

**HISTORY 421**  
**Penetrating Preview: Graded Exercise in Intellectual Inquiry™ (Exam) #2**  
**2013**

The exam will test your knowledge based on both the lectures and the readings throughout the course. There will be five parts to the exam, as outlined below. Point distributions are approximate. The exam is guaranteed to be fun.

**PART ONE: Chronology (12 points).** In the case of each chronology, you will be given a series of events in random order. Your job is to put the events in the proper chronological order. Note that you need not know that exact dates of any event, but rather the basic sequence in which they occurred. Example:

- A) Annexation of Baltic region from Sweden
- B) Conquest of Kazan' and Astrakhan'
- C) Conquest of Crimea
- D) The final partition of Poland (elimination of Poland-Lithuania)
- E) Incorporation of left-bank Ukraine and Kiev

*ANSWER: B, E, A, C, D*

**PART TWO: Matching (10 points).** Here you will be given a number of names or words in one column, with some brief descriptions of how those people or things were important to Russian history in another. The idea is for you to match them up. Example:

___ Ivan III	1. The medieval Muscovite ruler who was designated “The Terrible”
___ Ivan IV	2. The medieval Muscovite ruler who was designated “The Great”

*ANSWER: a “1” before Ivan IV and a “2” before Ivan III.*

**PART THREE: Short answers (18 points).** Here you will provide very brief answers to a series of straightforward questions.

*EXAMPLE:* Name three female rulers in Russia's eighteenth century.

*ANSWER:* Any combination of Catherine I, Anne, Elizabeth, and Catherine II would be correct.

**PART FOUR: Historical Connections (30 points).** In this section, you will be presented with several triads – groups of three people, concepts, and/or events. In each case, you will be

expected to write a substantial paragraph (preferably extended to a page or so in handwritten form) on the historical relationship among these three items. Think about what it is that binds them together, the thread that runs through all of them. The paragraph should begin with a sharp and clear thesis statement that combines all three elements in a single sentence. Of the **NINE** triads offered here, most likely **SIX** will appear on the exam. Of these you will choose **TWO**. Note that by preparing for these triads, you will also be preparing for the exam itself. Think about which readings and class sessions provide the intellectual resources for addressing the connections here. In some cases, it will be entirely appropriate to refer to specific authors in constructing your answers.

Kievan Rus' the steppe Mongol invasions	Ivan IV (the Terrible) reform <i>Oprichnina</i>	Muscovy Poland-Lithuania Golden Horde
freedom rights subjecthood in Muscovy	serfdom labor shortage Law Code (Ulozhenie) of 1649	Volga peoples Uniates religious violence
Peter the Great autocratic duty reform / modernization	nobility service autocracy	Alexander Radishchev Nikolai Karamzin serfdom

**PART FIVE: Essay (30 points).** On the exam, two of the following questions will appear. You will respond to **ONE** of them. Note that the questions are wordy, but this is largely because I give you some specific ideas about how to approach them. You need not address all of the sub-questions that I pose; these are designed mainly to help you think through the larger issues at stake.

**1.** In one sense the story of Russia from its start to 1815 is a story of astonishing success in rather unlikely circumstances. Many factors, such as geography, seemed to militate against the establishment of such a unified state so powerful at the end of the Napoleonic wars that it was second probably only to Britain. Write an essay analyzing the principal reasons for this imperial Russian success. Which particular institutions proved crucial in assembling the diverse principalities of the appanage period and consolidating and extending Muscovite/Russian power beyond historical Rus'? What were the principal obstacles to this success and how did the Russian state overcome them? What were the costs of this success for different social groups and communities that were eventually incorporated into Russia?

**2.** Certainly one of the principal institutions of Muscovy and Imperial Russia was the monarchy. Write an essay analyzing the role of the monarchy in the development of Russian history. While you should of course deal with some specific rulers in your answer, try also to think about the monarchy as an institution distinct from specific monarchs. What were the principal problems that faced the monarchy from the emergence of Moscow through the early nineteenth century? What were the biggest challenges that the monarchy faced, and how did it surmount them? To

what extent was there a conception of the "state" or the "nation" that existed independently of the monarchy and/or the dynasty itself, and what were the implications either way? In what ways did the monarchy deal with the social elite that might have become a source of opposition and that might have sought to limit the monarchy in specific ways? Was the monarchy completely unlimited, or were there actual limits to how it could wield power?

**3.** For much of its history, "Russia" has included territories and peoples who were not actually "Russian" in the sense that we understand the term today. Write an essay in which you consider this issue in greater historical depth. What was the changing relationship between the Grand Principality of Moscow and the lands that had made up Kievan Rus'? When did the Muscovite state go beyond the "gathering" of Rus' lands to incorporate lands and peoples that had never had any connection to Kiev? What were those principal acquisitions and when did they occur? How did the Russian state actually deal with these more alien acquisitions? What policies and practices did Russia adopt towards them? What were the consequences of specific territorial acquisitions? In composing your answer, remember to keep the idea of religion in mind and try to think about what it has meant for Russia to become a multi-ethnic, multi-confessional, imperial polity.