

# History 100 • FALL 2019

## Revolutions & Constitutions

The US, the USSR, and the IRI

T-Th 10.00 – 11.15 AM, CBC A-106

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<http://faculty.unlv.edu/pwerth/100.html>

### Teaching Assistants

<p><b>Nicole Batten</b> Sections 11 &amp; 13 <a href="mailto:batten1@unlv.nevada.edu">batten1@unlv.nevada.edu</a> WRI A-302 702-895-5225</p>	<p><b>Brian Neely</b> Sections 12 &amp; 14 <a href="mailto:ernest.neely@unlv.edu">ernest.neely@unlv.edu</a> WRI A-302 702-895-5225</p>
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### Course Description:

This course examines the place that constitutions occupy in the aftermath of revolution and their role in constructing the institutions and values by which a new society will live. The course thus focuses considerable attention on the revolutions themselves and their causes, in order to better understand the contexts in which the formulation of new constitutions occur. We also consider the extent to which constitutions fulfill and/or abandon the aspirations that originally mobilized people to undertake revolutionary change, and the degree to which constitutions were modified subsequently in line with the given society's development. In order to broaden our analysis, we examine three very different revolutions—liberal-democratic, socialist, and Islamic—and thus three very different constitutions. The course is guaranteed to be fun, although the instructor's conception of "fun" may differ from that of students—in some cases substantially. In diligently discharging their obligations in this course, students will be able to identify and/or explain

- the meaning and role of constitutions in the political framework of the US, the USSR, and Iran
- the overall structure of the US and Nevada constitutions
- the models and ideas drawn upon by the framers of the US and Nevada constitutions
- the historical context for the drafting and ratification of the US and Nevada constitutions and their subsequent amendments
- significant arguments against, and viable alternatives to, the provisions of the US and Nevada constitutions at the time of their ratification and since

- similarities and differences between the US and Nevada constitutions; and between those constitutions and those in the USSR and Iran
- the social and political conditions in the US, Russia, and Iran that caused revolutions in each country
- the main aspirations of new revolutionary leaders and the results of their efforts to promote change

Students in the course will also

- gain broad knowledge of specific periods of American, Russian, and Iranian history
- master the basic geography of those three countries
- develop and enhance skills in critical analysis of both primary and secondary sources and in effective communication
- better understand the possibilities and duties of good citizenship
- address, to one degree or another, all of UNLV's University Undergraduate Learning Outcomes

### **Required Materials:**

- Gordon Wood, *The American Revolution* (Modern Library, 2003). ISBN = 0-8129-7041-1
- Paul W. Werth, *Revolutions and Constitutions: The United States, the Soviet Union, and the Islamic Republic of Iran*, 3rd edition (2<sup>nd</sup> edition can be used in an emergency), Linus Publishers, 2015. ISBN 13 = 978-1-60797-860-2
- i-clickers (REEF polling is ok)

### **Assignments and Grading Scale:**

Quizzes on content and geography (5 @ 5% each)	25%
First brief writing assignment	5%
Exam #1	15%
Exam #2	15%
Final Exam	20%
Participation & attendance (lecture & section alike)	20%

**Attendance and participation** represent a critical part of this course, and absences will be highly detrimental to your success and your grade. Your TA will establish appropriate procedures for your discussion section (10% of the course total). For the lecture (another 10%), we will use i-clickers, and your participation grade will be determined by the proportion of questions that you answer (whether correctly or not) for the entire semester, with a small premium added for those questions you answer correctly. You may ask for more details if you wish, but the point is that you receive substantial credit just for being in class and answering questions and a little **extra** for answering them correctly. Call it "extra credit" if you wish. It is your responsibility to ensure that your clicker is registered (instructors can help).

**Content quizzes and geography quizzes** are simple and straightforward and will be administered in discussion section. There are three of each. In the case of geography quizzes, the website tells *exactly* what you need to know ahead of time. Everyone should score 100! Of the six quizzes in all, we drop your lowest score, so that only five quizzes count. This means that you can miss or bomb one quiz without any effect on your grade.

Each **examination** consists of two parts: a take-home portion (involving an essay in response to a question provided in advance) and an in-class multiple-choice section. The idea is that both your factual knowledge and your analytical skills will be tested. I hold these to be mutually reinforcing. Each part of the exam counts 50%. Take-home examinations are due at 11.59 PM on the day of the class exam and should be submitted through *turnitin* (TAs will explain how to do this). Worth 50 points, the essays lose 5 points for each two hours that they are late. Details can be found on the website. Your TA will provide more information. *All required assignments must be completed in order to pass this course. Moreover, the portion of the first exam on the US Constitution must also be passed in order to receive credit for the course.*

**Website:**

The web site for this course is its anchor, in the sense that new information pertaining to the course will always be posted there. In addition, more detailed instructions for each exercise, as well as general guidelines, exam questions, etc., will all be available there. The URL for the web site is: <http://pwerth.faculty.unlv.edu//100.html>.

**The Instructor & Communication:**

As the instructor in this course, I seek to create the conditions that will maximize student interest and learning. I am deeply interested in students' success. I have office hours listed above and am happy to discuss any and all aspects of the course with students (I am around much more than my office hours would suggest). TAs have similar commitments. There are two requirements for writing to me:

- You must address me properly, writing "Dear Dr Werth" or "Dear Professor Werth," as well as signing off with your own name at the end;
- You must include the name of your TA when writing to me, since I need to include that person in whatever we are discussing. (If you have a problem with your TA, then you need to come and see me in person).

If these conditions are not met, then I will not respond. In that case the responsibility for lost time in communication is yours. I also emphasize: if you encounter any problems, you should contact me. In particular if you see that a crisis may interfere with your timely completion of an assignment, then contact me *as soon as possible* so that we may make alternate arrangements. This is much, much harder to do after the fact.

**Rules and Obligations:**

- Abuse of cell phones in the lecture hall will be dealt with severely, and violators must meet with the instructor *in person* before being able to attend lecture again.
- Any recording of lectures or discussions without the express consent of the instructor(s) and student colleagues is illegal and therefore prohibited.
- The use of laptops is permitted but represents a privilege that may be revoked. If you are cited for use of your laptop for purposes not related to the course, then you must acquire permission from the instructor *in person* in order to use the laptop again.
- All assignments must be completed to receive a passing grade for the course.
- Reading for each week must be completed prior to your discussion section meeting.
- Behave courteously and respectfully in lecture hall. Violators will be punished mercilessly.
- Plagiarism will be dealt with severely (see definition below).
- Those arriving late for examinations may be penalized or even denied an exam.

**Key Resources For Students:**

UNLV has many resources for students designed to help them succeed. Any student who encounters difficulty in the course would be wise to consult them:

- The [UNLV Writing Center](#) provides advice about writing, helping people at all levels make informed choices about how best to organize and articulate their ideas (895-3908, [writingcenter@unlv.edu](mailto:writingcenter@unlv.edu)).
- The [UNLV Academic Success Center](#) provides all kinds of services, including tutoring, coaching, and advising. It represents an excellent resource for help and guidance at the university (895-3177, [asc@unlv.edu](mailto:asc@unlv.edu)).
- The [UNLV Intersection \(Academic Multicultural Resource Center\)](#) provides a sense of belonging to everyone and helps students navigate the university bureaucracy and their academic careers. It offers resources especially to first-generation students and students of color (SU121, 895-0459).

**University Undergraduate Learning Outcomes (UULOs)**

This course aligns itself consciously with UNLV's University Undergraduate Learning Outcomes (UULOs), which are not to be confused with UFOs. These outcomes are designed to create a coherent community of learners at UNLV and to define what all students should know and be able to do when they graduate. They reflect the values of everyone at the university, including the most advanced researchers. The outcomes are described in considerable details at the [appropriate site](#), but the main ones are these:

- Intellectual Breadth and Lifelong Learning
- Inquiry and Critical Thinking
- Communication
- Global and Multicultural Knowledge and Awareness
- Citizenship and Ethics

*Lecture topics & readings***UNIT I: The American Revolution & Constitution**

WEEK 1	27 & 29 Aug Reading:	<b>Introduction to the course—and the fun to come</b> Paul Werth, ed., <i>Revolutions &amp; Constitutions</i> , introduction Gordon Wood, <i>American Revolution</i> , preface
WEEK 2	3 & 5 Sept Reading	<b>English Antecedents &amp; Towards American Independence</b> Paul Werth, ed., <i>Revolutions &amp; Constitutions</i> , chapter 1 Gordon Wood, <i>American Revolution</i> , pp. 3-44
WEEK 3	10 & 12 Sept Reading	<b>From Articles of Confederation to Philadelphia Constitution</b> Wood, pp. 47-109 Werth, <i>Revolutions and Constitutions</i> , chapter 2 <b>Writing assignment due on 12 September by 11.59 PM</b>

WEEK 4	17 & 19 Sept Reading	<b>Constitution and Bill of Rights</b> Wood, pp. 113-166 Werth, <i>Revolutions and Constitutions</i> , chapter 3 <b>Geography quiz #1</b>
WEEK 5	24 & 26 Sept Reading	<b>Later Evolutions, Federalism, and Nevada</b> Werth, <i>Revolutions and Constitutions</i> , chapter 4 <b>Content quiz #1</b>
WEEK 6	1 Oct	<b>EXAMINATION #1</b> <b>In-class exam at 10.00 AM</b> <b>Essay due by 11.59 PM</b>

## UNIT II: The Russian Revolution, 1905-1936

	3 Oct Reading	<b>An Introduction to Russia</b> Werth, <i>Revolutions and Constitutions</i> , chapter 5
WEEK 7	8 & 10 Oct Reading	<b>The Regime's Opponents and the Revolution of 1905</b> Werth, <i>Revolutions and Constitutions</i> , chapter 6
WEEK 8	15 & 17 Oct Reading	<b>Bolshevik Revolution &amp; and the New Communist State</b> Werth, <i>Revolutions and Constitutions</i> , chapter 7 <b>Geography quiz #2</b>
WEEK 9	22 & 24 Oct Reading	<b>Civil War and the Creation of the USSR</b> Werth, <i>Revolutions and Constitutions</i> , chapter 8 <b>Content quiz #2</b>
WEEK 10	29 & 31 Oct Reading	<b>The Stalin Revolution &amp; Stalin Constitution</b> Werth, <i>Revolutions and Constitutions</i> , chapter 9
WEEK 11	5 Nov	<b>EXAMINATION #2</b> <b>In-class exam at 10.00 AM</b> <b>Essay due by 11.59 PM</b>

## UNIT III: Iran and the Islamic Revolution, 1979-89

	7 Nov Reading	<b>Early Iran and Islam</b> Werth, <i>Revolutions and Constitutions</i> , chapter 10
WEEK 12	12 & 14 Nov Reading	<b>Revolutionary Upheaval &amp; Autocratic Modernization</b> Werth, <i>Revolutions and Constitutions</i> , chapter 11 <b>Geography quiz #4</b>

WEEK 13	19 & 21 Nov Reading	<b>The Roots of Islamic Revolution</b> Werth, <i>Revolutions and Constitutions</i> , chapter 12 <b>Content quiz #3</b>
WEEK 14	26 Nov Reading	<b>From Revolution to Constitution in the Islamic Republic</b> Werth, <i>Revolutions and Constitutions</i> , chapter 13 <b>NO CLASS 28 November: Thanksgiving</b>
WEEK 15	3 & 5 Dec Reading	<b>Modification of Iran's Constitution &amp; Course Review</b> None

**FINAL EXAM:** I have been told that the final exam could be scheduled for either 10 December (10.10 AM – 12.10 PM) or 12 December (10.10 AM – 12.10 PM), and that the latter date is the more likely. This is not a matter that is under my control, so I will inform you as soon as I know definitely. The essay will be due the same evening of the exam itself at 11.59 PM.

### Exciting University Policies:

**Academic Misconduct**—Academic integrity is a legitimate concern for every member of the campus community; all share in upholding the fundamental values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness, responsibility and professionalism. By choosing to join the UNLV community, students accept the expectations of the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and are encouraged when faced with choices to always take the ethical path. Students enrolling in UNLV assume the obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with UNLV's function as an educational institution. An example of academic misconduct is plagiarism. Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of another, from the Internet or any source, without proper citation of the sources. See the [Student Conduct Code](https://www.unlv.edu/studentconduct/student-conduct), <https://www.unlv.edu/studentconduct/student-conduct>.

**Auditing Classes**—Auditing a course allows a student to continue attending the lectures and/or laboratories and discussion sessions associated with the course, but the student will not earn a grade for any component of the course. Students who audit a course receive the same educational experience as students taking the course for a grade, but will be excused from exams, assessments, and other evaluative measures that serve the primary purpose of assigning a grade.

**Classroom Conduct**—Students have a responsibility to conduct themselves in class and in the libraries in ways that do not interfere with the rights of other students to learn or of instructors to teach. Use of electronic devices such as pagers, cellular phones, or recording devices, or potentially disruptive devices or activities, are permitted only with the prior explicit consent of the instructor. The instructor may rescind permission at any time during the class. If a student does not comply with established requirements or obstructs the functioning of the class, the instructor may initiate an administrative drop.

**Copyright**—The University requires all members of the University Community to familiarize themselves **with** and to follow copyright and fair use requirements. **You are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws. The university will neither protect nor defend you nor assume any responsibility for employee or student violations of fair use laws.** Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability, as well as disciplinary action under University policies. Additional information can be found at: <http://www.unlv.edu/provost/copyright>.

**Disability Resource Center (DRC)**—The UNLV Disability Resource Center (SSC-A 143, <http://drc.unlv.edu/>, 702-895-0866) provides resources for students with disabilities. If you feel that you have a disability, please make an appointment with a Disabilities Specialist at the DRC to discuss what options may be available to you. If you are registered with the UNLV Disability Resource Center, bring your Academic Accommodation Plan from the DRC to the instructor during office hours so that you may work together to develop strategies for implementing the accommodations to meet both your needs and the requirements of the course. Any information you provide is private and will be treated as such. To maintain the confidentiality of your request, please do not approach the instructor in front of others to discuss your accommodation needs.

**Religious Holidays Policy**—Any student missing class quizzes, examinations, or any other class or lab work because of observance of religious holidays shall be given an opportunity during that semester to make up missed work. The make-up will apply to the religious holiday absence only. It shall be the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor **within** the first 14 calendar days of the course for fall and spring courses (excepting modular courses), or **within** the first 7 calendar days of the course for summer and modular courses, of his or her intention to participate in religious holidays which do not fall on state holidays or periods of class recess. For additional information, please visit: <http://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=531>.

**Incomplete Grades**—The grade of I—Incomplete—can be granted when a student has satisfactorily completed three-fourths of course work for that semester/session but for reason(s) beyond the student’s control, and acceptable to the instructor, cannot complete the last part of the course, and the instructor believes that the student can finish the course without repeating it. The incomplete work must be made up before the end of the following regular semester for undergraduate courses. Graduate students receiving “I” grades in 500-, 600-, or 700-level courses have up to one calendar year to complete the work, at the discretion of the instructor. If course requirements are not completed within the time indicated, a grade of F will be recorded and the GPA will be adjusted accordingly. Students who are fulfilling an Incomplete do not register for the course but make individual arrangements with the instructor who assigned the I grade.

### **Library Resources**

Students may consult with a librarian on research needs. For this class, the subject librarian is [https://www.library.unlv.edu/contact/librarians\\_by\\_subject](https://www.library.unlv.edu/contact/librarians_by_subject). UNLV Libraries provides resources to support students’ access to information. Discovery, access, and use of information are vital skills for academic work and for successful post-college life. Access library resources and ask questions at <https://www.library.unlv.edu/>.

### **Missed Classwork**

Any student missing class, quizzes, examinations, or any other class or laboratory work because of observance of religious holidays will be given an opportunity during that semester to make up the missed work. The make-up opportunity will apply to the religious holiday absence only. It is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor within the first 14 calendar days of the course for Fall and Spring courses (except for modular courses), or within the first 7 calendar days of the course for Summer and

modular courses, of their intention to participate in religious holidays which do not fall on state holidays or periods of class recess. For additional information, please visit the Policy for Missed Work, under Registration Policies, on the [Academic Policies](#) webpage, <https://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=531>.

In accordance with the policy approved by the Faculty Senate regarding missed class time and assignments, students who represent UNLV in any official extracurricular activity will also have the opportunity to make up assignments, provided that the student provides official written notification to the instructor no less than one week prior to the missed class(es).

The spirit and intent of the policy for missed classwork is to offer fair and equitable assessment opportunities to all students, including those representing the University in extracurricular activities. Instructors should consider, for example, that in courses which offer a “Drop one” option for the lowest assignment, quiz, or exam, assigning the student a grade of zero for an excused absence for extracurricular activity is both contrary to the intent of the Faculty Senate’s policy, and an infringement on the student’s right to complete all work for the course.

This policy will not apply in the event that completing the assignment or administering the examination at an alternate time would impose an undue hardship on the instructor or the University that could reasonably have been avoided. There should be a good faith effort by both the instructor and the student to agree to a reasonable resolution. When disagreements regarding this policy arise, decisions can be appealed to the Department Chair/Unit Director, College/School Dean, and/or the Faculty Senate Academic Standards Committee.

For purposes of definition, extracurricular activities may include, but are not limited to: fine arts activities, competitive intercollegiate athletics, science and engineering competitions, liberal arts competitions, academic recruitment activities, and any other event or activity sanctioned by a College/School Dean, and/or by the Executive Vice President and Provost.

**Tutoring and Coaching**—The Academic Success Center (ASC) provides tutoring, academic success coaching and other academic assistance for all UNLV undergraduate students. For information regarding tutoring subjects, tutoring times, and other ASC programs and services, visit <http://www.unlv.edu/asc> or call [702-895-3177](tel:702-895-3177). The ASC building is located across from the Student Services Complex (SSC). Academic success coaching is located on the second floor of the SSC (ASC Coaching Spot). Drop-in tutoring is located on the second floor of the Lied Library and College of Engineering TEB second floor.

**UNLV Writing Center**—One-on-one or small group assistance with writing is available free of charge to UNLV students at the Writing Center, located in CDC-3-301. Although walk-in consultations are sometimes available, students with appointments will receive priority assistance. Appointments may be made in person or by calling 702-895-3908. The student’s Rebel ID Card, a copy of the assignment (if possible), and two copies of any writing to be reviewed are requested for the consultation. More information can be found at: <http://writingcenter.unlv.edu/>.

**Rebelmail**—By policy, faculty and staff should e-mail students’ Rebelmail accounts only. Rebelmail is UNLV’s official e-mail system for students. It is one of the primary ways students receive official university communication such as information about deadlines, major campus events, and announcements. All UNLV students receive a Rebelmail account after they have been admitted to the university. Students’ e-mail prefixes are listed on class rosters. The suffix is always [@unlv.nevada.edu](mailto:@unlv.nevada.edu). Emailing within WebCampus is acceptable.

**Final Examinations**—The University requires that final exams given at the end of a course occur at the time and on the day specified in the final exam schedule. See the schedule at: <http://www.unlv.edu/registrar/calendars>.