



**HISTORY 1812F (570)**  
**Revolutions in World History**  
**Fall/Winter 2025 - 2026**

Instructor: Dr. Oleksa Drachewych  
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**Course Information**

**Calendar Description:**

This course examines major revolutions and 'turning points' that changed history. Topics include the Renaissance and Reformation, the Scientific Revolution, the Industrial Revolution, and the 'Sexual Revolution' of the 1960's. Political revolutions to be studied include the American and French Revolutions, and 20th century revolutions in China, Russia and Iran.

**Prerequisite(s):**

**Antirequisite(s):**

**Extra Information:** 3 hours.

**Course Weight:** 0.50

**Breadth:** Category A

**Subject Code:** History

Notice: Unless you have either the requisites for this course (fulfilment of pre-requisites, no anti-requisite conflicts), or special permission from your Dean to enrol in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

# King's University College

## History 1812F – Revolutions in World History, F25

### Course information:

Course Name, Number, Section: History 1812F 570

Instructor: Oleksa Drachewych

Contact Information: odrachew@uwo.ca

Office hours: via Zoom

**Course description:** This course examines major revolutions and 'turning points' that changed history. Topics include Renaissance and Reformation, the Scientific Revolution, the Industrial Revolution, and the 'Sexual Revolution' of the 1960's. Political revolutions to be studied include the American and French Revolutions, and the 20th century revolutions in China, Russia and Iran.

**Course learning outcomes:** This course will cover a series of revolutions or major turning points in world history. Taking a broad definition of revolution that looks at examples which emphasize political, social, and cultural change, this course will cover quite a bit of ground. Political revolutions discussed in this class include the Glorious, American, French, Haitian, and Russian Revolutions, before considering decolonization as a form of revolution, and ending with the collapse of the Soviet Union and Russia's War in Ukraine. Social and cultural revolutions focused on in this class will include the Renaissance, the Scientific Revolution, the Industrial Revolutions of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, and the Civil Rights Movements of the 1960s and 1970s. Sometimes the political and the social/cultural will overlap.

Through this course, students will gain an appreciation of the concept of revolution as an event, but also as a topic of study, covering examples from the fifteenth century through to the present, with cases from all over the world. Students will consider how each of these revolutions were lifechanging at the time, but also continue to be relevant today. Key themes across all examples in this course include understanding the causes, context, and development of each revolution, and a consideration of the ebbs and flows of revolutionary momentum in each moment, highlighting that progress or change is never assured, and that revolutions, while they may appear sudden, usually have longer histories, and evolve in phases, being much more than a singular moment.

By the end of History 1812F, students should be able to:

- Display a knowledge of important events, concepts, movements, ideas, and people in the history of revolutions covered in this class
- Make connections between historical events in local, regional, and global contexts
- Evaluate and analyze historical primary and secondary sources and communicate with their peers their analysis and conclusions in class discussion
- Use the university library and its resources to research a historical topic

- Develop an analysis on a piece of historical literature and apply research skills and knowledge learned in class in this analysis
- Understand there are multiple Russian Revolutions
- Develop a general appreciation for history

**Mode of Instruction:** In-person

**Course textbooks/materials:** The following texts will be made available for purchase at the Bookstore at Western: <https://bookstore.uwo.ca/textbook-search?campus=KC&term=W2025A&courses%5B0%5D=570> KC/HIS1812F

*Required:*

- Peter Furtado, ed. *Revolutions: How They Changed History and What They Mean Today* (Thomas & Hudson, 2020). (\$53.95)
- Yuri Olesha, *Envy*, translated by Marian Schwartz (NYRB Classics, 2004). (\$22.95)

*Recommended:*

- Mary Rampolla, *A Pocket Guide to Writing in History*, 10th ed. (Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2021). (\$43.95 or ebook \$26.00)

Other readings will be made available on OWL. Other editions of the works listed above are fine for this class; students should just be aware older versions may not match in assigned page numbers.

**Method of evaluation:**

- 15 – Participation
- 20 – Two (of Three) Online Quizzes (each worth 10%) (Week 4, Week 7, Week 11)
- 15 – Revolutionary Constitution Exercise (due October 24)
- 15 – Book Reflection and Analysis (due November 21)
- 35 – Final Exam

**Participation** will be determined by a student's quality contributions to in-person discussion held during tutorials. Students are expected to have read course readings and to be prepared to discuss them in class. Half of a student's mark is based on attendance; the other half will be based on their contributions to class discussions.

For the **Revolutionary Constitution Exercise**, students will analyze the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights as a revolutionary document, evaluating it as a primary source, in a written analysis roughly **750-1000 words** in length. This word count does not include the required footnotes or endnotes. Grades will be determined by clarity of ideas and of writing, strength of argument, and use of sources. Students will be required to find 5 *academic* sources, one of which must be a book, and use each of the sources, along with the assigned constitution, in their analysis. Further instructions will be provided via OWL Brightspace. This assignment will be due **October 24**.

Students will complete a **Book Reflection and Analysis** on Yuri Olesha's *Envy*. In 750-1000 words (again, this word count does not include the citations), students will discuss the content of the book, explain its critique of the Bolshevik Revolution and the Soviet Union, and answer a guiding question. It will require Chicago style citations and students will be expected to do some additional research. More information will be provided on OWL Brightspace. The book reflection will be due **November 21**.

There will be three **Online Quizzes** in this course. They will go live on OWL during weeks 4, 7 and 11. Students are responsible for completing *two* of the three quizzes. Should a student complete all three, the highest two marks will be counted for the student's final grade. They will be available for one full week. They are there to ensure students are keeping up with class content, while also helping ensure students are comprehending it. These quizzes will be a mix of 15 true/false and multiple-choice questions. No late submissions will be accepted.

*Please note that because the submission deadline for this assessment already includes flexibility in the form of choice – students only must complete TWO of the THREE quizzes and can choose whichever two they wish to complete - the instructor reserves the right to deny academic consideration for quizzes which are submitted following each quizzes' deadline.*

The **Final Exam** will take place in-person and during the December exam period. It will be a mix of identification and essay questions. The date of the exam will be determined by the King's Registrar Office.

**Information for all assignments:** Every assignment will be due at 11:59:59 pm ET on its due date, submitted electronically via OWL Brightspace.

Students are expected to use Chicago-style citations for **every written assignment**. Footnotes or endnotes are acceptable. In-text citations, unless otherwise stated, are not.

Academic sources are sources that have been published by a reputable source. This includes many of the journal articles or monographs found via King's Library. Failure to use the required number of academic sources for an assignment will cap one's mark at a 68. If students are unsure about a source, they are encouraged to contact the professor.

**Late Policy:** As per the King's University College Department of History guidelines – a penalty of five marks will be assessed for essays submitted the first day after deadline, followed by a penalty of one mark per day including weekends.

**Course Requirements:** Students who fail to **submit** the writing assignments which make up the essay component of the course (constitution assignment and book reflection) as specified in the course outline will not receive credit for the course.

**Contact and Email Policy:** Students are welcome to speak to the professor during office hours or by appointment, either in person or via Zoom. The professor will also do his best to be available immediately following class when possible or be available for alternate meeting times to answer any questions regarding the course or its content. Regarding email, he will aim to respond within 24 hours. One exception to this rule will be weekends where he will aim to respond within 48 hours.

### **Academic Integrity / Remote Proctoring:**

*Western Scholastic Discipline policy:*

[https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

*AI Policy:* King's is committed to fostering a culture of professionalism, honesty, and academic integrity, and all members of our community—faculty, staff, and students—have a role to play in promoting an ethical learning environment. Furthermore, through the work they submit for academic evaluation, students develop important habits of critical thinking, independent inquiry, and creativity. Thus, it is expected that students will submit work that is truly their own, completed without external assistance (human or artificial) except as explicitly permitted by the course instructor.

*Turnitin:* This class will use Turnitin on all submitted written assignments to check for plagiarism.

### **Schedule:**

**Week 1:** Lecture – September 8 – Welcome and Introduction

Tutorials – September 9 – NO TUTORIALS

**Week 2:** Lecture – September 15 – What is a Revolution?/Revolution in Culture and Religion: The Renaissance and Reformation

Tutorials – September 16 – Introduction/What is a Revolution?

**Week 3:** Lecture – September 22 – Revolution in Culture and Religion continued/ Revolution in Belief: The Scientific Revolution & The Enlightenment

Tutorials – September 23 – Research Workshop

**Week 4:** September 29 – Revolutions in Political Legitimacy: The Glorious and American Revolutions

Tutorials – September 30 - Truth and Reconciliation Day – NO CLASSES

## **ONLINE QUIZ 1**

**Week 5:** Lecture – October 6 – The Liberal Revolution: The French Revolution & The Haitian Revolution

Tutorials – October 7 – Learning How to Source and Cite Your Work

**Week 6:** Lecture – October 13 – THANKSGIVING – NO CLASSES

Tutorials – October 14 - Constitutions as Revolutionary Documents

**Week 7:** Lecture – October 20 – Revolution in Modernity?: The Industrial Revolutions

Tutorials – October 21 – Declarations of Independence as Revolutionary Documents

## **ONLINE QUIZ 2**

### **CONSTITUTION ANALYSIS ASSIGNMENT DUE OCTOBER 24**

**Week 8:** Lecture – October 27 – The Worker’s Revolution?: The Russian Revolutions of 1917

Tutorials – October 28 – The Industrial Revolution in the US and Women

### **READING WEEK – November 1-9 – NO CLASSES**

**Week 9:** Lecture – November 10 – The Stalinist Revolution from Above and Internationalizing the Worker’s Revolution: The Chinese Revolution

Tutorials – November 11 – Using Literature as a Historical Source

**Week 10:** Lecture – November 17 – Anti-Imperialism as Revolution: China, India, and Iran

Tutorials – November 18 – No tutorials

- Focus on your book reflections

### **BOOK REFLECTION AND ANALYSIS DUE NOVEMBER 21**

**Week 11:** Lecture – November 24 – The Rights Revolutions: The American Civil Rights Movements as a Revolutionary Moment

Tutorials – November 25 – The Sexual Revolution in the 1960s and 1970s

## **ONLINE QUIZ 3**

**Week 12:** Lecture – December 1 – The Collapse of the Soviet Union and Ukraine’s Democratic Revolutions

Tutorials – December 2 – Ukraine, Revolution, and Russia’s War in Ukraine

# KING'S UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

## GENERAL COURSE POLICIES

### 2025-2026

#### **1. Academic Accommodations, Consideration for Absences**

##### **Academic Accommodation (Accessibility)**

Accessibility Services works to ensure that academic programs are accessible to all students, and supports students who may have a condition related to, but not limited to, vision, hearing, mobility, different ways of learning, mental health, chronic illnesses, chronic pain, autism spectrum disorder, ADD/ADHD, and temporary conditions (beyond short-term academic consideration). Accessibility Services provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive assessment. The accommodation policy can be found here [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#). Information on Accessibility Services at King's can be found [here](#).

##### **Academic Consideration for Student Absence**

If a student is unable to meet a course requirement due to substantial but temporary extenuating circumstances (medical or compassionate), they should follow the procedures below.

In some cases, where instructors have built flexibility into their assessments, this flexibility will already address consideration needs.

Requests for academic consideration should be directed to the Academic Advising Office of your faculty/college of registration. Requests must be made as soon as possible and no later than 48 hours after the missed assessment.

As a rule, documentation is required for academic consideration. For academic consideration requests on medical grounds, the Student Medical Certificate is available at [https://www.kings.uwo.ca/kings/assets/File/currentStudents/courses\\_enrollment/exams\\_and\\_tests/S\\_MC-Feb-2025.pdf](https://www.kings.uwo.ca/kings/assets/File/currentStudents/courses_enrollment/exams_and_tests/S_MC-Feb-2025.pdf).

Students are permitted one academic consideration request without supporting documentation per term per course.

Instructors may designate one assessment per half-course weight as requiring formal supporting documentation. Please refer to the course outline for each course.

For further information, please see:

[https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/academic\\_consideration\\_Sep24.pdf](https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/academic_consideration_Sep24.pdf)

##### **Absences from Final Examinations**

If you miss the Final Exam, contact the Academic Advising Office of your faculty/college of registration as soon as you are able to do so. They will assess your eligibility to write the Special Examination (the name given by the University to a makeup Final Exam).

You may also be eligible to write the Special Exam if you are in a “Multiple Exam Situation” (e.g., more than 2 exams in 23-hour period, or more than 3 exams in a 47-hour period).

If a student fails to write a scheduled Special Examination, the date of the next Special Examination (if granted) normally will be the scheduled date for the final exam the next time this course is offered. The maximum course load for that term will be reduced by the credit of the course(s) for which the final examination has been deferred. See the Academic Calendar for details (under [Special Examinations](#)).

## **Religious Accommodation**

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give notice in writing to the instructor and Academic Advising Office if a course requirement will be affected by a religious holiday/observance. Notice must be given as early as possible, and no later than two weeks prior to an examination, and one week prior to a midterm test date. It is the responsibility of such students to inform themselves concerning the work done in classes from which they are absent and to take appropriate action.

## **2. Support Services**

Accessibility, Counselling and Student Development at King's University College:

<https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/student-services/>

Students experiencing emotional or mental health distress can access services at King's University College: <http://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/campus-services/student-support-services/personal-counselling/>

Good2talk is a good online and phone 24/7 resource for students and is available in English, Mandarin, and French: <https://good2talk.ca>, 1-866-925-5454

MentalHealth@Western provides a complete list of options about how to obtain help:

[https://www.uwo.ca/health/mental\\_wellbeing/](https://www.uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/)

Academic Support Services at King's University College:

<https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/academic-resources/>

### **GBSV Support:**

King's is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at: <https://www.kings.uwo.ca/about-kings/safe-campus/gender-and-sexual-violence/>

You can reach someone supports at Kings by emailing [Care@kings.uwo.ca](mailto:Care@kings.uwo.ca) or calling 519-930-4640 to reach a social worker who can offer help.

You can also reach Western's Gender-Based Violence & Survivor Support Case Manager by [email](#) or by calling 519-661-3568.

Further supports can be found on this website: <https://www.kings.uwo.ca/about-kings/safe-campus/gender-and-sexual-violence/>

See also [https://www.uwo.ca/health/student\\_support/survivor\\_support/get-help.html](https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html)

University Students' Council offers many valuable support services for students, including the health insurance plan: <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

### 3. Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

**Use of Electronic Devices:** Unless explicitly stated otherwise, you are not allowed to have a cell phone, or any other electronic device, with you during tests or examinations. Unauthorized possession of such a device during a test or examination constitutes an academic offence.

**Use of Laptops, Tablets, and Smartphones in the Classroom:** King's University College at Western University acknowledges the integration of new technologies and learning methods into the curriculum. The use of electronic devices such as laptop computers, tablets, or smartphones can contribute to student engagement and effective learning. At the same time, King's recognizes that instructors and students share jointly the responsibility to establish and maintain a respectful classroom environment conducive to learning.

The use of electronic devices by students during lectures, seminars, labs, etc., shall be for matters related to the course at hand only. Students found to be using electronic devices for purposes not directly related to the class may be subject to sanctions under the Student Code of Conduct; see <https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/student-affairs/code-of-student-conduct1/>

Inappropriate use of electronics (e.g., laptops, tablets, smartphones) during lectures, seminars, labs, etc., creates a significant disruption. As a consequence, instructors may choose to limit the use of electronic devices in these settings. In addition, in order to provide a safe classroom environment, students attending in-person class sessions are strongly advised to operate laptops with batteries rather than power cords.

### 4. Statement on Academic Offences

King's is committed to academic integrity. Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, is posted at

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

It is expected that students will submit work that is truly their own, completed without external assistance (human or artificial) except as explicitly permitted by the course instructor. Check with you instructor on what tools, including generative AI (ChatGPT, translation tools, grammar-checking tools) are permitted in the course. Because a tool is permitted in one course, that does not mean it is permitted in other courses.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system; see

<https://elearningtoolkit.uwo.ca/tools/Originality Reports - TurnItIn.html>.

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

### **5. Copyright of Course Material**

Lectures and course materials, including PowerPoint presentations, tests, outlines, and similar materials are protected by copyright. Faculty members are the exclusive owner of copyright in those materials they create. Students may take notes and make copies for their own use. Students may not allow others to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly (whether or not a fee is charged) without the express written consent of a faculty member. Unauthorized sharing of class content is subject to academic discipline.

Similarly, students own copyright in their own original papers and exam essays. If a faculty member wishes to post a student's answers or papers on the course website, they should ask for the student's written permission.

### **6. Use of Recordings**

Participants in this course are not permitted to record the sessions, except where recording is an approved accommodation and/or the participant has the prior written permission of the instructor. Unauthorized recording and/or sharing of class content is subject to academic discipline.

### **7. Policy on Attendance**

Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course, will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course, after due warning has been given. On the recommendation of the department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course.