

ARSD College, University of Delhi

Model Course Handout/Lesson Plan

Course Name : B.A. (Hons) History						
Semester	Course Code	Course Title	Lecture (L)	Tutorial (T)	Practical (P)	Credit (C)
VI	12317609	History of USSR: The Soviet Experience (1945-1991)	5	1		5+1=6
Teacher/Instructor(s)		Dr. Vijjika Pandey Singh				
Session		2021-22				

Course Objective:

The course studies the most dramatic years in the history of the USSR .i.e. the period between 1945 to 1991. During these years the Soviet Union acquired the status of a super-power. The extent of major economic and political changes between 1956 and 1991 will be examined. Students will also study the origins of the Cold War and Khrushchev's foreign policy and relations with Eastern European and other socialist countries. The students will be acquainted with trends in literature and culture during this period. The reforms of the Gorbachov era and the question of nuclear disarmament will provide some of the contexts for the study of the larger [global] processes that led to the dissolution of the Soviet Union.

Course Learning Outcomes:

- Upon completion of this course the student shall be able to:
- Outline and explain key developments in the history of the USSR between 1945 and 1991.
- Critically analyse the Soviet political system and its global impact
- Co-relate the various developments to culture and literary growth.
- Explain the origins, developments and the end of the Cold War.
- Analyse the factors leading to economic slowdown, disintegration of the Soviet Union and the formation of Confederation of Independent States.

Lesson Plan:

Unit No.	Learning Objective	Lecture No.	Topics to be covered
1.	This unit will teach students about the history of the Cold War, its origins, major developments and transitions introduced by Khrushchev's foreign policy (1945-64).	1-4	Origins of the Cold War
		5-8	Developments of the cold war
		9-12	Krushchev's Foreign Policy

	Student will learn about the politics of the bi-polar world.		
2.	This unit deals with the Khrushchev Era, history of De-Stalinisation and Khrushchev's industrial and agricultural reforms. Student will understand history of changes in USSR.	13-15	De-Stalinisation
		16-18	Agricultural Reforms
		19-21	Industrial Reforms
3.	This unit deals with the era of Conservatism and reform in the Soviet political system. It begins with the era of Brezhnev and goes up to the era of Gorbachev. It also examines the role of literature and culture of the period.	22-25	Conservatism and Reform during Brezhnev period
		26-30	Reform period of Gorbachev
		31-34	Literature and culture during the above period
4.	This unit addresses historical development during the Cold war era. The economics and politics of the Cold War (1964-1991) has been examined.	35-40	Economic and social consequences for the Soviet system and Eastern Europe.
		41-46	Glasnost; Perestroika;
		47-50	Nuclear weapons and disarmament
5.	This unit deals with the history of dissolution of the Soviet Union around 1991 and the	51-56	Theories for the disintegration of the Soviet State.
		57-60	Confederation of Independent States

	emergence of Confederation of Independent States.		

Evaluation Scheme:

No.	Component	Duration	Marks
1.	Internal Assessment		25
	• Quiz		10
	• Class Test		
	• Attendance		
	• Assignment	15	
2.	End Semester Examination	3 hr	75

Details of the Course		
Unit	Contents	Contact Hours
1	The Cold War: Origins, major developments and Khrushchev's foreign policy (1945-64)	12
2	The Khrushchev Era: De-Stalinisation and Khrushchev's industrial and agricultural reforms	12
3	Conservatism and reform in the Soviet political system: from Brezhnev to Gorbachev; literature and culture	12
4	The economics and politics of the Cold War (1964-1991)	12
5	Dissolution of the Soviet Union (1991) and the Confederation of Independent States	12
	Total	60
Suggested Books:		
Sl. No.	Name of Authors/Books/Publishers	Year of Publication/Reprint

1.	Brown, Archie. (2010). <i>The Rise and Fall of Communism</i> . London: Vintage.	2010
2.	Hanson, Philip. (2014). <i>The Rise and Fall of the Soviet Economy: An Economic History of the USSR, 1945-1991</i> . New York: Routledge.	2014
3.	Suny, Ronald Grigor, ed. (2006). <i>Cambridge History of Russia</i> Volume 3. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.	2006
4.	Nove, Alec. (1988). <i>Stalinism and After: The Road to Gorbachov</i> . 3rd edition. Routledge.	1988
5.	Suny, Ronald Grigor. (1997). <i>The Soviet Experiment: Russia, the USSR and the Successor States</i> . New York: Oxford University Press.	1997
Mode of Evaluation:	Internal Assessment / End Semester Exam	