UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Political Science 130AA

Soviet Successor States

Philip G. Roeder Winter Quarter 2007

Political Science 130AA is an introduction to the politics and policies of the successor states that emerged from the break-up of the Soviet Union in 1991. The focus throughout the course will be on explaining problems in the successor states that have become major policy concerns for the United States. *This course assumes no previous study of either politics or this region*.

I. THE SOVIET SUCCESSOR STATES: WHY DO WE CARE?

- A. The Competition for Geopolitical Position in Central Eurasia.
- B. The Politics of Central Eurasian Energy.
- C. Weak States and Weak Democracies.
- D. Fostering Markets and Integration within the Global Economy.
- E. Failed States, Secessionist Threats, and State Voids.
- F. Controlling Arms: The Threat of Proliferation and the Arms Trade.
- G. The War on Terrorism and Transnational Crime.

II. UNITED STATES POLICIES: WHAT HAVE WE DONE SO FAR?

III. EURASIAN CONSTRAINTS ON US POLICY: WHY IS SUCCESS SO DIFFICULT?

- A. Answer #1: The Soviet Legacy.
- B. Answer #2: Political Culture and Too Much Democracy Too Soon.
- C. Answer #3: Bureaucratic Politics and Too Little Democratization.
- D. Answer #4: Institutional Choices Made During the Transition.

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Teaching Assistants:

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<u>Readings and Lectures.</u> All assigned readings are available in a course reader sold by Soft Reserves (located in the old Student Center). Geisel Library maintains copies of most of the readings on electronic reserve, but copyright fees may make it too expensive for the library to include all readings.

The readings are heavier at the beginning of the course and lighter towards the end. The readings provide pieces of a larger puzzle. Lectures attempt to provide the larger picture within which these pieces fit. You should attend all lectures or arrange for someone whom you trust to take good notes for you. Although copies of the lecture outlines with all major points will be available on the web, these do not explain what the major points actually mean.

<u>Grades.</u> Your course grade will be based on one paper (a take-home essay) that is due Thursday, March 22, at 11:30 am. The paper assignment, which will be distributed during the second week of the course, will ask you to reflect on, analyze, and integrate the assigned readings and the lectures. Your finished paper should be twelve to seventeen double-spaced pages in length. I strongly encourage you not to put off the reading until the last minute. I also encourage you to attend lectures.

Plagiarism. You may discuss your paper with others, but your written work must be your own. Please do not jeopardize your academic career and your professional reputation by academic dishonesty. The payoff to dishonesty is very small, the costs—both immediate and long term—can be very high.

Note: By enrolling in this course you agree to submit your final paper for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the terms-of-use agreement posted on the Turnitin.com website.

<u>Course Web-site.</u> I have posted or will post a copy of the course syllabus, paper assignment, and lecture outlines on the course web-site. I will add to and up-date the outlines—hopefully at the end of each week. You can reach this web-site through my homepage: weber.ucsd.edu/~proeder

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SCHEDULE OF LECTURES AND READINGS

I. THE SOVIET SUCCESSOR STATES: WHY DO WE CARE?

TuJan 9.Introductory Meeting: A Brief Overview of Eurasia.ThJan 11.The Competition for Geopolitical Position in Central Eurasia.

Read for this week:

William D. Jackson. "Encircled Again: Russia's Military Assesses Threats in a Post-Soviet World." *Political Science Quarterly* 117 (Fall 2002), 373-400.

Dmitri Trenin. "Southern Watch: Russia's Policy in Central Asia." *Journal of International Affairs* 56 (Spring 2003), 119-131.

Gregory Gleason. "The Uzbek Expulsion of U. S. Forces and Realignment in Central Eurasia." *Problems of Post-Communism* 53 (March-April 2006), 49-60.

Stephen Blank. "The Future of Caspian Security." *Problems of Post-Communism* 50 (January-February 2003), 8-21.

Rajan Menon. "The New Great Game in Central Asia." Survival 45 (Summer 2003), 187-204.

Mark N. Katz. "Exploiting Rivalries for Prestige and Profit: An Assessment of Putin's Foreign Policy Approach." *Problems of Post-Communism* 52 (May-June 2005), 25-36.

Tu	Jan 16.	The Politics of Central Eurasian Energy.
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Th Jan 18. Weak States and Weak Democracies, I.

Read for this week:

David G. Victor and Nadejda M. Victor. "Axis of Oil?" *Foreign Affairs* 82 (March-April 2003), 47-61.

Rasma Karklins. "Typology of Post-Communist Corruption." *Problems of Post-Communism* 49 (July-August 2002), 22-32.

William A. Clark. "Russia at the Polls: Potemkin Democracy." *Problems of Post-Communism* 51 (March-April 2004), 22-29.

Eric A. Miller. "Smelling the Roses: Eduard Shevardnadze's End and Georgia's Future." *Problems of Post-Communism* 51 (March-April 2004), 12-21.

Taras Kuzio. "From Kuchma to Yushchenko: Ukraine's 2004 Presidential Elections and the Orange Revolution." *Problems of Post-Communism* 52 (March-April 2005), 29-44.

Paul D'Anieri. "What Has Changed in Ukrainian Politics? Assessing the Implications of the Orange Revolution." *Problems of Post-Communism* 52 (September-October 2005), 82-91.

Tu Jan 23. Weak States and Weak Democracies, II.

Th Jan 25. Fostering Markets and Integration within the Global Economy, I.

Read for this week:

Bhavna Dave. "Kazakhstan's 2004 Parliamentary Elections: Managing Loyalty and Support for the Regime." *Problems of Post-Communism* 52 (January-February 2005), 3-14.

David R. Marples and Lyubov Pervushina. "Belarus: Lukashenko's Red October." *Problems of Post-Communism* 52 (March-April 2005), 19-28.

Anar M. Valiyev. "Parliamentary Elections in Azerbaijan: A Failed Revolution." *Problems of Post-Communism* 53 (May-June 2006), 17-35.

Steven Sabol. "Turkmenbashi: Going It Alone." *Problems of Post-Communism* 50 (September-October 2003), 48-57.

Graeme P. Herd. "Colorful Revolutions and the CIS: 'Manufactured' Versus 'Managed' Democracy?" *Problems of Post-Communism* 52 (March-April 2005), 3-18.

Tu	Jan 30.	Fostering Markets and Integration within the Global Economy, II.
Th	Feb 1.	Failed States, Secessionist Threats, and State Voids, I.

Read for this week:

Anders Åslund. "Sizing Up the Central Asian Economies." *Journal of International Affairs* 56 (Spring 2003), 75-87.

Gail W. Lapidus. "Contested Sovereignty: The Tragedy of Chechnya." *International Security* 23 (Summer 1998), 5-49.

Charles King. "The Benefits of Ethnic War: Understanding Eurasia's Unrecognized States." *World Politics* 53 (July 2001), 524-552.

Julie Wilhelmsen. "Between a Rock and a Hard Place: The Islamisation of the Chechen Separatist Movement." *Europe-Asia Studies* 57 (January 2005), 35-59.

Tu	Feb	6.	Failed	States	, Sece	essionis	st Threat	ts, and	d Stat	e Voi	ids, l	II.	

Th Feb 8. Controlling Arms: The Threat of Proliferation and the Arms Trade.

Read for this week:

Oleh Protsyk. "Moldova's Dilemmas in Democratizing and Reintegrating Transnistria." *Problems of Post-Communism* 53 (July-August 2006), 29-41.

Sharon K. Weiner. "Preventing Nuclear Entrepreneurship in Russia's Nuclear Cities." *International Security* 27 (Fall 2002), 126-158.

Deborah Yarsike Ball and Theodore P. Gerber. "Russian Scientists and Rogue States: Does Western Assistance Reduce the Proliferation Threat?" *International Security* 29 (Spring 2005), 50-77.

Robert O. Freedman. "Putin, Iran, and the Nuclear Weapons Issue." *Problems of Post-Communism* 53 (March-April 2006), 39-48.

Tu Feb 13. The War on Terrorism and Transnational Crime.

Read for this week:

Gail W. Lapidus. "Putin's War on Terrorism: Lessons From Chechnya." *Post-Soviet Affairs* 18 (January-March 2002), 41-48.

Gregory Gleason. "The Politics of Counterinsurgency in Central Asia." *Problems of Post-Communism* 49 (March-April 2002), 3-14.

Edward W. Walker. "Islam, Islamism, and Political Order in Central Asia." *Journal of International Affairs* 56 (Spring 2003), 21-41.

Svante E. Cornell and Niklas L. P. Swanström. "The Eurasian Drug Trade: A Challenge to Regional Security." *Problems of Post-Communism* 53 (July-August 2006), 10-28.

II. WHAT HAS THE UNITED STATES DONE SO FAR?

Th Feb 15. US Programs in the Soviet Successor States.

Read for this part of the course:

Katherina W. Gonzales. "Good Fences Make Good Neighbors: Ukrainian Border Security and Western Assistance." *Problems of Post-Communism* 51 (January-February 2004), 43-54.

Jim Nichol. "Central Asia: Regional Developments and Implications for U. S. Interests." Washington, DC: Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress, June 29, 2006.

Jim Nichol. "Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia: Political Developments and Implications for U. S. Interests." Washington, DC: Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress, August 31, 2006.

Steven Woehrel. "Ukraine: Current Issues and U. S. Policy." Washington, DC: Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress, August 23, 2006.

Stuart D. Goldman. "Russian Political, Economic, and Security Issues and U. S. Interests." Washington, DC: Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress, October 19, 2006.

III. CONSTRAINTS ON US POLICY: WHY IS SUCCESS SO DIFFICULT?

Tu	Feb 20.	Answer #1: The Soviet Legacy, I.
Th	Feb 22.	Answer #1: The Soviet Legacy, II.
Tu	Feb 27.	Answer #1: The Soviet Legacy, III.
Th	Mar 1.	Answer #1: The Soviet Legacy, IV.
Tu	Mar 6.	Answer #2: Political Culture and Too Much Democracy Too Soon, I.
Th	Mar 8.	Answer #2: Political Culture and Too Much Democracy Too Soon, II.
Tu	Mar 13.	Answer #3: Bureaucratic Politics and Too Little Democratization.
Th	Mar 15.	Answer #4: Early Institutional Choices.
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Read for this part of the course:

Timothy Frye. "The Perils of Polarization: Economic Performance in the Postcommunist World." 54 (April 2002), 308-337.

Vera Tolz. "Conflicting 'Homeland Myths' and Nation-State Building in Postcommunist Russia." *Slavic Review* 57 (Summer 1998), 267-294.

Amy Knight. "The Enduring Legacy of the KGB in Russian Politics." *Problems of Post-Communism* 47 (July-August 2000), 3-15.

Alexander M. Golts and Tonya L. Putnam. "State Militarism and Its Legacies: Why Military Reform Has Failed in Russia." *International Security* 29 (Fall 2004), 121-158.

Joel Hellman. "Winners Take All: The Politics of Partial Reform in Postcommunist Transitions." *World Politics* 50 (January 1998), 203-234.