Anthropology of Russia and East Europe  
ANTH E412/E612 (Sections 33070/30294)  
Spring 2013  
Sycamore 105, Wed. 10:10am-12:25pm

Professor: Dr. Sarah D. Phillips  
Office: SB 162  
Office Hours: Tuesdays 1 – 3:30pm, and by appt.  
Office tel. 855-0216  
sadphill@indiana.edu

*Who controls the past controls the future.*  
*Who controls the present controls the past.*  
--George Orwell

This course explores the contradictory effects of socialism’s “fall” through a study of recent ethnographies of postsocialist societies. We will be interested to explore not just the “real” effects of the recent social, political, and economic changes in Eastern Europe, but also people’s diverse experiences and interpretations of these changes and the coping strategies they have developed. We will also consider different ways people “re-member” the socialist past and to what extent this past still informs daily life in contexts of “postsocialism.” Our inquiries will connect to broad intellectual questions in anthropology and related disciplines, including globalization, social suffering, commodification and cultural identity, ethnicity and nation building, and various axes of inequality such as language, class, dis/ability, and gender, among others.

**Course Requirements**  
Students will be graded based on their attendance, general participation in class discussions, seminar leadership, two book reviews, and a seminar paper. The seminar paper replaces the final exam.

**Grading criteria are as follows:**  
Attendance (15%)  
General participation in class discussions (20%)  
Seminar leadership (15%)  
Book reviews (20%)  
Seminar paper (30%)

**Grading Scale:**  
This course will use a 100-point grading scale, with pluses and minuses.  

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Attendance
Attendance will be taken at each class meeting. Frequent and unexplained absences will affect students’ grades negatively.

General Class Participation
Students are expected to actively engage in class discussions. Students should come to class having done all the readings for that day, and with their questions and ideas. Be sure to look at the discussion topics distributed by the seminar leaders beforehand to prepare your thoughts.

Seminar Leadership
Each student is expected (with a partner(s)) to lead class discussions at least once during the semester. Students should do the readings for the classes they will lead extra carefully. The discussion leaders should post discussion questions and critical comments for the next day’s class not later than 5pm the day before, to allow all of us to better prepare for the seminar.

Book Reviews
Students must complete a short, formal-style book review of two of the texts we read, your choice. Follow the specifications for book reviews of the American Anthropologist, Slavic Review, or another relevant journal, including word limits (usually 750-1,200 words). These should be original book reviews. Reviews are due in class on the day the book is discussed.

Seminar Paper
The seminar paper gives students a chance, in close consultation with the professor, to do library research and/or original research on a topic of their choice relevant to the anthropology of Russia and Eastern Europe. The seminar paper is a major component of the course and will be completed in stages. These stages include the following:

- Seminar paper proposal
- Annotated bibliography
- Paper outline
- Draft #1
- Peer review of two papers
- Draft #2

Other Important Information:
The professor reserves the right to make adjustments to this syllabus during the semester. Any changes will be announced on Oncourse and if possible, in class.

Course Ground Rules
As members of this class, each of us has a responsibility to help foster civility in the classroom. This means avoiding behaviors that are disruptive to other students and the professor. Please turn off cell phones before coming to class, and do not have cell phones
out during class. Please do not hold conversations with classmates whenever the professor or another student is speaking. Please be respectful of peers and instructors at all times. Laptops are to be used for taking notes ONLY, not emailing or facebooking.

In your Schedule of Classes bulletin (also available online), there is important information on academic freedom, academic misconduct policies, the Code of Academic Ethics, and the campus calendar. Please read through these sections and any others that may concern you personally.

Originality of Written Work
I expect that all written work you turn in to me is authored by you and you alone, and has been written for this class alone. Any student found to be deliberately copying from the written work of someone else without acknowledgment (whether from a fellow student, a published author, or anyone else) will face all the repercussions of cheating as outlined in University policies. I will utilize TurnItIn.com to vet any questionable work. Adequate citations procedures are critical to demonstrating originality of your writing. If you have questions about appropriate citation or bibliography formats, or what constitutes legitimate paraphrasing vs. illegitimate plagiarism, please consult me—and/or consult a tutor at the campus Writing Center—right away.

Religious Holy Days and Holidays
If you must miss an assignment or exam because of a religious holy day or holiday, please let the instructors know as early in the semester as possible, so we can make any necessary accommodations for you. You may view the University’s policy on accommodations for religious holy days or holidays on the web at https://www.indiana.edu/~vpfaa/academicguide/index.php/Policy_H-10. Forms are available for you to complete to request accommodation at http://www.iub.edu/~vpfaa/welcome/forms.shtml#religious.

Special Needs
If any student will require assistance or academic accommodations for a disability, please contact the instructor after class, during office hours or by individual appointment. You must have established your eligibility for disability support services through the Office of Disability Services for Students in Wells Library W302, 855-7578.
Course Schedule

Week 1, January 9
Introductions to the Course and Each Other

Anthropology 101, Methods Introduction, brief overview of anthropology in E. Europe

Week 2, January 16
Ethnographic and Theoretical Directions

Explore the website of SOYUZ, the Research Network for Postsocialist Cultural Studies: http://www.aaanet.org/sections/soyuz/

Manduhai Buyandeleriyn, “Post-Post Transition Theories,” in Annual Review of Anthropology, 2008


Explore the archives of the journal Anthropology of East Europe Review: http://scholarworks.iu.edu/journals/index.php/aeer/

Week 3, January 23
Consumption and Moral Economies of Postsocialism


Alena Ledeneva. How Russia Really Works. (selected chapters)


**Week 4, January 30**  
The “not needed” in St. Petersburg

Tova Höjdestrand, *Needed by Nobody: Homelessness and Humanness in Post-Socialist Russia*

**Week 5, February 6**  
Remaking the Self, Then and Now


Irina Savkina, “’Am I Writing Or Am I Being Written?: A Diary of a Young Soviet Woman (1968-1970)” (available in English and Russian)


Julia Lerner and Clauria Zbenovich, “Talk and Dress: Adapting the Therapeutic Paradigm to Post-Soviet Speak.”

Explore the TV show *Modniy Prigovor* (in Russian) on YouTube, for example  
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XzlV7dFbL74&feature=related  
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KqYDaZtBevM


**Week 6, February 13**  
Remaking Our World


**Week 7, February 20**

Gerald W. Creed, *Masquerade and Postsocialism: Ritual and Cultural Dispossession in Bulgaria*

**Week 8, February 27**

**Focus on Gender**


**Week 9, March 6**

**Focus on Language**

*Guest presenter: Kate Graber (CEUS and Anthropology, IUB)*

Readings TBA

**Week 10, March 13**

**No Class (Spring Break)**
Week 11, March 20
Finding Our Place


Week 12, March 27
Post-Soviet public health: The case of TB in Georgia
Guest presenter: Erin Koch (Anthropology, U of Kentucky)


Week 13, April 3
Humor and Politics
Guest presenter: Neringa Klumbyte (Anthropology, Miami U of Ohio)

Readings TBA

Week 14, April 10
Citizenship and disability


If possible, please also read the forum responses to my article from Korrespondent's readers (available only in Russian).
Week 15, April 17
Border Crossings
Guest Presenter: Wu Jung Cho (Anthropology, IUB)

Readings TBA

Week 16 (Last class meeting), April 24
“Ostalgie??” …and What Comes Next?
+
Movie night (Goodbye, Lenin!)

Daphne Berdahl, 1999. “‘N(0)stalgie’ for the Present: Memory, Longing, and East German Things.” *Ethnos* 64(2):192-211.


Explore the website Communal Living in Russia: A Virtual Museum of Soviet Everyday Life: *http://kommunalka.colgate.edu/*
Watch these videos: *http://kommunalka.colgate.edu/cfm/v_tours.cfm?KommLanguage=Russian* (in Russian); OR *http://kommunalka.colgate.edu/cfm/v_tours.cfm?TourID=0* (same scenarios in English)

Explore the website Letters from Pioneer Camp, A Virtual Archive: *http://pioneercamp.williams.edu/?page_id=26*

Explore relevant sections of the website Nostalgic Technology: *http://www.svetlanaboym.com/main.htm*

Optional:

Explore the film “The Russia, That We Lost,” by Stanislav Govorukhin (1992, in Russian). Part I starts here: *http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t7rY0gL5vRc&feature=related*