

**LAW AND POLITICS IN THE SOVIET UNION AND RUSSIAN FEDERATION: TAKE-
HOME TEST**

You have to answer **FIVE** questions in total, but you have to answer, at least 2 questions/tasks from Section A and, at least, 2 questions/tasks from Section B. Each question is worth 20% of the midterm test grade. This take-home test evaluates your ability to apply the theories, methods, and principles that we discussed in class. Clarity and precision are essential. Please follow the required format. Make sure that you **precede every argument or idea by its corresponding heading**. In all your answers, you must refer only to sources (topics, theories, elements, examples, readings, cases, etc.) that we discussed in class. Unless otherwise instructed, **no outside sources may be referred to or included in your answers**. You are not permitted to consult with anyone about this test. Please do not ask me questions about the test once this test is posted online. As a matter of fairness, I do not want to give answers to some students that others do not have the benefit (or detriment) of hearing. You will simply have to use your own judgment about how to handle any possible difficulties, including the interpretation of the questions and tasks. **Submission:** You need to submit this evaluation to the Algoma University Moodle platform for this course by the deadline, i.e., **October 27, 2022 by 7 pm EST**. We will not meet in class on Oct. 20 so that you can work on this test.

Format and organization of your answers (short essays)

Purpose

The purpose of your essay is to state and prove your thesis. In general, this is the answer to the question or task from the test, e.g., explain and illustrate a quote, analyze a text, etc.

Introduction

The introduction acquaints the reader with the topic. You will need to resume in your own words the quote or text you need to explain and analyze and place it into a larger context. The introduction should be short, simple, and clear. The most important aspect of your introduction is your thesis. You also need to place your thesis into some larger context.

Thesis development.

You need to divide your short essay into sections. Each section should include only one idea, major point, or argument. Generally speaking, each section should have only one paragraph. The section must be preceded by a heading, which must capture the main idea of the section. Also, each paragraph must contain a topic sentence, which must be similar to the heading. The rest of the section must provide examples, explanations, and evidence to prove the topic sentence.

Please address the opposing arguments that others could have about your own arguments.

Conclusion

The purpose of the conclusion is to bring the essay to a satisfying close. You should avoid bringing up a new point in your conclusion. You should avoid a lengthy and excessive summary. Simply, summarize your thesis and main arguments. The most successful conclusions are thoughtful and reflective. Go back to the context. After having presented your topic and proven your thesis, you want to be able to make an overarching statement based on that information. Just as the introduction sought to place the essay in the larger context about the topic, so should the conclusion insist on returning the reader to that ongoing conversation.

Citation Format

The *Chicago Manual of Style* (author-date) or the **Canadian Guide to Uniform Legal Citation (aka The McGill Guide)**.

Example of format and organization

Please have a look at Tetley's article on Mixed Jurisdictions Part 2, widely available online, for an example of the required format.

Section A

1. Analyze the crimes of treason (58.1), espionage (58.6), terrorist activities (58.8), propaganda (58.10), and participation in a criminal organization (58.11) in the Soviet Penal Code - available in the class activities section of the course site- and compare them to the same or similar crimes in Canadian or US Criminal Law.

2. Explain the following quote by Luneev (2000) and illustrate your explanation with, at least, two examples. Also, critically analyze the quote.

There was no reference to unlawfulness in the Soviet Penal code, and there couldn't be, that allowed the State to bring someone to justice for an act not enshrined in the Penal Code.

3. Explain the following article from the Soviet Penal Code and illustrate your explanation with, at least, two examples. Also, critically analyze the article and compare it with Canadian Criminal Law.

Commission of a crime through negligence. A crime shall be deemed to be committed through negligence if the person who commits it foresees the possibility of the occurrence of the socially dangerous consequences of his action or omission to act but frivolously counts on their being prevented, or if he does not foresee the possibility of the occurrence of such consequences although he should and could foresee them.

4. Explain the following article from the Soviet Penal Code and illustrate your explanation with, at least, two examples. Also, critically analyze the article and compare it with Canadian Criminal Law.

Intentional Commission of a Crime. A crime shall be deemed to be committed intentionally if the person who commits it is conscious of the socially dangerous character of his action or omission to act, foresees its socially dangerous consequences, and desires those consequences or consciously permits them to occur.

5. How did Space Law develop during the Cold War? What were the main concerns of the Soviet Union and the United States about the regulation of outer space activities? What are the main principles of Space Law developed during the Cold War?

Section B

6. Discuss Stalin's Five-Year Plans and the industrialization of the Soviet Union.

7. Read Lenin's speech at the First All-Russia Congress on Education available in the class activities section of the course site and discuss the following questions:
 - 7.a. What does Lenin mean by bourgeois democracy?
 - 7.b. What is Lenin's conception of the role of education in socialist Russia?
 - 7.c. What does Lenin think about schools in bourgeois countries?

8. Discuss Lenin's policies. What was the relation between the Soviet government and the peasants? What was Lenin's New Economic Policy?

9. Vladimir Putin has made veiled references since the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February that he might use all available means, including nuclear arms, if Russia itself is threatened. Compare the events leading to the Cuban Missile crisis of 1962 and the current events leading to Putin's threat of a nuclear war.

10. Why do you think the Soviet Union collapsed? What factors contributed to the collapse? What was the role of the United States and Pope John Paul II in the collapse of the Soviet Union?