

**UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY  
APPLICATION FOR NEW COURSE**

Submitted by College of Arts and Sciences

Date 1/15/03

Department/Division offering course: **Anthropology**

2. Proposed designation and Bulletin description of this course:

(a) Prefix and Number **ANT 432** (b) Title\* **Anthropology of Eastern Europe and Russia**

\*NOTE: If the title is longer than 24 characters (including spaces), write a sensible title (not exceeding 24 characters) for use in transcripts: **Anth E. Europe Russia**

(c) Lecture/Discussion hours per week **3**

(d) Laboratory hours per week

(e) Studio hours per week

(f) Credits

(g) Course description:

**An anthropological approach to the cultural, political, and economic experiences of people living under state socialism and through its demise. We ask how everyday life and social relations in this region are being affected by emerging market relations and democracy. Reading include ethnographic studies and the works of essayists, fiction writers, and scholars from the region.**

(h) Prerequisites (if any): **ANT 160 or ANT 220.**

(i) May be repeated to a maximum of **0** credits. (if applicable)

4. To be cross-listed as:

Prefix & No.

Signature, Chairman, cross-listing department

5. Effective Date: **Fall 2003** (semester and year)

6. Course to be offered (a) **Fall** OR (b) **Spring** (c) Summer

Will the course be offered each year?

(a) **Yes**

(b) **No**

(Explain if not annually):

**Course will rotate with other regional ethnography courses taught in our department.**

8. Why is this course needed:

**This course fulfills our departmental requirement for regional ethnographic study. It is the main area of expertise of the faculty member teaching it. It examines research from an area of the world experiencing rapid political-economic change, making it an especially important case study for social scientists.**

9. (a) By whom will the course be taught? **Michele Rivkin-Fish**

(b) Are facilities for teaching the course now available?  
If not, what plans have been made for providing them?

(a) **Yes**

(b) **No**





APPLICATION FOR NEW COURSE

Signatures of Approval:

*[Handwritten Signature]*

Department Chair

*David Leep*

Dean of the College

*1/24/03*

Date

FEB 14 2003

Date

JAN 28 2003

Date of Notice to the Faculty

*04-01-2002*

Date

*Undergraduate Council - Qk*

\*Undergraduate Council

\*University Studies

Date

\*Graduate Council

Date

\*Academic Council for the Medical Center

Date

\*Senate Council (Chair)

Date of Notice to University Senate

\*If applicable, as provided by the Rules of the University Senate

ACTION OTHER THAN APPROVAL

1) **Consistent attendance and active participation** is required for your success in this course. Thoughtful oral participation counts for 10% of your grade.

**Three (3) unexcused absences will result in the loss of 10% of your final grade.** The following are acceptable reasons for excused absences: 1) serious illness; 2) illness or death of a family member; 3) University related trips. For any of these absences you need to provide me with written document stating the date of and reason for the absence, signed by a doctor or other official, with a contact phone number where I can reach them. Additionally, you may be excused for major religious holidays that the University has not officially recognized. As stated in "Students Rights and Responsibilities" handbook, section 5.2.4.2: "Students are responsible for notifying the instructor, in writing, of anticipated absences due to their observance of such holidays no later than the last day for adding a class."

2) You will have **weekly questions** to answer about the assigned readings. These questions will help guide your readings and help you contribute to our class discussions. While students are **strongly encouraged** to answer the questions in written form each week, **you are required to hand them in for a grade 4 times throughout the semester.** It is up to each student to decide which week s/he will hand the assignment in. They will be collected each Tuesday except on weeks when research essays are due.

These 4 graded exercises count for 10% each or a total of 40% of your grade.

3) **Three research essays** on a topic of your choice that is related to class themes. Students will be assigned to "region groups" corresponding to the three historical/cultural areas of Eastern Europe. Each student (or pair of students) will develop a research essay on a country in the region of his/her group. These essays count for 15% each or 45% of your grade.

4) **An oral presentation** to the class that summarizes the findings of all group members in your region. Each student will act as group representative once in the course of the semester. (Groups may have more than one representative, and in this case they will do a shared presentation.) The oral presentations count for 5%.

Instructions for the oral presentations will be given to students separately from this syllabus.

#### Grading Scale:

90-100% A  
80-89% B  
70-79% C  
69-60% D  
below 60% F

#### General Notes for successful writing and oral presentations:

## Course Schedule

### **Introduction** January 11

#### Week 1 (January 15-18):

Anthropological approaches to culture, society, and historical change: Placing our ethnographic setting in theoretical context.

reading:

"The Central Questions in Anthropology," from The Tapestry of Culture, pp. 1-12.

Drakulic, "Introduction: The Trivial is Political" from *How We Survived Communism and Even Laughed*: (pp.xi-1).

#### Week 2 (January 23) **Economic Life and Informal Networks**

##### **Economic Life Under State Socialism**

reading: Willis, chapters from *Klass: How Russians Really Live*, pp.1-50.

**NOTE: Thursday 1-25 CLASS MEETS in YOUNG LIBRARY Rm 1-78 (1<sup>st</sup> floor, Core 4**

##### **Economic Life Under State Socialism**

#### Week 3 (January 30, February 1):

Willis, chapters from *Klass: How Russians Really Live*, pp.51-68;91-108; 205-218.

##### **Economic Life Under Post-Socialism**

#### Week 4 (February 6-8)

Ries, Nancy [in press] "Honest Bandits" and "Warped People": Russian Narratives about Money, Corruption, and Moral Decay"

#### Week 5 (February 13-15) **STUDENT PRESENTATIONS Research Essay #1 DUE**

Week 12 (April 10-12) **Public Health and Post-Socialist Transitions**

Field, 1995. "The Health Crisis in the Former Soviet Union: A Report from the 'Post-War' Zone" Social Science and Medicine 41 (11) pp. 1469-1478.

Russia's Sexual Revolution in Russian Life pp.12-21.

Week 13 (April 17-19) **Public Health and Post-Socialist Transitions**

Paxson, Margaret. 2000. "The Ghosts of War: Russia's Sons Come Home From Chechnya" The Washington Post Magazine, December 17. Pp.8-14.

Week 14 (April 24-26) **STUDENT PRESENTATIONS Research Essay #3**

Suggested Readings for Research Projects

Brodsky, Joseph, "In a Room and a Half" from Less Than One

Condee, Nancy. "The Second Fantasy Mother, Or All Baths are Women's Baths pp. 3-30 in Russia, Women, Culture

Azhgikhina, Nadezhda and Helena Goscilo "Getting Under their Skin: The Beauty Salon in Russian Women's Lives" in Russia, Women, Culture pp. 94-121.

Polowy, 1995. "Russian Women Writing Alcoholism: The Sixties to the Present" in Postcommunism and the Body Politic, Ed. Ellen E. Berry, NY: New York University Press, pp.267-295.