This course is designed around the notion that no nation ever becomes something new, it cannot reinvent itself, but it is an ever growing and developing sum of its cultural mythology, irrespective of an ideology or a philosophy, which may be imposed from the outside or by a minority that has legitimately or illegitimately taken power (as in the Russian case of Christianization and Bolshevism and maybe “Putinism”).

National identity is at the core of current events in Russia and Ukraine and this course examines its origins and its development through tsarist Russia, USSR and Putin’s Russia.

Fulfills Historical Perspectives Discovery Requirement.
Satisfies Russian major requirement, Russian minor requirement.