

Political Science 949: Post-Communist Politics

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Spring 2016

Wednesdays, 1:20 pm - 3:15 pm, WHITE 7121

See Learn@UW for more course information

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Course Description

This course is an overview of the politics of post-communist states, primarily focusing on Eurasia. More than 25 years after the collapse of the Soviet Union and its satellite regimes in Eastern Europe, the post-communist states have evolved into vastly different polities. Some are market-oriented democracies and have joined the European Union and NATO, while others still oscillate between semi-authoritarian and semi-democratic governance, and some are fully authoritarian. In this course, we will explore the political, social, and economic institutions and outcomes in this region with an eye towards understanding what makes post-communist states different from those that have not experienced communism. We will also consider to a lesser extent some of the states in East Asia that remain communist.

This course will be based on student-centered discussion. Reading is essential for full participation in discussions and students will be asked to explain concepts from the readings in class. In addition, students will research and write an original research paper, with shorter proposal assignments to structure the work of the final paper. Finally, students will make a formal presentation of their papers at the end of the semester.

Essential learning outcomes:

This course will address several "essential learning outcomes" of the LEAP initiative (<http://www.aacu.org/leap/vision.cfm>). Students' knowledge of human cultures will be enhanced by their exploration of politics and society in post-communist countries. The course assignments are aimed at developing intellectual and practical skills, including analysis, critical and creative thinking, written and oral communication.

Summary of course requirements and grading (see details on pp. 8-10)

1. Reading, preparation, and participation in class (7.5% x 4 grades throughout semester):	30%
2. Initial research paper proposal	5%
3. Revised research paper proposal	10%
4. Final research paper	50%
5. Final research presentation	5%
Total:	100%

Class Schedule:

Week 1, January 20: Introduction to the course

- Background reading: Kotkin, Stephen. 2008. *Armageddon Averted: the Soviet Collapse, 1970-2000*, updated version. Oxford University Press. Entire. Electronic from library.

Week 2, January 27: Communism and its Collapse

- Jowitt, Ken. 1993. *New World Disorder: The Leninist Extinction*. University of California Press. Chp. 1, "The Leninist Phenomenon," pp. 1-49.
- Kornai, Janos. 1992. *The Socialist System: The Political Economy of Communism*. Princeton University Press.
 - Chp. 1, "The Subject and Method," pp. 3-17.
 - Chp. 15, "The Coherence of the Socialist System," pp. 360-379.
 - Chp. 16, "The Dynamics of the Changes," pp. 383-395.
- Kornai, Janos. 2006. "The Great Transformation of Central Eastern Europe." *Economics of Transition*, 14(2), pp. 207-244.
- Dimitrov, Martin K. 2013. "Understanding communist collapse and resilience." In *Why Communism Did Not Collapse: Understanding Authoritarian Regime Resilience in Asia and Europe*, ed. Martin K. Dimitrov. Cambridge University Press, pp. 3-39. (required text)
- Bernstein, Thomas. 2013. "Resilience and collapse in China and the Soviet Union." In *Why Communism Did Not Collapse: Understanding Authoritarian Regime Resilience in Asia and Europe*, ed. Martin K. Dimitrov. Cambridge University Press, pp. 40-66. (required text)
- Tismaneanu, Vladimir. 2013. "Ideological erosion and the breakdown of communist regimes." In *Why Communism Did Not Collapse: Understanding Authoritarian Regime Resilience in Asia and Europe*, ed. Martin K. Dimitrov. Cambridge University Press, pp. 67-98. (required text)
- Grzegorz Ekiert. 2015. "Three Generations of Research on Post Communist Politics – A Sketch." *East European Politics & Societies*, 29(2), pp.323-337.

Week 3, February 3: Historical Legacies and Historical Context of Transitions

- Carothers, Thomas. 2002. "The End of the Transition Paradigm." *Journal of Democracy* 13(1), pp. 5-21.
- Darden, Keith and Anna Grzymala-Busse. 2006. "The Great Divide: Precommunist Schooling and Postcommunist Trajectories." *World Politics* 59(1), pp. 83-115.
- Pop-Eleches, Grigore and Joshua A. Tucker. 2011. "Communism's Shadow: Postcommunist Legacies, Values, and Behavior." *Comparative Politics*, 43(4), pp. 379-408.
- Lankina, Tomila. 2012. "Unbroken links? From imperial human capital to post-communist modernisation." *Europe-Asia Studies* 64(4), 623-643.
- Kotkin, Stephen and Mark R. Beissinger. 2014. *Historical Legacies of Communism in Russia and Eastern Europe*. Cambridge University Press. Chp. 1, pp. 1-28.
- Wittenberg, Jason. 2015. "Conceptualizing Historical Legacies." *East European Politics & Societies*, 29(2), pp. 366-378.

Week 4, February 10: Remaking the State

- Grzymala-Busse, Anna and Pauline Jones Luong. 2002. "Reconceptualizing the State: Lessons from Post-communism." *Politics & Society*, 30(4), pp. 529-554.
- Ganev, Venelin I. 2005. "Post-communism as an Episode of State Building: A Reversed Tillyan Perspective." *Communist and Post-Communist Studies*, 38(4), pp. 425-445.
- Taylor, Brian D. 2011. *State Building in Putin's Russia: Policing and Coercion after Communism*. Cambridge University Press. Introduction, Chp. 1, pp. 1-35.
- Mendras, Marie. 2012. *Russian Politics: The Paradox of a Weak State*. Columbia University Press. Prologue, Introduction, pp. 1-18.
- Grzymala-Busse Anna. 2007. "Encouraging Effective Democratic Competition." *East European Politics and Societies*, 21(1), pp. 91-110.
- Gehlbach, Scott. 2008. "What is a Big Bureaucracy? Reflections on Rebuilding Leviathan and Runaway State-Building." *Czech Sociological Review*, 44(6), pp. 1189-1197.
- Fortin, Jessica. 2012. "Is there a necessary condition for democracy? The role of state capacity in postcommunist countries." *Comparative Political Studies*, 45(7), pp. 903-930.

Week 5, February 17: Institutions, Rules, and Corruption

- Johnson, Juliet. 2001. "Path Contingency in Postcommunist Transformations." *Comparative Politics*, 33(3), pp. 253- 274.
- Ganev, Venelin. 2001. "The Dorian Gray Effect: Winners as State Breakers in Postcommunism." *Communist and Post-Communist Studies*, 34(1), pp. 1-25.
- Barnes, Andrew. 2003. "Comparative Theft: Context and Choice in the Hungarian, Czech, and Russian Transformations." *East European Politics and Societies*, 17(3), pp. 533-565.
- Gans-Morse, Jordan. 2012. "Threats to property rights in Russia: From private coercion to state aggression." *Post-Soviet Affairs*, 28(3), pp. 263-295.
- Mendras, Marie. 2012. *Russian Politics: The Paradox of a Weak State*. Columbia University Press. Chp. 8, 231-256.
- Hale, Henry E. 2011. "Formal Constitutions in Informal Politics: Institutions and Democratization in Post-Soviet Eurasia." *World Politics*, 63(4), pp. 581-617
- Ledeneva, Alena V. 2013. *Can Russia modernise? Sistema, power networks and informal governance*. Cambridge University Press. Introduction, Chp. 1-3, Conclusion, pp. 1-114, 244-256. Electronic from library.

Initial Research Proposal due, Feb. 17

Week 6, February 24: Authoritarianism

- Way, Lucan A. 2005. "Authoritarian State-Building and the Source of Regime Competitiveness in the Fourth Wave." *World Politics*, 57(2), pp. 231-61.
- Tsygankov, Andrei P. 2014. *The Strong State in Russia: Development and Crisis*. Oxford University Press. Chp 1-2, pp. 3-28.
- Gel'man, Vladimir. 2015. *Authoritarian Russia: Analyzing Post-Soviet Regime Changes*. University of Pittsburgh Press. Preface, Chp1, 2 & 6, pp. xi-iv, 1-42, 129-154. Electronic from library
- Sperling, Valerie. 2014. *Sex, Politics, and Putin: Political Legitimacy in Russia*. Oxford University Press. Chp 1-2, pp. 1-79
- Gallagher, Mary and Jonathan Hanson. 2013. "Authoritarian survival, resilience, and the selectorate theory." In *Why Communism Did Not Collapse: Understanding Authoritarian Regime Resilience in Asia and Europe*, ed. Martin K. Dimitrov. Cambridge University Press, pp. 185-204. (required text)
- Tsai, Kellee S. 2013. "Cause or consequence? Private-sector development and communist resilience in China." In *Why Communism Did Not Collapse: Understanding Authoritarian Regime Resilience in Asia and Europe*, ed. Martin K. Dimitrov. Cambridge University Press, pp. 205-236. (required text)
- Abrami, Regina, Edmund Malesky, and Yu Zheng. 2013. "Vietnam through Chinese eyes: divergent accountability in single-party regimes." In *Why Communism Did Not Collapse: Understanding Authoritarian Regime Resilience in Asia and Europe*, ed. Martin K. Dimitrov. Cambridge University Press, pp. 237-275. (required text)

Week 7, March 2: Political Parties and Elections

- Myagkov, Mikhail, Peter C. Ordeshook, and Dimitry Shakin. 2005. "Fraud or fairytales: Russia and Ukraine's electoral experience." *Post-Soviet Affairs*, 21(2), pp. 91-131.
- Hale, Henry E. 2005. "Why Not Parties? Supply and Demand on Russia's Electoral Market." *Comparative Politics*, 27(2), pp. 147-166. (not generally available online)
- Ishiyama, John. 2009. "Historical legacies and the size of the red-brown vote in post-communist politics." *Communist and Post-Communist Studies*, 42(4), pp. 485-504.
- Tavits, Margit and Natalia Letki. 2009. "When Left Is Right: Party Ideology and Policy in Post-Communist Europe." *The American Political Science Review*, 103(4), pp. 555-569.
- Pop-Eleches, Grigore. 2010. "Throwing Out the Bums: Protest Voting and Unorthodox Parties after Communism." *World Politics*, 62(2), pp. 221-260.
- Grzymala-Busse, Anna. 2013. "Why there is (almost) no Christian Democracy in post-communist Europe." *Party Politics*, 19(2), pp. 319-342.
- Powell, Eleanor N. and Joshua A. Tucker. 2014. "Revisiting electoral volatility in post-communist countries: new data, new results and new approaches." *British Journal of Political Science*, 44(1), pp.123-147.

Week 8, March 9: Regime Stability and Revolutions

- Kuran, Timur. 1991. "Now Out of Never: The Element of Surprise in the East European Revolution of 1989." *World Politics*, 44(1), pp. 7-48.
- Beissinger, Mark. 2007. "Structure and Example in Modular Political Phenomena: The Diffusion of Bulldozer/Rose/Orange/Tulip Revolutions," *Perspectives on Politics*, 5(2), pp. 259-276.
- Finkel, Evgeny and Yitzhak M. Brudny. 2012. "No more colour! Authoritarian regimes and colour revolutions in Eurasia." *Democratization*, 19(1), pp. 1-14.
- Bunce, Valerie J. and Sharon L. Wolchik. 2013. "Bringing down dictators: waves of democratic change in communist and postcommunist Europe and Eurasia." In *Why Communism Did Not Collapse: Understanding Authoritarian Regime Resilience in Asia and Europe*, ed. Martin K. Dimitrov. Cambridge University Press, pp. 123-148. (required text)
- Kramer, Mark. 2013. "The dynamics of contagion in the soviet bloc and the impact on regime survival." In *Why Communism Did Not Collapse: Understanding Authoritarian Regime Resilience in Asia and Europe*, ed. Martin K. Dimitrov. Cambridge University Press, pp. 149-184. (required text)
- Hale, Henry E. 2015. *Patronal Politics: Eurasian Regime Dynamics in Comparative Perspective*. Cambridge University Press. Chp 1-4, 7, 11, pp. 1-94, 178-240, 422-455.

Week 9, March 16: Civil Society

- Kubik, Jan. 2005. "How to Study Civil Society: The State of the Art and What to Do Next." *East European Politics and Societies*, 19(1), pp. 105-120.
- Howard, Marc. 2002. "The Weakness of Postcommunist Civil Society." *Journal of Democracy*, 13(1), pp. 157-169.
- Henderson, Sarah. 2002. "Selling Civil Society: Western Aid and the Nongovernmental Organization Sector in Russia." *Comparative Political Studies*, 35, pp.136-167.
- Robertson, Graeme. 2007. "Strikes and Labor Organization in Hybrid Regimes." *The American Political Science Review*, 101(4), pp. 781-798.
- Radnitz, Scott. 2010. "Weapons of the Wealthy: Predatory Regimes and Elite-Led Protests in Central Asia." Cornell University Press. Intro, Chp 1, and Concl, pp. 1-38, 195-216.
- Finkel, Evgeny. 2015. "The Phoenix Effect of State Repression: Jewish Resistance during the Holocaust." *American Political Science Review*, 109, pp. 339-353.
- Lankina, Tomila and Alisa Voznaya. 2015. "New Data on Protest Trends in Russia's Regions." *Europe-Asia Studies*, 67(2), pp. 327-342.
- Smyth, Regina, and Sarah Oates. 2015. "Mind the Gaps: Media Use and Mass Action in Russia." *Europe-Asia Studies*, 67(2), pp. 285-305.

March 23: SPRING BREAK – NO CLASS

Week 10, Mar. 30: Social Identities and Nationalism

- Suny, Ronald Grigor. 2001. "Constructing primordialism: Old histories for new nations." *The Journal of Modern History*, 73(4), pp. 862-896.
- Beissinger, Mark R. 2002. *Nationalist Mobilization and the Collapse of the Soviet State*. Cambridge University Press. Chp 1, pp. 1-46.
- Giuliano, Elise. 2006. "Secessionism from the bottom up: democratization, nationalism, and local accountability in the Russian transition." *World Politics*, 58(2), pp. 276-310.
- Herrera, Yoshiko. 2010. "Imagined Economies: Constructivist Political Economy, Nationalism and Economic-based Sovereignty Movements in Russia." In *Constructing the International Economy*, eds. Rawi Abdelal, Mark Blyth, Craig Parsons. Cornell University Press. Chp 5, pp. 114-133.
- Vujačić, Veljko. 2007. "Stalinism and Russian Nationalism: A Reconceptualization." *Post-Soviet Affairs*, 23(2), pp. 156-183.
- Hockenos, Paul. 2013. *Free to hate: The rise of the right in post-communist Eastern Europe*. Routledge. Intro, pp. 1-21.
- Herrera Yoshiko M. 2016. "National Identity and Xenophobia in Russia: Opportunities for Regional Analysis," *Comparative Politics*, forthcoming.
- Laruelle, Marlene. 2014. "Alexei Navalny and challenges in reconciling "nationalism" and "liberalism"." *Post-Soviet Affairs*, 30(4), pp. 276-297.

Revised Research Proposal due, Mar. 30

Week 11, April 6: Law: Judicial Politics, Courts, and Transitional Justice

- Schönfelder, Bruno. 2005. "Judicial Independence in Bulgaria: A Tale of Splendour and Misery." *Europe-Asia Studies*, 57(1), pp. 61-92.
- Hendley, Kathryn. 2009. "'Telephone Law' and the 'Rule of Law': The Russian Case." *Hague Journal on the Rule of Law*, 1, pp. 241-262.
- Popova, Maria. 2010. "Political Competition as an Obstacle to Judicial Independence: Evidence From Russia and Ukraine." *Comparative Political Studies*, 43(10), pp. 1202-1229.
- Nalepa, Monika. 2010. "Captured Commitments: An Analytic Narrative of Transitions with Transitional Justice." *World Politics*, 62(2), pp. 341-380.
- Trochev, Alexei, and Rachel Ellett. 2014. "Judges and Their Allies." *Journal of Law and Courts*, 2(1), pp. 67-91.
- McCarthy, Lauren A. 2015. *Trafficking Justice: How Russian Police Enforce New Laws, from Crime to Courtroom*. Cornell University Press. Intro., Concl., pp. 1-19, 204-221.
- Hendley, Kathryn. 2015. "Resisting Multiple Narratives of Law in Transition Countries: Russia and Beyond." *Law & Social Inquiry*, 40(2), pp. 531-552.

Week 12, April 13: Political Economy and Economic Reform

- Brown, J. David, John S. Earle, and Scott Gehlbach. 2009. "Helping Hand or Grabbing Hand? State Bureaucracy and Privatization Effectiveness." *American Political Science Review*, 103(2), pp. 264–283.
- Hamm, Patrick, Lawrence P. King, and David Stuckler. 2012. "Mass privatization, state capacity, and economic growth in post-communist countries." *American Sociological Review*, 77(2), pp. 295-324.
- Denisova, Irina, Markus Eller, Timothy Frye, and Ekaterina Zhuravskaya. 2012. "Everyone hates privatization, but why? Survey evidence from 28 post-communist countries." *Journal of Comparative Economics*, 40(1), pp. 44-61.
- Markus, Stanislav. 2012. "Secure property as a bottom-up process: Firms, stakeholders, and predators in weak states." *World Politics*, 64(2), pp. 242-277.
- Jones Luong, Pauline and Erika Weinthal. 2010. *Oil Is Not a Curse: Ownership Structure and Institutions in Soviet Successor States*, Cambridge University Press. Chp. 1, pp. 1-30.
- Appel, Hilary, and Mitchell A. Orenstein. 2013. "Ideas Versus Resources Explaining the Flat Tax and Pension Privatization Revolutions in Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union." *Comparative Political Studies*, 46(2), pp. 123-152.
- Rithmire, Meg. 2015. *Land Bargains and Chinese Capitalism: The Politics of Property Rights under Reform*. Cambridge University Press. Chp 1, 7, pp. 1-30, 171-192.

Week 13, April 20: Inequality and Social Welfare

- Meurs, Mieke and Rasika Ranasinghe. 2003. "De-Development in Post-Socialism: Conceptual and Measurement Issues." *Politics & Society*, 31(1), pp. 31-53.
- Cook, Linda J. 2007. *Postcommunist Welfare States: Reform Politics in Russia and Eastern Europe*. Cornell University Press. Intro, Chp 1, pp. 1-54.
- Guriev, Sergei and Ekaterina Zhuravskaya. 2009. "(Un)Happiness in Transition." *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 23(2), pp. 143–168.
- Gerber, Theodore P., and Olga Mayorova. 2010. "Getting personal: Networks and stratification in the Russian labor market, 1985–2001." *American Journal of Sociology*, 116(3), pp. 855-908.
- Grigoriev, Pavel, France Mesle, Vladimir M. Shkolnikov, Evgeny Andreev, Agnieszka Fihel, Marketa Pechholdova, and Jacques Vallin. 2014. "The recent mortality decline in Russia: beginning of the cardiovascular revolution?" *Population and Development Review*, 40(1), pp. 107-129.
- Remington, Thomas F. 2015. "Why is interregional inequality in Russia and China not falling?" *Communist and Post-Communist Studies*, 48(1), pp. 1-13.
- Zavisca, Jane R., and Theodore P. Gerber. 2016. "The Socioeconomic, Demographic, and Political Effects of Housing in Comparative Perspective." *Annual Review of Sociology*, 42(1).

Week 14, April 27: International Relations

- Schimmelfennig, Frank. 2001. "The Community Trap: Liberal Norms, Rhetorical Action, and the Eastern Enlargement of the European Union." *International Organization*, 55(1), pp. 47-80.
- Vachudova, Milada Anna. 2014. "EU leverage and national interests in the Balkans: The puzzles of enlargement ten years on." *JCMS: Journal of Common Market Studies*, 52(1), 122-138.
- Way, Lucan A. and Steven Levitsky. 2007. "Linkage, Leverage, and the Post-Communist Divide." *East European Politics and Societies*, 21(1), pp. 48-66.
- Darden, Keith. 2009. *Economic Liberalism and Its Rivals: The Formation of International Institutions among the Post-Soviet States*. Cambridge University Press. Chp. 1-3, pp. 3-83. Electronic from library.
- Hopf, Ted. 2013. "Common-sense Constructivism and Hegemony in World Politics." *International Organization*, 67(2), pp. 317-354.
- Herrera, Yoshiko M. 2013. "Accidental Hegemony: How the System of National Accounts Became a Global Institution." In *Political Creativity: Reconfiguring Institutional Order and Change*, eds. Gerald Berk, Dennis C. Galvan and Victoria Hattam. University of Pennsylvania Press. Chp. 7, pp. 67-187.

Week 15, May 4: Discussion of Student Papers

- No assigned readings

Final Paper due Wednesday, May 11, 2016, at 12:00 pm, as a .pdf to Learn@UW
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Course Requirement Details

1. Reading, Preparation, and Participation:

- This is a discussion-based class and active participation is essential. Mere attendance is not full participation. Active participation means being prepared by doing the reading and thinking about the material so that you can ask and answer questions related to the course material. All students are expected to do all readings for each class and to bring the readings to class in order to aid in discussion.
- I will call on a few students during each class meeting; you should be prepared to answer questions about each of the assigned readings.
- Students are expected to attend for the full class period; arriving late or leaving the room during class will result in a lowered participation grade.
- It is fine to use a tablet or laptop in class to take notes, but doing other work or online activity unrelated to the course during class will result in a lowered participation grade.
- Participation grades will be given 4 times during the semester, taking into account the previous 3-4 weeks of participation. The grading scheme for reading and discussion participation is:
A = Attended and actively participated, seemed in command of readings and material; able to explain concepts to the class
B = Attended and spoke, demonstrating adequate engagement with the readings, but infrequently or without full understanding of the course material
C = Attended but did not speak, did not show evidence of having done the readings, was engaged in non-course-related activities online, arrived late, or left during class
F = Did not attend

Final Research Paper

The research paper should be related to post-communist politics on a substantive topic of your choosing and should contain a research question with a causal argument and evidence. The paper must use some of the course readings, and be related to post-communist politics, but is otherwise open in terms of substantive topics.

- Due dates for parts of the research paper:
 - February 17th, 10:00 am, Initial Research Proposal, as a PDF on Learn@UW
 - March 30th, 10:00 am, Revised Research Proposal, as a PDF on Learn@UW
 - May 11th, 12:00 pm, Final Research Paper, as a PDF on Learn@UW

2. Initial research proposal (Feb 17th)

- Include a title that describes the paper, your name, and the following *three* numbered sections:
 1. Paragraph describing the research question (a question in the form of "what explains why X occurred").
 2. Paragraph describing the kind or type of data or evidence you think you will be able to use to answer the question.
 3. Short discussion of methodology to be used in the paper.
 4. Short list of course readings to be used in the paper.

This proposal should be no longer than one single-spaced page, 12 pt. font, 1-inch margins.

3. Revised research proposal (March 30th)

- Include a title that describes the paper, your name, and the following *four* numbered sections:
 1. Revised version of the research question.
 2. Summary of the literature review motivating this question (i.e. how does this question fit into existing work and how will your answer contribute); include here the summary discussion of course readings that you are using.
 3. Description of the data sources or evidence that you are using to answer the question.
 4. Discussion of preliminary findings.

This proposal should be no longer than three single-spaced pages, 12 pt. font, 1-inch margins.

4. Final research paper

- The final paper is **due May 11, 2016, at 12:00 pm** as a .pdf to Learn@UW.
- Include the following sections:
 1. Title page with your name, date, and title
 2. Introduction, introducing the topic, research question, and a brief summary of findings (2-3 pp.)
 3. Theoretical section, situating the research question in existing literature (3-4 pp.)
 4. Empirical data section (12-14 pp.)
 5. Conclusion (3-4 pp.)
- The paper should be no longer than 10,000 words total (20-25 double-spaced pages), not including references or tables; please double-space, use at least 1-inch margins, and font not smaller than 12 points.
- Cite all your sources fully and properly; and proofread before turning in. Plagiarism or failure to cite sources properly will result in an F on the paper and in the course.
- Any paper extensions must be approved in advance; late papers will be marked down.

5. Final research presentation:

This is an opportunity for you to share your work from the semester with your fellow students.

- Presentations will be in class on May 4th.
- Presentation should consist of 5-10 slides including:
 1. Title slide
 2. Description of the topic and research question
 3. Description of engagement/review of existing literature.
 4. Empirical/data slide
 5. Conclusion slide

The total number of slides should not exceed 10. You may add to the 5 slides listed above, such as including images or other relevant visual design elements.

Other Course Information and Policies

Disability accommodations:

Students with disabilities will be fully included in this course. Please inform me if you need any special accommodations in the curriculum, instruction, or assessments of this course to enable you to participate fully. Confidentiality of the shared information will be strictly maintained. Certain accommodations may require the assistance of the McBurney Disability Office on campus. The McBurney Disability Resource Center can be reached at (608) 263-2741 or via email at mcburney@odos.wisc.edu.

Readings:

- Required textbook: Dimitrov, Martin K. Ed. 2013. *Why Communism Did Not Collapse: Understanding Authoritarian Regime Resilience in Asia and Europe*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- All readings that are not from the required textbook will be available on a course website.

Absence, Make-up and Final Grade Policy

1. Absences will be excused due to religious conflicts, medical issues, or university-related business. Contact me as soon as possible if you anticipate missing class.
2. Make-up policy for excused absences: Missed classes can be made up by writing a response paper on the readings. The response paper should be three single-spaced pages and discuss the readings, and is due one week after the missed class.
3. Missing more than 2 classes will result in a one-half reduction of the final grade if make-up assignments are completed. If they are not completed, it will be a full grade reduction.
4. Failure in any of the five course components on the first page will result in failure in the course overall.