

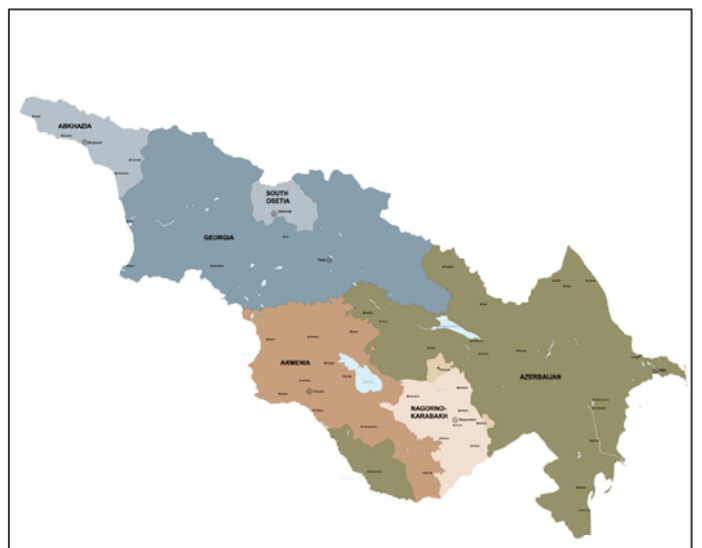


IMPERIAL ENCOUNTERS, SOVIET FRONTIERS NATIONS, MIGRATIONS & BORDERS IN THE CAUCASUS (HIST31922)

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This course examines interactions between the Ottoman and Russian imperial worlds and the states that were established following their collapse in the Soviet Union and the Middle East. The geographical focus for the course is the South Caucasus, a region frequently stereotyped as either a 'crossroads of civilization' or a 'shatter zone' prone to violence, conflict and displacement. Over the course of the semester we will work outwards to consider connections with the wider Eurasian region, from Crimea to Central Asia.

The first part of the course examines changing patterns of movement and interaction between the Ottoman & Russian Empires, from pilgrimages to the forced resettlement of populations. The second part of the course turns to the First World War, the Armenian Genocide and the creation of new states in the aftermath of these events. We will examine the consequences of population displacement, refugee resettlement and the re-drawing of borders in the Middle East and the Soviet Union. The final sessions examine some legacies of these processes: nationalism, 'ethnic conflict' and population displacement, and labour migration in Russia and Turkey.



Assessment: Book review - 1500 words. 40%; Essay - 3000 words 60%

Key Reading for the Course

Chatty, Dawn, *Displacement and Dispossession in the Modern Middle East* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010)

Kane, Eileen, *Russian Hajj: Empire and the Pilgrimage to Mecca* (Ithaca and London: Cornell University Press, 2015)

Robson, Laura, *States of Separation: Transfer, Partition and the Making of the Modern Middle East* (Oakland: University of California Press, 2017)

Sahadeo, J., *Voices from the Soviet Edge: Southern Migrants in Leningrad & Moscow* (Ithaca: Cornell, 2019)

Siegelbaum, L. & Leslie Page Moch, *Broad is my Native Land: Repertoires and Regimes of Migration in Russia's Twentieth Century* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2014)

Siegelbaum, L. & Krista Goff, *Empire and Belonging in Eurasia* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2019)

Suny, Ronald Grigor, *They can Live in the Desert and Nowhere Else: A History of the Armenian Genocide* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2015)

To introduce you to the region and its history

Film

'Parts of a Circle': Documentary on the Nagorno Karabakh Conflict from Conciliation Resources <http://www.c-r.org/news-and-insight/film-parts-circle-history-karabakh-conflict>

'Girl Prisoner of the Caucasus': Soviet Comedy (English subtitles) <https://cinema.mosfilm.ru/films/35165/>

Literature

Banine, *Days in the Caucasus*

Nino Haratischvili, *The Eighth Life*

Mikhail Lermontov, *A Hero of Our Time*

Orhan Pamuk, *Snow*

Kurban Said, *Ali and Nino*

Elif Shafak, *The Bastard of Istanbul*

Memoir

Vassily Grossman, *An Armenian Sketchbook*

Sato Moughlian, *A Feast of Ashes*

Meline Toumanian, *There was and there was not*



Dissertations

Russian imperial/Soviet history – especially nationalities, migration, war, Caucasus & Central Asia, Soviet collapse and post-Soviet conflicts; refugee history and history of humanitarianism – Caucasus and Middle East; Armenian Genocide – aftermaths, memory, international responses; travellers and travel writing.

