

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: THE STALIN TERROR
Status: Definitive
Code: **6014HIST** (114604)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2012

Owning School/Faculty: Humanities and Social Science
Teaching School/Faculty: Humanities and Social Science

Team	Leader
Tony Webster	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ6
Credit Value: 12.00
Total Delivered Hours: 36.00
Total Learning Hours: 120
Private Study: 84

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 1

Component	Contact Hours
Online	12.000
Workshop	24.000

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Report	AS1		40.0	
Essay	AS2		60.0	

Aims

- 1. To provide an understanding of the events and context of the purges, imprisonments and mass murder (known as 'The Terror') which took place within the Soviet Union between 1929 and 1953.*
- 2. To enable students to understand and evaluate the various explanations offered for the causes of the terror, and its consequences.*

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Demonstrate knowledge and critical awareness of the events of the Terror in the 1930s within the broader context of the Russian Revolution and the establishment of the Soviet Union.
- 2 Explain and critically evaluate the various explanations of the causes and consequences of the Terror offered by historians.
- 3 Critically assess how changes in historical interpretations have been affected by events and developments contemporary to historians (the Cold War, the fall of the Soviet Union, Russian resurgence under Putin).

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

Document Analysis	1	2
Essay	2	3

Outline Syllabus

The impact of the Russian Revolution and the evolution of the Soviet system 1917-1929 in the 1920s.

Collectivisation: Rationale, results and consequences.

The Five year Plans & Industrialisation: Rationale, results and consequences.

The events and unfolding of the Terror 1933-1941: purges and show trials.

The 'Gulag Archipelago'.

Soviet society in the 1930s.

Interpretations of the Terror 1: The 'Intentionalist' School (Robert Conquest, Tucker).

Interpretations of the Terror 2: The 'Decisionist' School (Arch-Getty, Fitzpatrick, Thurston).

Interpretations of the Terror 3: The 'New Intentionalists' (Montefiore, Figes).

The Long Term consequences of the Terror.

Learning Activities

In addition to a programme of lectures, there will be a weekly seminar in which students will engage in activities which generate debate and involve the analysis and discussion of relevant primary sources and secondary texts. Blackboard will be used to stimulate seminar debate and to prompt reading and classroom debate.

References

Course Material	Book
Author	Conquest, R.

Publishing Year	1990
Title	The Great Terror
Subtitle	A Reassessment
Edition	
Publisher	Oxford, Oxford UP
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Tucker, R.C.
Publishing Year	1990
Title	Stalin in Power
Subtitle	The Revolution from Above 1928-1941
Edition	
Publisher	New York, W.W.Norton
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Arch-Getty, J.
Publishing Year	1985
Title	Origins of the Great Purges
Subtitle	The Soviet Communist Party Reconsidered, 1933-1938.
Edition	
Publisher	New York, Cambridge UP.
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Fitzpatrick, S.
Publishing Year	1986
Title	New Perspectives on Stalinism' in The Russian Review Vol. 45 pp.357-373
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Arch-Getty, J. & Manning, R.T.
Publishing Year	1993
Title	Stalinist Terror
Subtitle	New Perspectives
Edition	
Publisher	New York, Cambridge UP.
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Thurston, R.
Publishing Year	1996

Title	Life and Terror in Stalin's Russia 1934-1941
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	New Haven, Connecticut, Yale UP.
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Montefiore, S.S.
Publishing Year	2004
Title	Stalin
Subtitle	The Court of the Red Tsar
Edition	
Publisher	London, Phoenix.
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Figes, O.
Publishing Year	2007
Title	The Whisperers
Subtitle	Private Life in Stalin's Russia.
Edition	
Publisher	London, Allen Lane.
ISBN	

Course Material	Journal / Article
Author	Markovich, A.
Publishing Year	2011
Title	How Much Control is enough?
Subtitle	Monitoring and Enforcement under Stalin
Edition	
Publisher	Europe Asia Studies, Vol 63, Issue 8, pp 1449 - 1468
ISBN	

Notes

This module will introduce students to the use of political terror by Stalin's regime in the 1930s. It examines the nature of the Soviet Union in the 1930s, how it was being ruthlessly modernised, and how this led to the mass murder of millions of Soviet citizens. The module explores the extent of the terror, why it happened, and its consequences. It explores the historiography of the terror. It has given rise to one of the liveliest debates in modern history; one in which there is much disagreement, and one which has been shaped as much by contemporary political events such as the Cold War, the fall of the Soviet Union and the rise of Putin, as it has by "pure" scholarly endeavour. As a result, it provides students with an excellent example of how the past is constantly being re-written from the changing perspective of the present.