

## Course details

### Course title

History: History: Russia from Stalin to the Collapse of the Soviet Union

### Course code

Q00018091

### Course date

Start: 26/09/24

End: 14/11/24

### Number of classes

7 sessions

### Timetable

Thu 26th Sep, 10:30 to 12:30

Thu 3rd Oct, 10:30 to 12:30

Thu 10th Oct, 10:30 to 12:30

Thu 17th Oct, 10:30 to 12:30

Thu 24th Oct, 10:30 to 12:30

Thu 7th Nov, 10:30 to 12:30

Thu 14th Nov, 10:30 to 12:30

### Branch

Caterham Branch

### Tutor

Julian Roberts

### Fee range

Free to £58.80

## How you'll learn

You'll join a small group of fellow learners for classes at the venue indicated. Some materials may be provided in our virtual learning environment.

Got it!

In venue

## Venue

Caterham Baptist Church (Caterham)

4 Beechwood Road

Caterham

CR3 6NA

## Level of study

Beginners

## Course overview

It is sometimes said that Lenin drove the Russian revolution into a cul-de-sac and Stalin then accelerated into the wall at the far end. The course will examine the economic, political and social changes undertaken by Stalin and enforced by the Great Terror. We will then consider how far this modernisation of the economy enabled the USSR to withstand the Nazi onslaught from 1941 and why the Soviet Union seemed unreformable under Stalin's successors. We will conclude by looking at Gorbachev's almost total failure to achieve the objectives he identified and why, despite that, he was one of the most laudable leaders of a troubled century in European affairs

## Course description

In 1924 Russia was emerging from a decade of war, revolution and civil war. The economy and society were in melt down. Having won the war, could the Bolsheviks win the peace? They would be obliged to do so without Lenin following his death after a series of strokes.

After a vicious power struggle he was succeeded by

Stalin, a man underestimated for much of his life. It

would fall to him to take the Revolution forward.

In doing so there would be successes and failures.

Modernising industry was a success albeit at appalling human and environmental cost. Collectivising agriculture a huge mistake that crippled Soviet food production for decades.

All changes were underpinned by a regime based on Terror. Did Stalin distort the Revolution or had the course already been set by Lenin?

The State which emerged proved incapable of reform whether under Khrushchev, Brezhnev or Gorbachev. Was it a misconceived idea made to work surprisingly well or a sound idea undermined by human failure in implementation?

The course is for anyone interested in Russian history.

No prior knowledge is necessary.

## **What financial support is available?**

We don't want anything to stand in your way when it comes to bringing Adult learning within reach so if you need anything to support you to achieve your goals then speak to one of our education experts during your enrolment journey. Most of our courses are government funded but if you don't qualify or need alternative financial help to access them then let us know.

## **What other support is available?**

All of our digital content, teaching and learning activities and assessments are designed to be accessible so if you need any additional support you can discuss this with the education experts during your enrolment journey and we will do all we can to make sure you have optimal access.

**Source URL:** <https://www.wea.org.uk/courses/humanities-science/history/26-september-history-history-russia-stalin-collapse-soviet-union>