. Post-Soviet Georgia
9. Post-Soviet Armenia
10. Post-Soviet North-Eastern Caucasus: Dagestan, Chechnya, and Ingushetia
11. The Post-Soviet North-Western Caucasus: Kabardino-Balkaria, Karachay-Cherkessia and Adygea
12. Workshop

B. READING ASSIGNMENTS

1. Introduction

- The syllabus

2. Conceptualizing the Caucasus

- Muhlfried, Florian, "Caucasus Paradigms Revisited," in *Routledge Handbook of the Caucasus*, G. M. Yemelianova & L. Broers, eds, (Routledge, 2020), 19-31

3. The Political History of the Caucasus from the Medieval to Early Modern Periods & Under the Tsarist Rule in the "Long Nineteenth-Century"

- Broers, L., Yemelianova, G. M., "The 'Long Millennium': The Caucasus from the Medieval to the Early Modern Periods", in *Routledge Handbook of the Caucasus*, G. M. Yemelianova & L. Broers, eds, (Routledge, 2020), 87-106
- Blauvelt, T. K., "The Caucasus in the Russian Empire", in *Routledge Handbook of the Caucasus*, G. M. Yemelianova & L. Broers, eds, (Routledge, 2020), 107-120

4. The First Transcaucasian Political Union, April-May 1918

- Brisku, Adrian & Timothy K. Blauvelt, "Who Wanted the TDFR: The Making and the Breaking of Transcaucasian Democratic Federative Republic", in *Transcaucasian Democratic Federative Republic, 1918: Federal Aspirations, Geopolitics and National Projects*, Adrian Brisku and Timothy K. Blauvelt (Guest Editors), *Caucasus Survey* (2020), DOI: 10.1080/23761199.2020.1712897
- Brisku, Adrian "The Transcaucasian Democratic Federative Republic as a 'Georgian' Responsibility", in *Transcaucasian Democratic Federative Republic, 1918: Federal Aspirations, Geopolitics and National Projects*, Adrian Brisku and Timothy K. Blauvelt (Guest Editors), *Caucasus Survey* (2020), DOI: 10.1080/23761199.2020.1712902
- Mamoulia, Georges, "Azerbaijan and the Transcaucasian Democratic Federative Republic: Historical Reality and Possibility", in *Transcaucasian Democratic Federative Republic, 1918: Federal Aspirations, Geopolitics and National Projects*, Adrian Brisku and Timothy K. Blauvelt (Guest Editors)
- Zolyan, Mikayel, "Between Empire and Independence: Armenia and the Transcaucasian Democratic Federative Republic" in *Transcaucasian Democratic Federative Republic, 1918: Federal Aspirations, Geopolitics and National Projects*, Adrian Brisku and Timothy K. Blauvelt (Guest Editors)
- Slye, Sarah, "Turning Towards Unity: A North Caucasian Perspective on the Transcaucasian Democratic Federative Republic" in *Transcaucasian Democratic Federative Republic, 1918: Federal Aspirations, Geopolitics and National Projects*, Adrian Brisku and Timothy K. Blauvelt (Guest Editors)

5. Three Independent South Caucasus Republics, 1918-1920/1

- Saparov, A., “Between the Russian Empire and the USSR: the Independence of Transcaucasia as a Socio-political Transformation”, in *Routledge Handbook of the Caucasus*, G. M. Yemelianova & L. Broers, eds, (Routledge, 2020), 121-135
6. **The Caucasus in the Soviet Union, 1921-1991**
 - Smith, J., “The Soviet Caucasus”, in *Routledge Handbook of the Caucasus*, G. M. Yemelianova & L. Broers, eds, (Routledge, 2020), 136-154
 7. **Post-Soviet Azerbaijan**
 - Alststadt, A. L., “Azerbaijan: Politics, Society and Economy since Independence”, in *Routledge Handbook of the Caucasus*, G. M. Yemelianova & L. Broers, eds, (Routledge, 2020), 157-173
 8. **Post-Soviet Georgia**
 - Nodia, G., “The New Georgia: Politics, Economy and Society”, in *Routledge Handbook of the Caucasus*, G. M. Yemelianova & L. Broers, eds, (Routledge, 2020), 174-188
 9. **Post-Soviet Armenia**
 - Iskandaryan, A., “Armenia: From Revolution to Revolution”, in *Routledge Handbook of the Caucasus*, G. M. Yemelianova & L. Broers, eds, (Routledge, 2020), 189-202
 10. **The North-Eastern Caucasus: Dagestan, Chechnya and Ingushetia**
 - Yemelianova, G. M., “The North-Eastern Caucasus: Dagestan, Chechnya and Ingushetia”, in *Routledge Handbook of the Caucasus*, G. M. Yemelianova & L. Broers, eds, (Routledge, 2020), 203-218
 11. **The Post-Soviet North-Western Caucasus: Kabardino-Balkaria, Karachaevo-Cherkessia and Adygea**

Yemelianova, G.M, Akkiewa, S. I, “Post-Soviet North-Western Caucasus: Kabardino-Balkaria, Karachaevo-Cherkessia and Adygea”, in *Routledge Handbook of the Caucasus*, G. M. Yemelianova & L. Broers, eds, (Routledge, 2020), 219-238.
 12. **Workshop**

C. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Attendance is mandatory, as the course is designed as a seminar that requires substantial student participation.
- 2) A PowerPoint presentation (maximum 4 slides, including images & sources used) on a theme agreed with the lectures is required.

- 3) In week 12, using a 'workshop' format, students present & get feedback from the lecturer and course mates on their first draft of their final paper.
- 4) Three weeks after the course concludes, a final paper of approximately 2,500 words should be uploaded to Moodle.
- 5) Active class participation – 10%, presentation – 30%, final paper outline (for the workshop) – 20%, final paper – 40%.

D. COURSE EVALUATION

A - "výborně - A" - "excellent - A"

B - "výborně - B" - "excellent - B"

C - "velmi dobře - C" - "very good - C"

D - "velmi dobře - D" - "very good - D"

E - "dobře - E" - "good - E"

F - "neprospěl/a - F" - "fail - F"

Last Updated

4 Jan. 26