

# MOSCOW 1937: DICTATORS & THEIR DEFENDERS

THIS COURSE OFFERS A NOVEL APPROACH TO THE STUDY OF RECURRENT PROBLEMS OF ENORMOUS CONSEQUENCE:

- 1) THE ORIGINS AND EMERGENCE OF DICTATORSHIPS THAT ENGAGE IN GRIEVOUS PRACTICES OF REPRESSION AND MASS MURDER,
- 2) IN WHAT WAYS THESE REGIMES ARE UNDERSTOOD, AND BY WHOM, AS THEY DEVELOP AND "MATURE"—PHILOSOPHICALLY, IDEOLOGICALLY, HISTORICALLY;
- 3) AND HOW SUCH REGIMES TEND OFTEN TO BE ENVELOPED IN RATIONALIZATIONS THAT FACILITATE THEIR CONTINUING EXISTENCE.

THE SOVIET UNION, PARTICULARLY DURING THE 1930S AND THE BLOOD PURGES, SERVES AS THE AXIS.

HOWEVER, A MAIN OBJECTIVE IS TO USE THIS "CASE STUDY" TO BRANCH OFF INTO DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS OF STUDENT INQUIRY.

**GSSL 059**

(FIRST YEAR SEMINAR)

**SPRING 2018**

HISTORICAL ANALYSIS, GLOBAL ISSUES

**DR DAVID PIKE**

TTH 3:30 - 4:45 PM

