



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

Faculty of Arts
School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

RUSS 317-01
THE WORLD OF SOVIET CHILDHOOD
Fall 2017

COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: Elena Bratishenko

OFFICE LOCATION: CHC120

OFFICE HOURS: M 13:00-13:50

TELEPHONE NUMBER: 403 220-8109

E-Mail : bratishe@ucalgary.ca

DESCRIPTION

The course deals with cultural phenomena under the Soviet regime—the period stretching over most of the 20th century—from a multidisciplinary perspective with the focus on children. Various aspects of growing up in the USSR are studied, such as family relations, the role of women, health care, child care, education, clothing and fashion, food, political organizations, sports, leisure, etc.

The structure and the dynamics of the society reflected one way or another in three generations of people growing up during that time are illustrated by the use of texts and media, such as photography, film, theatre, music, animation, TV, and children's literature.

OBJECTIVES

The course aims at gaining insight into the lives of children during the Soviet times and achieving a broader perspective by addressing such questions as culture, language and identity, the Other, the public and the private, the family and the state, the role of ideology in everyday life and in education, nostalgia and memory.

OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the students will be able to construct the space (in various senses) that represents the world of Soviet childhood. They will analyze the elements of this world, with the aim of identifying and examining cultural commonalities and differences with what lay outside of the Iron Curtain.

DISTRIBUTION OF GRADES

Participation 15%
Assignments (2) 20%
Midterm test 25%
Presentation 5%
Final project 35%

THERE WILL BE NO FINAL EXAMINATION

GRADING SCALE

A 92-100	B 72-77	C 62-65	D 50-53
A- 85-91	B- 70-73	C- 58-61	F 0-49
B+ 78-84	C+ 66-69	D+ 54-57	

REQUIRED TEXTS

Shteyngart, Gary. *Little failure: A memoir*. 2014.

RECOMMENDED TEXTS AND MATERIALS

Please refer to D2L.



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COURSE NOTES

Please refer to D2L for on-going information, such as assignments, schedules, guidelines and deadlines for the presentation and final project. Relevant links and other materials are also to be found on D2L course site.

Regular class attendance and participation are expected in this course. The instructor should be informed of any reasons for a prolonged absence. Weekly discussions of the assigned pages of Steyngart's memoir or other materials will require preparation and submission of one question from each student.

Assignments are expected to be handed in on time.

A missed test will be given a grade of F and there will be no provisions to make up for it unless a student can show that the absence was for medical or other serious reasons.

Oral presentations (7-10 mins *Show & Tell*) will take place during the last three weeks of the semester.

Students will have a choice of the final project: 1) an essay related to Steyngart's memoir, 2) a research paper, 3) a creative project (student's initiative) in the format approved by the instructor.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

1. **Plagiarism** is a serious offence, the penalty for which is an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. Plagiarism exists when:

- a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test);
- b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;
- c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or
- d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted."

Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

2. **Cheating** at tests or examinations includes but is not limited to dishonest or attempted dishonest conduct such as speaking to other candidates or communicating with them under any circumstances whatsoever; bringing into the examination room any textbook, notebook, memorandum, other written material or mechanical or electronic device not authorized by the examiner; writing an examination or part of it, or consulting any person or materials outside the confines of the examination room without permission to do so, or leaving answer papers exposed to view, or persistent attempts to read other students' examination papers.

3. **Other academic misconduct** includes, but is not limited to, tampering or attempts to tamper with examination scripts, class work, grades and/or class records; failure to abide by directions by an instructor regarding the individuality of work handed in; the acquisition, attempted acquisition, possession, and/or distribution of examination materials or information not authorized by the instructor; the impersonation of another student in an examination or other class assignment; the falsification or fabrication of clinical or laboratory reports; the non-authorized tape recording of lectures.

4. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of one of these offences is also guilty of academic misconduct.

DISABILITIES AND ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services office at 403-210-6019 or access@ucalgary.ca; 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 ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.



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The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf

EMERGENCY EVACUATION ASSEMBLY POINTS

Craigie Hall: Professional Faculties food court (alternate: Education Block food court)

Education Block and Tower: Scurfield Hall atrium (alternate: Professional Faculties food court)

Kinesiology: north courtyard, MacEwan Student Centre (alternate: University Theatres lobby)

For the complete list of assembly points please consult <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

Contact for Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts:

arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT

Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding.

Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it.

Please see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Devices such as laptops, palmtops and smartbooks are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

SAFEWALK

To request a Safewalk escort anywhere on campus, 24 hours a day and seven days a week, please call 403-220-5333 or use one of the Help Phones.

Web: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>

STUDENT UNION INFORMATION

Representatives and contact details: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/home/contact.html>

Student Ombudsman: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>

WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

Writing skills should cross all disciplines. Students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their courses and, where appropriate, instructors can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Centre in the Effective Writing Office (<http://www.efwr.ucalgary.ca/>) can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.