

HISTORY 421
Penetrating Preview
of Graded Exercise in Intellectual Inquiry™ (Exam) #2

The exam will test your knowledge based on both the lectures and the readings throughout the course, though with an emphasis primarily on the material encountered since the mid-term. (Comparatively little will pertain to the Kievan and appanage periods, but the Muscovite period – especially its later part – will surely be important). There will be four parts to the exam, as outlined below. The exam is guaranteed to be fun.

PART ONE: Chronology (16 points). In the case of each chronology, you will be given a series of events in random order. Your job is to put the events in the proper chronological order. Note that you need not know that exact dates of any event, but rather the basic sequence in which they occurred. Example:

- A) Annexation of Baltic region from Sweden
- B) Conquest of Kazan' and Astrakhan'
- C) Conquest of Crimea
- D) The final partition of Poland (elimination of Poland-Lithuania)
- E) Incorporation of left-bank Ukraine and Kiev

ANSWER: B, E, A, C, D

PART TWO: Short answers (18 points). Here you will provide very brief answers to a series of straightforward questions.

EXAMPLE: Name three female rulers in Russia's eighteenth century.

ANSWER: any combination of Catherine I, Anne, Elizabeth, and Catherine II would be correct.

PART THREE: Historical Connections (36 points). In this section, you will be presented with several triads – groups of three people, concepts, and/or events. In each case, you will be expected to write a paragraph on the historical relationship among these three items. Think about what it is that binds them together, the thread that runs through all of them. Of the **NINE** triads offered here, most likely **SIX** will appear on the exam. Of these you will choose **TWO**.

Freedom
Rights
Subjecthood in Muscovy

Serfdom
Labor shortage
Law Code (Ulozhenie) of 1649

Pereiaslavl' agreement
Orthodoxy
Reunion / reunification

Liturgical reform
Old Believers
Patriarch Nikon

Bureaucratization
Razin's revolt
The Moscow revolt of 1648

Great-power status
Taxation
Diplomacy

Peter the Great
Autocratic Duty
Reform / Modernization

Muscovy
Poland-Lithuania
Imperial Russia

Pugachev
Autocracy
Decembrists

PART FOUR: Essay (30 points). On the exam, two of the following questions will appear. You will respond to **ONE** of them. Note that the questions are wordy, but this is largely because I give you some specific ideas about how to approach them. You need not address all of the sub-questions that I pose; these are designed mainly to help you think through the larger issues at stake.

- 1.** In one sense the story of Russia from its start to 1815 is a story of astonishing success in rather unlikely circumstances. Many factors, such as geography, seemed to militate against the establishment of such a unified state so powerful at the end of the Napoleonic wars that it was second probably only to Britain. Write an essay analyzing the principal reasons for this imperial Russian success. Which particular institutions proved crucial in assembling the diverse principalities of the appanage period and consolidating and extending Muscovite/Russian power beyond historical Rus'? What were the principal obstacles to this success and how did the Russian state overcome them? What were the costs of this success for different social groups and communities that were eventually incorporated into Russia?
- 2.** Certainly one of the principal institutions of Muscovy and Imperial Russia was the monarchy. Write an essay analyzing the role of the monarchy in the development of Russian history. While you should of course deal with some specific rulers in your answer, try also to think about the monarchy as an institution distinct from specific monarchs. What were the principal problems that faced the monarchy from the emergence of Moscow through the early nineteenth century? What were the biggest challenges that the monarchy faced, and how did it surmount them? To what extent was there a conception of the "state" or the "nation" that existed independently of the monarchy and/or the dynasty itself, and what were the implications either way? In what ways did the monarchy deal with the social elite that might have become a source of opposition and that might have sought to limit the monarchy in specific ways? Was the monarchy completely unlimited, or were there actual limits to how it could wield power?
- 3.** For much of its history, "Russia" has included territories and peoples who were not actually "Russian" in the sense that we understand the term today. Write an essay in which you consider this issue in greater historical depth. What was the changing relationship between the Grand Principality of Moscow and the lands that had made up Kievan Rus'? When did the Muscovite state go beyond the "gathering" of Rus' lands to incorporate lands and peoples that had never had any connection to Kiev? What were those principal acquisitions and when did they occur? How did the Russian state actually deal with these more alien acquisitions? What policies and practices did Russia adopt towards them? What were the consequences of specific territorial acquisitions? In composing your answer, remember to keep the idea of religion in mind and try to think about what it has meant for Russia to become a multi-ethnic, multi-confessional, imperial polity.