History 100
Revolutions & Constitutions
The US, the USSR, and the IRI
M-W 10.00 – 11.15 AM, CBC A106

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Office Hours: M-W 11.30 AM-1.00 PM & by appointment
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http://faculty.unlv.edu/pwerth/100.html

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Debbie Rayner</th>
<th>Linsey Scriven</th>
<th>Alan Mattay</th>
<th>Nathan Turner</th>
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<td>Sections 2 &amp; 3</td>
<td>Sections 4 &amp; 9</td>
<td>Sections 5 &amp; 6</td>
<td>Sections 7 &amp; 8</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:deborah.rayner@unlv.edu">deborah.rayner@unlv.edu</a></td>
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Course Description:
This course examines the place that constitutions occupy in the aftermath of revolution and their role in constructing the institutions and values by which a new society will live. The course thus focuses considerable attention on the revolutions themselves and their causes, in order to better understand the contexts in which the formulation of new constitutions occur. We will also consider the extent to which constitutions fulfill and/or abandon the aspirations that originally mobilized people to undertake revolutionary change, and the degree to which constitutions were modified subsequently in line with the given society's development. In order to broaden our analysis, we will examine three very different revolutions—liberal-democratic, socialist, and Islamic—and thus three very different constitutions. The course is guaranteed to be fun, although the instructor's conception of “fun” may differ from that of students—in some cases substantially. In diligently discharging their obligations in this course, students will be able to identify and/or explain:

- the meaning and role of constitutions in the political framework of the US, the USSR, and Iran
- the overall structure of the US and Nevada constitutions
- the models and ideas drawn upon by the framers of the US and Nevada constitutions
- the historical context for the drafting and ratification of the US and Nevada constitutions and their subsequent amendments
- significant arguments against and viable alternatives to the provisions of the US and Nevada constitutions at the time of their ratification and since
- similarities and differences between the US and Nevada constitutions; and between those constitutions and those in the USSR and Iran
- the social and political conditions in the US, Russia, and Iran that caused revolutions in each country
- the main aspirations of new revolutionary leaders and the results of their efforts to promote change
Students in the course will also

- gain broad knowledge of specific periods of American, Russian, and Iranian history
- master the basic geography of those three countries
- develop and enhance skills in critical analysis of both primary and secondary sources and in effective communication
- better understand the possibilities and duties of good citizenship
- address, to one degree or another, all of UNLV’s University Undergraduate Learning Outcomes

**Required Readings:**

- i-clickers

**Assignments and Grading Scale:**

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<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<td>Content quizzes (3 @ 5% each)</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geo quizzes (3 @ 5% each)</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam #1</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam #2</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>Participation &amp; attendance (lecture &amp; section alike)</td>
<td>20%</td>
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**Attendance and participation** represent a critical part of this course, and absences will be highly detrimental to your success and your grade. Your TA will establish appropriate procedures for your discussion section (10% of the course total). For the lecture (another 10%), we will use i-clickers, and your participation grade will be determined by the proportion of questions that you answer (whether correctly or not) for the entire semester, with an extra premium added for those questions you answer correctly. You may ask for more details if you wish, but the point is that you receive substantial credit just for being in class and answering questions and a little extra for answering them correctly.

**Content quizzes and geography quizzes** are simple and straightforward and will be administered in discussion section. There are four content quizzes, but we take only the three highest scores in computing your grade. This means that you can miss or bomb one content quiz and this will not affect your grade. In the case of geography quizzes, the website tells exactly what you need to know ahead of time. Details can

Each **examination** consists of two parts: a take-home portion (involving an essay in response to a question provided in advance) and an in-class multiple-choice section. The idea is that both your factual knowledge and your analytical skills will be tested. I hold these to be mutually reinforcing. Each part of the exam counts 50%. All take-home examinations are due at the start of lecture session on the days indicated in the syllabus below. Late exams may be penalized or rejected entirely. Late arrivals to the lecture hall on exam days may be penalized or turned away. The three geography quizzes cover the early US, the USSR, and Iran. These are straightforward and students are informed ahead of time concerning what they are expected to know. Details can
be found on the website. There will also be content quizzes in discussion section. Your TA instructor will provide more information. All required assignments must be completed in order to pass this course. Moreover, the portion of the first exam on the US Constitution must also be passed in order to receive credit for the course.

Website:
The web site for this course is its anchor, in the sense that new information pertaining to the course will always be posted there. In addition, more detailed instructions for each exercise, as well as general guidelines, exam questions, etc., will all be available there. You can always get to this site by looking me up at the web site of the UNLV History Department or by using Google: “Werth” + “UNLV.” The URL for the web site is: [http://faculty.unlv.edu/pwerth/100.html](http://faculty.unlv.edu/pwerth/100.html).

The Instructor:
As the instructor in this course, I seek to create the conditions that will maximize student interest and learning. I am deeply interested in students’ success. I have office hours listed above and am happy to discuss any and all aspects of the course with students, as well as to receive feedback (both positive and negative) from them. As Chair of the Department of History, I am in my office much more than my office hours would indicate, and I am generally happy to receive students at all times. I will also make every effort to respond to e-mail queries as rapidly as possible. The TAs for this course share the instructor's fanaticism for revolutions, constitutions, and learning in general. Questions concerning the discussion-section part of the course should be taken up first and foremost with one's TA.

Rules and Obligations:
• Cell phones may not be used in the lecture hall. Violators will be ejected and must meet with the instructor in person before being able to attend lecture again.
• The use of laptops is permitted but represents a privilege that may be revoked. If you are cited for use of your laptop for purposes not related to the course, then you must acquire permission from the instructor in person in order to use the laptop again.
• All assignments must be completed to receive a passing grade for the course.
• Reading for each week must be completed prior to your discussion section meeting.
• Behave courteously and respectfully in lecture hall. Violators will be punished mercilessly.
• Plagiarism will be dealt with severely (see definition below).
• Those arriving late for examinations may be penalized or even denied an exam.

University Undergraduate Learning Outcomes (UULOs)
This course aligns itself consciously with UNLV’s University Undergraduate Learning Outcomes (UULOs), which are not to be confused with UFOs. These outcomes are designed to create a coherent community of learners at UNLV and to define what all students should know and be able to do when they graduate. In my view, they reflect the values of everyone associated with the university, including the most advanced researchers. The outcomes are described in considerable details at the appropriate site, but the main ones are these five:
• Intellectual Breadth and Lifelong Learning
• Inquiry and Critical Thinking
• Communication
• Global an Multicultural Knowledge and Awareness
• Citizenship and Ethics
## Lecture topics & readings

### UNIT I: The American Revolution & Constitution

| WEEK 1 | 18 January | Introduction to the course |
| WEEK 2 | 23 & 25 Jan | English Antecedents & Towards American Independence  
Reading | Paul Werth, ed., *Revolutions & Constitutions*, introduction + chapter 1  
Reading | Gordon Wood, *American Revolution*, preface and pp. 3-44 |
| WEEK 3 | 30 Jan & 1 Feb | From Articles of Confederation to Philadelphia Constitution  
Reading | Wood, pp. 47-109  
Reading | Werth, *Revolutions and Constitutions*, chapter 2  
Reading | Content quiz #1 |
| WEEK 4 | 6 & 8 Feb | Constitution and Bill of Rights  
Reading | Wood, pp. 113-166  
Reading | Werth, *Revolutions and Constitutions*, chapter 3  
Reading | Geography quiz #1 |
| WEEK 5 | 13 & 15 Feb | Later Evolutions, Federalism, and Nevada  
Reading | Werth, *Revolutions and Constitutions*, chapter 4  
Reading | Content quiz #2 |
| WEEK 6 | 20 Feb | NO CLASS: PRESIDENTS’ DAY  
Reading | 22 Feb | EXAMINATION #1 |

### UNIT II: The Russian Revolution, 1905-1936

| WEEK 7 | 27 Feb, 1 Mar | The Regime’s Opponents and the Revolution of 1905  
Reading | Werth, *Revolutions and Constitutions*, chapters 5 and 6 |
| WEEK 8 | 6 & 8 March | Bolshevik Revolution & and the New Communist State  
Reading | Werth, *Revolutions and Constitutions*, chapter 7  
Reading | Geography quiz #2 |
| WEEK 9 | 13 & 15 March | Civil War and the Creation of the USSR  
Reading | Read Werth, *Revolutions and Constitutions*, chapter 8  
Reading | Content quiz #3 |
WEEK 10  20 & 22 March  The Stalin Revolution & Stalin Constitution
Reading  Werth, Revolutions and Constitutions, chapter 9

WEEK 11  27 March  EXAMINATION #2

UNIT III: Iran and the Islamic Revolution, 1979-89

29 March  Early Iran and Islam
Reading  Werth, Revolutions and Constitutions, chapter 10

WEEK 12  3 & 5 April  Revolutionary Upheaval & Autocratic Modernization
Reading  Werth, Revolutions and Constitutions, chapter 11
Geography quiz #4

SPRING BREAK: No Class 10 & 12 April

WEEK 13  17 & 19 April  The Roots of Islamic Revolution
Reading  Werth, Revolutions and Constitutions, chapter 12

WEEK 14  24 & 26 April  From Revolution to Constitution in the Islamic Republic
Reading  Werth, Revolutions and Constitutions, chapter 13
Content quiz #4

WEEK 15  1 & 3 May  Modification of Iran’s Constitution & Course Review
Reading  None

FINAL EXAM:  MONDAY, 8 MAY 2017, 10.10 AM – 12.10 PM
University Policies

Academic Misconduct—Academic integrity is a legitimate concern for every member of the campus community; all share in upholding the fundamental values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness, responsibility and professionalism. By choosing to join the UNLV community, students accept the expectations of the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and are encouraged when faced with choices to always take the ethical path. Students enrolling in UNLV assume the obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with UNLV’s function as an educational institution. An example of academic misconduct is plagiarism. Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of another, from the Internet or any source, without proper citation of the sources. See the Student Academic Misconduct Policy (approved December 9, 2005) located at: https://www.unlv.edu/studentconduct/student-conduct.

Copyright—The University requires all members of the University Community to familiarize themselves with and to follow copyright and fair use requirements. You are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws. The university will neither protect nor defend you nor assume any responsibility for employee or student violations of fair use laws. Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability, as well as disciplinary action under University policies. Additional information can be found at: http://www.unlv.edu/provost/copyright.

Disability Resource Center (DRC)—The UNLV Disability Resource Center (SSC-A 143, http://drc.unlv.edu/, 702-895-0866) provides resources for students with disabilities. If you feel that you have a disability, please make an appointment with a Disabilities Specialist at the DRC to discuss what options may be available to you. If you are registered with the UNLV Disability Resource Center, bring your Academic Accommodation Plan from the DRC to the instructor during office hours so that you may work together to develop strategies for implementing the accommodations to meet both your needs and the requirements of the course. Any information you provide is private and will be treated as such. To maintain the confidentiality of your request, please do not approach the instructor in front of others to discuss your accommodation needs.

Religious Holidays Policy—Any student missing class quizzes, examinations, or any other class or lab work because of observance of religious holidays shall be given an opportunity during that semester to make up missed work. The make-up will apply to the religious holiday absence only. It shall be the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor within the first 14 calendar days of the course for fall and spring courses (excluding modular courses), or within the first 7 calendar days of the course for summer and modular courses, of his or her intention to participate in religious holidays which do not fall on state holidays or periods of class recess. For additional information, please visit: http://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=531.

Transparency in Learning and Teaching—The University encourages application of the transparency method of constructing assignments for student success. Please see these two links for further information:

https://www.unlv.edu/provost/teachingandlearning

https://www.unlv.edu/provost/transparency

Incomplete Grades—The grade of I—Incomplete—can be granted when a student has satisfactorily completed three-fourths of course work for that semester/session but for reason(s) beyond the student’s control, and acceptable to the instructor, cannot complete the last part of the course, and the instructor believes that the student can finish the course without repeating it. The incomplete work must be made up
before the end of the following regular semester for undergraduate courses. Graduate students receiving “I” grades in 500-, 600-, or 700-level courses have up to one calendar year to complete the work, at the discretion of the instructor. If course requirements are not completed within the time indicated, a grade of F will be recorded and the GPA will be adjusted accordingly. Students who are fulfilling an Incomplete do not register for the course but make individual arrangements with the instructor who assigned the I grade.

Library Resources
Students may consult with a librarian on research needs. For this class, the subject librarian is https://www.library.unlv.edu/contact/librarians_by_subject. UNLV Libraries provides resources to support students’ access to information. Discovery, access, and use of information are vital skills for academic work and for successful post-college life. Access library resources and ask questions at https://www.library.unlv.edu/.

Tutoring and Coaching—The Academic Success Center (ASC) provides tutoring, academic success coaching and other academic assistance for all UNLV undergraduate students. For information regarding tutoring subjects, tutoring times, and other ASC programs and services, visit http://www.unlv.edu/asc or call 702-895-3177. The ASC building is located across from the Student Services Complex (SSC). Academic success coaching is located on the second floor of the SSC (ASC Coaching Spot). Drop-in tutoring is located on the second floor of the Lied Library and College of Engineering TEB second floor.

UNLV Writing Center—One-on-one or small group assistance with writing is available free of charge to UNLV students at the Writing Center, located in CDC-3-301. Although walk-in consultations are sometimes available, students with appointments will receive priority assistance. Appointments may be made in person or by calling 702-895-3908. The student’s Rebel ID Card, a copy of the assignment (if possible), and two copies of any writing to be reviewed are requested for the consultation. More information can be found at: http://writingcenter.unlv.edu/.

Rebelmail—By policy, faculty and staff should e-mail students’ Rebelmail accounts only. Rebelmail is UNLV’s official e-mail system for students. It is one of the primary ways students receive official university communication such as information about deadlines, major campus events, and announcements. All UNLV students receive a Rebelmail account after they have been admitted to the university. Students’ e-mail prefixes are listed on class rosters. The suffix is always @unlv.nevada.edu. Emailing within WebCampus is acceptable.

Final Examinations—The University requires that final exams given at the end of a course occur at the time and on the day specified in the final exam schedule. See the schedule at: http://www.unlv.edu/registrar/calendars.