

**HIS 393**  
**Topics in Modern European History: Ethnicity and Nationalism in USSR**

Satisfies: SBS+

M/W 9:30 - 10:50 am

Professor Nurlan Kabdylkhak

This upper-division course explores the political and social history of the Soviet Union through a multiethnic lens. Beginning with the USSR's formation as an ethnically and religiously diverse polity, we will trace the evolution of Soviet nationality policy—from *korenizatsiia* (indigenization) to Russification, mass deportations, the official doctrine of the “Friendship of Peoples,” and ultimately the rise of national movements that contributed to the Soviet Union's collapse.

Students will engage with both broad interpretive scholarship and regional case studies to examine how diverse communities experienced, negotiated, and shaped the Soviet project. By analyzing the interplay between state policy and lived experience, the course highlights the central role of ethnicity and religion in the making and unmaking of the Soviet Union.