

Lecturer: Dr Alexander Hill	Class Time: Thursday 15:00-17:45
Telephone: (Hill) 220 6419; or Main Office 220 6401	Location: SS623
Office: Social Sciences 620	Office Hours: TuTh 10:00-10:30 or by appointment
Email: hilla@ucalgary.ca	

HTST637 – Stalin’s Army, 1928-1945

This course will examine the development of the Red Army and wider Soviet preparations for future war during the period of the five-year plans, and the performance of the Red Army and the Stalinist system during the Great Patriotic War. The focus of the course will be on ‘effectiveness’ – how effective the Soviet state was in creating the means to defend itself and utilising them, both under attack and through expanding its influence. These questions will be considered with reference to the costs of success – both human and material.

Assessment

See page 8 of this outline.

Reading

The course texts are:

Alexander Hill, *The Red Army and the Second World War* (Cambridge: CUP, 2017)

and

Oleg Khlevniuk, *Stalin: New Biography of a Dictator* (New Haven, CT: Yale UP, 2015)

Class Outline

Week 1 – Thursday 12 January: Stalin and the Soviet Union, 1917-1934 – what you already know and what you need to know as background for the remainder of the course!

Reading to be completed in advance: Khlevniuk, Chapters 1-2 and, if time 3 to p.125.

During this seminar we will also discuss and confirm seminar themes for the semester from Week 3 onwards.

Seminar themes for Week 3 and beyond may include:

Stalin as war leader – to what extent was Stalin an effective wartime leader?

How effective was the Soviet Union at mobilizing non-Russian nationalities and women for the Soviet war effort?

For the Motherland, for Stalin! – how did the Stalinist regime seek to keep the Soviet population and Red Army committed to the war effort?

To what extent should Soviet victory in the Great Patriotic War be seen as vindication of the Stalinist system? The strengths and weaknesses of the Stalinist system at war.

Stalin's men: How did the composition and nature of Soviet political and military leadership change from the pre-war period through the Great Patriotic War?

Was the Soviet Union prepared for war in June 1941?

Why did things go so terribly wrong for the Red Army during the summer of 1941?

Did the Soviet economic system pass the 'test' of war in 1941-1945?

The war on German occupied territory – who 'won' and who 'lost'?

Week 2 – Thursday 19 January:

Theme	Politics and Purges: To what extent was the Soviet Union preparing for a major war, 1928-1938?		
Presenter 1	Topic	Presenter 2	Topic
	To what extent was Soviet government policy of the late 1920s and 1930s geared towards the prospect of future war?		Why did the Great Purges take place, and to what effect for the defence of the Soviet Union?
Course text reading	Khlevniuk, Chapter 3 and 4 to p.182. Hill, Chapters 1-3.		

Week 3 – Thursday 26 January:

Theme			
Presenter 1	Topic	Presenter 2	Topic
Course text reading			

Week 4 – Thursday 2 February:

Theme			
Presenter 1	Topic	Presenter 2	Topic
Course text reading			

Week 5 – Thursday 9 February:

Theme			
Presenter 1	Topic	Presenter 2	Topic
Course text reading			

Week 6 – Thursday 16 February:

Theme			
Presenter 1	Topic	Presenter 2	Topic
Course text reading			

Week 7 – (Week of Thursday 23 February) READING WEEK

Week 8 – Thursday 2 March

Theme			
Presenter 1	Topic	Presenter 2	Topic
Course text reading			

Week 9 – Thursday 9 March

Theme			
Presenter 1	Topic	Presenter 2	Topic
Course text reading			

Week 10 – Thursday 16 March

Theme			
Presenter 1	Topic	Presenter 2	Topic
Course text reading			

Week 11 – Thursday 23 March

Theme			
Presenter 1	Topic	Presenter 2	Topic
Course text reading			

Week 12 – Thursday 30 March

Theme			
Presenter 1	Topic	Presenter 2	Topic
Course text reading			

Week 13 – Thursday 6 April

Theme			
Presenter 1	Topic	Presenter 2	Topic
Course text reading			

Week 14 – Thursday 13 April

During the final class we will be watching some extracts from and discussing movie representations of Stalin and the Soviet Union at war.

Please note that the above lecture outline is provisional and may be subject to modification, including in response to student demand for particular topics.

Assessment:

Presentations	Four 50-minute seminar presentations, with one or two article-length pieces of reading to supplement course text material provided to the group at least 72 hours in advance of class, on a topic relating to a weekly seminar theme and agreed with the course leader in advance. The course leader will allocate reading from the course texts as appropriate.	Throughout the semester as agreed with the course leader.	15% each – three highest marks count = 45%
Long essay proposal	A 15-item bibliography including at least five substantial primary sources along with a provisional abstract for the essay of no more than 300 words.	Due Thursday 16 February	15%
Long essay	A long essay, building on the long essay proposal, of no more than 7,000 words in length. Word length includes references but not bibliography.	Due Thursday 13 April	40%

In all cases marks will be awarded for research, the clarity and sustainability of your argument and the quality of writing and referencing where appropriate.

Grading:

All work will be graded using the percentages corresponding to letter grades as in the departmental grading scheme attached.

The final grade will be calculated from the percentage marks for each piece of work and not the letter grades for individual components.

Important Departmental, Faculty, and University Information

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call 403-220-3580, or email artsads@ucalgary.ca. For detailed information on common academic concerns, you can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Arts Students Centre, Social Sciences 102, 403-220-3580, or visit <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/advising>.

- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit the office in the MacKimmie Library Block.

Departmental Twitter Handle @ucalgaryhist - For departmental updates and notifications

Writing:

This course will include written assignments. Faculty policy directs that all written assignments (including, although to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Research papers must be properly documented.

Writing Support:

Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services and other Student Success Centre Services, located on the 3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library. Writing Support Services assist with a variety of assignments, from essays to lab reports. Students can book 30-minute one-on-one appointments online, sign up for 15-minute drop-in appointments, and register for a variety of writing workshops. For more information on this and other Student Success Centre services, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ssc.

Copyright:

The University of Calgary has opted out of the Access Copyright Interim Tariff proposed by the Copyright Board. This means that instructors in all University of Calgary courses will strictly adhere to Copyright Act regulations and the educational exceptions permitted by the Act for both print and digital course material. What this simply means is that no copyrighted material may be placed on course D2L or web sites without the prior permission of the copyright holders. In some cases, this may mean that instructors will require you to purchase a print course pack from the University of Calgary bookstore or that you will have to consult books on reserve at the library. For more information on the University of Calgary’s copyright policy, see <http://library.ucalgary.ca/copyright>.

Red Box Policy:

Essays and other assignments may be handed in to the red box located outside of the History Department office (SS 656). Please include the following information on your assignment: course name and number, instructor, your name and your student number. Assignments received after 4:00 p.m. will be date stamped with the date of the next business day. We do not time stamp any papers. Please do not bring your paper into the office to be stamped. The box is emptied promptly at 8:30 a.m. and at 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Departmental Grading System:

The following percentage-to-letter grade conversion scheme has been adopted for use in all Canadian Studies, History, and Latin American Studies courses.

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
90-100	A+	4.00	Outstanding

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
85-89	A	4.00	Excellent—superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
80-84	A-	3.70	
77-79	B+	3.30	
73-76	B	3.00	Good—clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
70-72	B-	2.70	
67-69	C+	2.30	
63-66	C	2.00	Satisfactory—basic understanding of the subject matter.
60-62	C-	1.70	Receipt of a grade point average of 1.70 may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation.
56-59	D+	1.30	Minimal pass—marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
50-55	D	1.00	
0-49	F	0	Fail—unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism occurs when one submits or presents one's work in a course, or ideas and/or passages in a written piece of work, as if it were one's own work done expressly for that particular course, when, in fact, it is not. As noted in *The History Student's Handbook* (http://hist.ucalgary.ca/sites/hist.ucalgary.ca/files/history_students_handbook_2015.pdf), plagiarism may take several forms:

- Failure to cite sources properly may be considered plagiarism. This could include quotations, and wording used from another source but not acknowledged.
- Borrowed, purchased, and/or ghostwritten papers are considered plagiarism, as is submitting one's own work for more than one course without the permission of the instructor(s) involved.
- Extensive paraphrasing of one or a few sources is also considered plagiarism, even when notes are used, unless the essay is a critical analysis of those works.
- The use of notes does not justify the sustained presentation of another author's language and ideas as one's own.

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence and written work that appears to contain plagiarized passages will not be graded. All such work will be reported to the Faculty of Arts' associate

deans of students who will apply the penalties specified in the *University of Calgary Calendar*.

Universal Student Ratings of Instruction:

At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses (www.ucalgary.ca/usri). Your responses make a difference. Please participate in USRI Surveys.

Student Accommodations:

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/.

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected grounds other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>

Other Useful Information:

- Faculty of Arts Representatives: 403-220-6551, arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.
- *Safewalk and Campus Security*: 403-220-5333.

Please also familiarize yourself about the following topics by consulting the information at these links:

- *Freedom of Information*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip/foip-hia>
- *Emergency Evacuation Assembly Points*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>
- *Safewalk*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>
- *Student Union Information*: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>
- *Graduate Student Association*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/>
- *Student Ombudsman Office*: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

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