

The Russian Revolution and Contemporary Russian Studies
A Roundtable Discussion and Film Screening

This artsmethods-sponsored event took place on 2 October 2017 in the Graduate School Conference Room, Ellen Wilkinson Building. The event attracted approximately 30 people, including senior academic staff at the University, postgraduate and undergraduate students from the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures based in Russian Studies, History and other programmes, as well as members of the wider community. Short presentations by Prof Vera Tolz, Dr Sofia Tipaldou, Vitaly Kazakov, Prof Stephen Hutchings, and Dr Philipp Casula, highlighting relevance of the Russian Revolution and its legacy to their current research projects, opened the programme. A short question and answer period allowed students and academics in the audience engage with the roundtable members around questions of interest. A screening of the Soviet film *White Sun of the Desert*, interpreting the legacy of the Revolution, followed the roundtable discussion. Finally, Philipp Casula led another discussion around the themes brought up in the movie, concluding the formal part of the event. The refreshments reception at the end of the day presented all attendees with a chance to network and further engage with the questions raised during discussions in an informal setting. Overall, this multifaceted, well-attended event was an excellent opportunity to showcase the diversity of research conducted in the Russian and East European Studies programme, hear from senior members of the Faculty and PGR trainees, and engage in a conversation around the issues of legacy of the Russian Revolution, its cultural representations and academic influences.