

History 512:537/MALS 606:542
Fall 2015
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Office hours: TTh 1:30-2:45, and by appointment in 429 Cooper, #202

Topics in Global History II: Women in Revolution

This course will focus on women in revolutionary France, late Imperial Germany, and Russia prior to the revolutions of 1917 and under Bolshevik rule. Readings will examine women's roles during these eras, historical understandings of gender and sexuality, and how the theoretical underpinnings of "liberté, égalité, fraternité," Marxism and Marxist-Leninism, and feminism fared in practice. Conducted as a seminar, the course will take the form of discussing one monograph or one set of primary sources each week.

Required reading:

- August Bebel, *Woman and Socialism*, trans. Meta L. Stern (Socialist Literature Company, 2014)
- Suzanne Desan, *The Family on Trial in Revolutionary France* (University of California Press, 2006)
- Catherine L. Dollard, *The Surplus Woman: Unmarried in Imperial Germany, 1871-1918* (Berghahn Books, 2012)
- Dominique Godineau, *The Women of Paris and Their French Revolution* (University of California Press, 1998)
- Wendy Z. Goldman, *Women, the State and Revolution: Soviet Family Policy and Social Life, 1917-1936* (Cambridge University Press, 1993)
- Lynn Hunt, *The Family Romance of the French Revolution* (University of California Press, 1992)
- Marion Kaplan, *The Making of the Jewish Middle Class: Women, Family, and Identity in Imperial Germany* (Oxford University Press, 1994)
- Alexandra Kollontai, *Selected Writings* (W.W. Norton & Company, 1980)
- Jean H. Quataert, *Reluctant Feminists in German Social Democracy, 1885-1917* (Princeton University Press, 1979)
- Rochelle Goldberg Ruthchild, *Equality and Revolution: Women's Rights in the Russian Empire, 1905-1917* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2010)
- Mary Wollstonecraft, *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman* (Dover, 1996)
- Elizabeth A. Wood, *The Baba and the Comrade: Gender and Politics in Revolutionary Russia* (Indiana University Press, 1997)

Requirements:

- Attendance and participation (10%) – Attendance, preparedness, and participation are required of all students
- Formal reviews of four assigned books (10% each) – Students will select four monographs for 4-5-page formal reviews that follow the guidelines posted on Sakai. Papers that receive grades below B- must be rewritten.

Informal reviews of five assigned books (5% each) – Students will select five monographs for informal reviews. Unlike the formal reviews which must adhere to the guidelines on Sakai, these papers will simply receive up to 3 points of credit based on how clear they make it that the week’s book has been read and considered carefully. Students are free to take informal credit for a review originally handed in as a formal review so long as they notify me of this preference

Primary source questions (5% each) – Students will submit a set of questions pertinent to each of our three primary source books (Wollstonecraft, Bebel, and Kollontai)

Final paper (10%) – Students will write a final paper addressing comparative historical issues relating to revolutionary France, Germany, and Russia

First week: September 1

Introduction to the course

France

Second week: September 8

Read Hunt

*Option to hand in formal or informal review of Hunt via Sakai prior to class

Third week: September 15

Read Godineau

*Option to hand in formal or informal review of Godineau via Sakai prior to class

No class on September 22 (Yom Kippur)

Fourth week: September 29

Read Desan

*Option to hand in formal or informal review of Desan via Sakai prior to class

Fifth week: October 6

Read Wollstonecraft

*Questions on Wollstonecraft due via Sakai prior to class

Germany

Sixth week: October 13

Read Quataert

*Option to hand in formal or informal review of Quataert via Sakai prior to class

Seventh week: October 20

Read Kaplan

*Option to hand in formal or informal review of Kaplan via Sakai prior to class

Eighth week: October 27

Read Dollard

*Option to hand in formal or informal review of Dollard via Sakai prior to class

Ninth week: November 3

Read Bebel

*Questions on Bebel due via Sakai prior to class

Russia

Tenth week: November 10

Read Ruthchild

*Option to hand in formal or informal review of Ruthchild via Sakai prior to class

Eleventh week: November 17

Read Wood

*Option to hand in formal or informal review of Wood via Sakai prior to class

Twelfth week: November 24

Read Goldman

*Option to hand in formal or informal review of Goldman via Sakai prior to class

Thirteenth week: December 1

Read Kollontai

*Questions on Kollontai due via Sakai prior to class

Fourteenth week: December 8

Discussion on comparative historical issues

Final week

*Final papers due via Sakai