**(*THIS SYLLABUS IS MODELED ON A PREVIOUS SEMESTER’S SYLLABUS. THERE WILL BE SOME MODIFICATIONS TO THE ACTUAL SYLLABUS.)***

**HIST333/RUSS240/COML236**

**Napoleonic Era and Tolstoy’s *War and Peace***

CLASS TIME (twice a week, 80 mins.)

Professor Peter Holquist (History)

CLASS LOCATION

Office hours: XXX



**I. Course Description (Or: Map of our theater of operations)**

In this course we will read what many consider to be the greatest book in world literature. This work, Tolstoy's *War and Peace*, is devoted to one of the most momentous periods in world history, the Era of the French Revolutions and the Napoleonic Wars (1789-1815). We will study both the novel and the Napoleonic era: the military campaigns of Napoleon and his opponents, the grand strategies of the age, political intrigues and diplomatic betrayals, the ideologies and beliefs, the human dramas, and the relationship between art and history. How does literature help us to understand this era? How does history help us to understand this great novel?

Because we will read *War and Peace* over the course of the entire semester, readings will be manageable (circa 100 pages of the epic and 50 pages of additional reading per week) – and very enjoyable (☺).

**II. Course Methodology (Or: Strategy and tactics)**

We will be working across three related, but discrete topographies: 1) *Europe* in the age of Napoleon; 2) *Russia* in the age of Napoleon; and 3), Tolstoy and Russia in the turbulent age of the novel's *composition*, the 1860s. As a general rule, we have structured the course so that we will devote each Tuesday to the novel and each Thursday to a historical/cultural theme. The Thursday lectures will introduce context and themes which will be found in sections of the novel due the following Tuesday. Lecture topics include: Tolstoy and his age; Napoleonic warfare; Moscow vs. Petersburg; Free Masonry and Mysticism in Russian society; Duels and Gambling in Russian gentry culture; the diplomatic alliances of the Napoleonic age; Nobility and serfdom—and much more.

**III. Required Texts (Or: Your weaponry!)**

Leo Tolstoy, *War and Peace* (Oxford World Classics Edition; Maude/Mandelker translation)

Dominic Lieven, *Russia Against Napoleon. The True Story of the Campaigns of War and Peace* (2011)

Philippe-Paul de Ségur, *Defeat: Napoleon's Russian Campaign* (New York: NYRB, 2008).

Other readings (articles, documents, and book chapters) will be found on our Canvas Course site.

**IV.** **Recommended texts (entirely optional, only if you want further information on Tolstoy or the age)**

Alan Palmer, *Napoleon in Russia*

Janet Hartley, *Alexander I*

Hugh Seton-Watson, *The Russian Empire, 1801-1917*, pp. 96-112

Boris Eikhenbaum, *Tolstoy in the Sixties* (1982)

Kathryn B. Feuer, *Tolstoy and the Genesis of* War and Peace

**V. Recommended Links to Readings On-Line**

*Russian History*

Russia in the Age of Leo Tolstoy: Walter Moss, *Alexander II and His Times: A Narrative History of Russia in the Age of Alexander II, Tolstoy and Dostoevsky*: <http://people.emich.edu/wmoss/publications/>

Interactive map of *War and Peace*: <http://www.stanford.edu/~njenkins/archives/2008/10/homage_to_war_a.html>

Napoleon, His Army and Enemies:

<http://napoleonistyka.atspace.com/index.html>

Russian cavalry regiments in Napoleonic Wars (including Nikolai Rostov’s Pavlograd Hussars):

<http://napoleonistyka.atspace.com/Russian_cavalry.htm>

The Russian Guards of the Napoleonic Wars

<http://napoleonistyka.atspace.com/Russian_guard.htm>

Napoleon’s Invasion of Russia, 1812

<http://napoleonistyka.atspace.com/Invasion_of_Russia_1812.htm>

The Battle of Borodino, 1812

<http://napoleonistyka.atspace.com/Borodino_battle.htm>

Minard Graph (1869) depicting the course of the French campaign in 1812

<http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/63/Minards_chart_Napoleons_Russian_campaign_of_1812_made_in_1869.jpg>

The Winter Palace’s 1812 Gallery: <http://www.hermitagemuseum.org/html_En/05/hm5_8.html>

Russian Freemasonry (pp. 5-25):  
<http://freemasonry.bcy.ca/texts/russia/FRP.pdf>

Manifesto on Freedom of the Nobility <http://academic.shu.edu/russianhistory/index.php/Peter_III%27s_Manifesto_Freeing_Nobles_frm_Obligatory_Service,_1762>

*Tolstoy*

Ernst Simmons, *Introduction to Tolstoy’s Writings*. Chapters One and Four:

<http://www.ourcivilisation.com/smartboard/shop/smmnsej/tolstoy/chap2.htm>

<http://www.ourcivilisation.com/smartboard/shop/smmnsej/tolstoy/chap5.htm>

Tolstoy’s estate at Iasnaia Poliana: <http://www.ibiblio.org/sergei/Exs/YasnayaPoliana/yp1.html>

*Tolstoy Studies Journal:* Tolstoy Links; Image Gallery; Tolstoy Filmography, Film on Tolstoy <http://www.utoronto.ca/tolstoy/>

**VI. Course Requirements (for all recruits)**

Participation: 5%

Three Quizzes : 15%  
First Assignment (Diary of a Character): 20%  
Second Assignment (Take home essay): 20%  
Take Home Final Exam: 40%

**VII. Attendance Policy (your commander will take note of any unexcused abandonment of your military post!!)**

Attendance and participation in class discussion are required, and are incorporated into the course grade.

No makeup examinations or quizzes will be given unless documentation of a medical emergency is provided the day the student returns to class. An unexcused absence on the day of examination or quiz is given results in no credit for that examination or quiz.

**Much of the material covered in this course (and incorporated into examination and quizzes) is introduced in lecture and through classroom discussion. Absence means a loss of access to this material, which likely adverse consequences on examinations and quizzes. Students are responsible for obtaining notes from their classmate for any sessions they miss due to absence.**

**VIII. Academic Integrity (obey the laws and customs of war and peace!):**

Out of considerations of equity to other students in the course, and on the grounds of basic ethics, this course will view any question of violations of academic integrity (e.g., plagiarism, failure to properly acknowledge ideas and sources) as serious issues. All students are expected to adhere to the University of Pennsylvania’s Code of Academic Integrity. If you have not yet done so, please consult it at: <http://www.vpul.upenn.edu/osl/acadint.html>.

In this course, any suspected violation of academic integrity or plagiarism will be submitted to the College’s Office of Student Conduct (OSC). Please acquaint yourselves with the College’s webpage for undergraduate students on academic integrity: <http://www.upenn.edu/academicintegrity/index.html>

**Class Schedule (Or: The course of our campaign!!!)**

**Thurs., Aug. 28**. Introductions: Course Goals and Requirements; Literature and History

**Tues., Sept. 2:** Author and Time. Tolstoy’s Life and Work

* Moss, *Alexander II and his Times*, Part I, chs. 1-2, 5 (on-line)
* Tolstoy’s “Sebastopol in December” (on-line)
* George Dodd, “Winter-Life in the Tents and Trenches,” in: *Pictorial  
  History of the Russian War* *1854-56*, pp. 286-295 (on-line)

**Thurs., Sept. 4**. High Society. St. Petersburg vs. Moscow. Age of Catherine II (1762-1796) vs. Age of Alexander I (1801-1825)

* Alexander Martin, “The Russian Empire and the Napoleonic Wars” in *Napoleon and Europe*, ed. Philip G. Dwyer (New York: Longman, 2001), pp. 243-63 (Canvas)
* Janet M. Hartley, “Frustrated Statesman, 1801-1807,” ch. 4 of *Alexander I* (pp. 58-81) (Canvas)
* Vinitsky & Wachtel, a chapter on Russian culture during the age of Alexander I (Canvas)

**Tues., Sept. 9:**. The History of Tolstoy’s Novel. The Prologue.

* Simmons on the genesis of *War and Peace* (on-line)
* Tolstoy, “Some Words About *War and Peace*” (pp. 1309-18)
* *War and Peace*, Book I, Part 1 (pp. 3-118) [MAJOR CHARACTERS; PETERSBURG – MOSCOW – BALD HILLS]

**Thurs., Sept. 11:** Russia in the Napoleonic Wars: Historical context.

* Dominic Lieven, “Russia as a Great Power,” ch. 2(pp. 19-58).

**Tues. Sept. 16**. *War and Peace*, Book I, Part 2 (pp. 119-213) [RUSSIAN ARMY IN AUSTRIA THROUGH SCHÖN GRABERN]

**Thurs., Sept. 18**. The Third Coalition. The French Army. The Russian and Austrian Armies. Diplomacy. War Planning. Carl von Clausewitz

* Owen Connelly, “The Scrambler on the Danube: The Ulm-Austerlitz Campaign, 1805” ch. 5 of *Blundering to Glory: Napoleon’s Military Campaigns* (pp. 75-90) (Canvas)
* General Buxhöwden’s Report to General Kutuzov on the Battle of Austerlitz at: <http://www.napoleon-series.org/research/russianarchives/austerlitz/c_buxhowden.html>
* Lieutenant General Miloradovich’s report to General Kutuzov on the Battle of Austerlitz at:

<http://www.napoleon-series.org/research/russianarchives/austerlitz/c_miloradovich.html>

* Gary Saul Morson on Tolstoy’s critique of war planning (Canvas)

**Tues., Sept. 23.** *War and Peace*, Book I, Part 3 (pp. 214-313) [AUSTERLITZ]

* **QUIZ ONE**

**Thurs., Sept. 25.** Russian Provinical Life. Nobility and serfdom. Mysticism

* Figes, “Moscow,” pp. 150-71 of *Natasha’s Dance* (Canvas)
* Priscilla Roosevelt, *Life on the Russian Country Estate*, pp. 26-33 (Canvas)
* Eikhenbaum on Tolstoy at Yasnaya Poliana (Canvas)
* On Russian Freemasonry: <http://freemasonry.bcy.ca/texts/russia/FRP.pdf>  
  pp. 5-25

**Tues., Sept. 30.** *War and Peace*, Book II, Part 1; Part 2, chs. 1-14 (pp. 317-422) [MOSCOW, 1806; PIERRE AND MASONS; BALD HILLS]

**Thurs., Oct. 2.**: The Diplomatic Alliances of the Napoleonic age (Tilsit). Speransky and the Reforms of Alexander I’s reign; the Prussian reform era and Carl von Clausewitz.

* Janet Hartley, “The Uncertain Constitutionalist and Ally: 1807-1812,” ch. 5 of *Alexander I* (pp. 82-101) (Canvas)
* Christopher Clark, *Iron Kingdom: A History of Prussia*, pp. 309-315, 320-344 (Canvas)

**Tues., Oct. 7.** *War and Peace*, Book II, Part 2, chs. 15-21; Book II, Part 3 (pp. 422-521) [RUSSIAN CAMPAIGN IN PRUSSIA, 1806-1807; TILSIT; PRINCE ANDREW AND SPERANSKY; NATASHA’S BALL].

**Thurs., Oct. 9: FALL BREAK** [consider reading ahead!]

**Tues., Oct.** **14:** Gentry Pursuits

* Priscilla Roosevelt, “A Private Princedom,” ch. 4 of *Life on the Russian Country Estate*, pp. 102-28 (Canvas)
* “Introduction” from Figes’s *Natasha’s Dance* (Canvas)
* Tolstoy on Opera in *What is Art* (Canvas)

**Thurs., Oct. 16.** *War and Peace*, Book II, Part 4 and Part 5 (pp. 522-644) [THE HUNT; NATASHA’S DANCE; LOOKING-GLASS; OPERA; ANATOLE; THE COMET OF 1811]

* **QUIZ TWO**

**Tues., Oct. 21 :** The Invasion

* Adam Zamoyski, “The Grande Armée” ch. 5 of *Moscow 1812: Napoleon’s Fatal March* (pp. 78-102) (Canvas)
* Hugh Seton-Watson, “Alexander and Napoleon,” in *The Russian Empire, 1801-1917*, pp. 113-126 (Canvas)
* Eikhenbaum on Tolstoy’s vision of history (Canvas)

**Thurs., Oct. 23:** *War and Peace*, Book III, Part 1 (pp. 647-731) [TOLSTOY’S PHILOSOPHY OF WAR; NAPOLEON INVADES RUSSIA; THEORIES OF WAR AND PLANNING; PIERRE’S MYSTICAL CALCULATIONS]

**Tues., Oct. 28**. The Russian Retreat

* Dominic Lieven, “The Retreat,” ch. 5 of *Russia against Napoleon* (pp. 138-73)
* Philippe-Paul de Ségur, *Defeat*: “Introduction,” chs. 1-2 (pp. vii-xxvi, 3-50)
* View the 1812 Gallery in the Winter Palace: <http://www.hermitagemuseum.org/html_En/05/hm5_8.html>
* **FIRST ASSIGNMENT: Diary of a character (5-6 pp.) (30%)**

**Thurs., Oct. 30.** Book III, Part 2, chs. 1-25 (pp. 732-833) [THE BATHOS OF PATRIOTISM; CAMPAIGN FROM SMOLENSK; ABANDONMENT OF BALD HILLS; PEASANTS AND WAR; MOSCOW ON THE EVE OF OCCUPATION]

**Tues., Nov. 4**: Borodino and the Fall of Moscow

* Dominic Lieven, “Borodino and the Fall of Moscow,” ch. 6 of *Russia against Napoleon* (pp. 174-214)
* Ségur, *Defeat*, ch. 3 (pp. 53-86).

**Thurs., Nov. 6:** *War and Peace*, Book III, Part 2, chs. 26-39; Part 3, chs. 1-18 (pp. 834-934) [BORODINO; FILI CONFERENCE; OCCUPATION OF MOSCOW]

**Tues., Nov. 11**: Moscow in Russian Cultural Mythology. Fire of Moscow as Historical Problem and Cultural Myth. Debates on Death and Capital Punishment in the 1860s

* Ségur, *Defeat*, ch. 4 (pp. 89-131)
* Robert Louis Jackson, *Dialogues with Dostoevsky* (a chapter on Tolstoy’s vision of capital punishment)
* Life under French Occupation: Spain, Russia [Goya and Vereshchagin images]
* Alexander Martin, selection from *Romantics, Reformers, Reactionaries: Russian Conservative Thought and Politics in the Age of Alexander I* on Rostopchin, pp. 123-31, 142 (Canvas).

**Thurs., Nov. 13:** Book III, Part 3, chs. 19-34; Book IV, Part I (pp. 935-1061) [NAPOLEON ENTERS MOSCOW; RASTOPCHIN AND VERESHCHAGIN; THE FIRE OF MOSCOW; EXECUTION SCENE; PLATON KARATAEV; ANDREI’S DEATH]

**Tues., Nov. 18.** Partisan war and the French Retreat

* Ségur, *Defeat*, chs. 5 and part of ch. 6 (pp. 135-63)
* Lieven, “The Advance from Moscow,” ch. 8, (pp. 242-67; until battle at Krasnyi)
* View the Minard Graph (1869) depicting the course of the French campaign

<http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/63/Minards_chart_Napoleons_Russian_campaign_of_1812_made_in_1869.jpg>

* **SECOND ASSIGNMENT (take-home essay) DUE**

**Thurs., Nov. 20:** *War and Peace*, Book IV, Parts 2-3 (pp. 1062-1156) [MESSINESS OF BATTLES; COMMANDERS’ ILLUSIONS; THE FRENCH RETREAT; PARTISAN WARFARE; DEATH OF PETYA; DISINTEGRATION OF THE FRENCH ARMY]

**Tues., Nov. 25:** The End of the Campaign

* Lieven, “The Advance from Moscow,” ch. 8 (pp. 267-284)
* Ségur, *Defeat*, portion of ch. 9 (pp. 231-53)
* Alexander R. Martin, “Russia and the Legacy of 1812” (pp. 145-61) (Canvas)
* Priscilla Roosevelt, “Provincial Life Disrupted,” pp. 209-216 of *Life on the Russian Country Estate* (Canvas)

**Thurs., Nov. 27: THANKSGIVING**

**Tues., Dec. 2:** *War and Peace*, Book IV, Part 4 (pp. 1157-1212) [KUTUZOV’S MISSION; THE CROSSING OF BEREZINA; LOVE]

* **QUIZ THREE**

**Thurs., Dec. 4**:History and Philosophy

* Hayden White, “War and Peace Against Historical Realism.” In *The Many Faces of Clio* (pp. 42-58). (Canvas)
* Isaiah Berlin, *The Hedgehog and the Fox* (excerpts on blackboard)
* Morson (Canvas)

**Tues., Dec. 9: THE END!** *War and Peace,* Epilogue, Parts 1-2. (pp. 1215-1308) [FAMILY UTOPIA; ROUT OF THE FRENCH; PHILOSOPHY OF HISTORY]

* **TAKE HOME EXAM DISTRIBUTED**

**TAKE HOME EXAM DUE ON WEDS. DEC. 17 AT 3PM**

**Join us to at 3PM to watch Love and Death by Woody Allen!!!**