

Post-Western World: Role of Russia and Central Asia

Goal: Investigate the contours of the Russia and Central Asia in the emerging post-Western/multi-polar era.

Core Competencies, ELA- Social Studies/History: Grades 9-10

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.9-10.1 Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources, attending to such features as the date and origin of the information.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.9-10.2 Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of how key events or ideas develop over the course of the text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.9-10.3 Analyze in detail a series of events described in a text; determine whether earlier events caused later ones or simply preceded them.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.9-10.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary describing political, social, or economic aspects of history/social science.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.9-10.5 Analyze how a text uses structure to emphasize key points or advance an explanation or analysis.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.9-10.6 Compare the point of view of two or more authors for how they treat the same or similar topics, including which detail they include and emphasize in their respective accounts.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.9-10.7 Integrate quantitative or technical analysis (e.g., charts, research data) with qualitative analysis in print or digital text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.9-10.8 Assess the extent to which the reasoning and evidence in a text support the author's claims.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.9-10.9 Compare and contrast treatments of the same topic in several primary and secondary sources.

Core Competencies, ELA- Social Studies/History: Grades 11-12

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.11-12.1 Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.11-12.2 Determine two or more central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to provide a complex analysis; provide an objective summary of the text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.11-12.3 Analyze a complex set of ideas or sequence of events and explain how specific individuals, ideas, or events interact and develop over the course of the text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.11-12.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze how an author uses and refines the meaning of a key term or terms over the course of a text (e.g., how Madison defines faction in Federalist No. 10).

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.11-12.5 Analyze and evaluate the effectiveness of the structure an author uses in his or her exposition or argument, including whether the structure makes points clear, convincing, and engaging.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.11-12.6 Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text in which

the rhetoric is particularly effective, analyzing how style and content contribute to the power, persuasiveness or beauty of the text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.11-12.7 Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words in order to address a question or solve a problem.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.11-12.8 Delineate and evaluate the reasoning in seminal U.S. texts, including the application of constitutional principles and use of legal reasoning (e.g., in U.S. Supreme Court majority opinions and dissents) and the premises, purposes, and arguments in works of public advocacy (e.g., *The Federalist*, presidential addresses).

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.11-12.9 Analyze seventeenth-, eighteenth-, and nineteenth-century foundational U.S. documents of historical and literary significance (including The Declaration of Independence, the Preamble to the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address) for their themes, purposes, and rhetorical features.

Course Objectives

1. Identify the major international organizations, processes and norms established by the United States and its allies as the foundation of the international order.
2. Understand the various processes, actors and institutions in Russia and Central Asia that are pushing to change the formal and informal rules of the international system.
3. Provide analytical context to new cases and news reports of Russian and Central Asian challenges to the Western international order and authority in various issue areas.

I. Worlds apart: Western vs. post-Western norms, judgments, and governance

How are post-Western ideas, norms and practices shaping our world?

- What is Global Governance?
- What are Western Values?
- Examples of Western Institutions and their roles
- Hegemony (uni-polarity) vs. Multi-polarity
- What role does Russia/Central Asia play in a multipolar world?

II. Global Rule and Rulemaking: Who put you in charge?

If there is no global governance, then where do global rules come from?

- Roles of global governors
- Forms and types of international rule sets
- How international rules are made.
- Challenges and challengers to/of international rules/rule sets
- Types of authority
- From where does one get authority?
- Who enforces the rules?
- Why do states accept some rules and reject others?

IV. Economic Dynamics and Challenges in Russia and Central Asia

How has the global financial crisis impacted the region?

- Foreign Assistance in Russia and Central Asia
- Whose aid? Whose influence?
- Role of western aid organizations vs. China and emerging donors in Russia and Central Asia

What is the financial interest in the region?

- US, Russian, and Chinese interests
- Global Trade vs. Regional Trade Organizations
- Energy and Security

How are local norms shaping global finance?

- Corruption and Rent-Seeking: Public Resources, Private Gains

V. Central Asia's Role in Global Security

- Security goals in the region: US, Russia, and China
- Terrorism and extremism
- Regional security goals

VI. War On Terror or War on Human Rights? External Actors and Central Asian Political Stability

- Human Rights Theory & Practice in Russia and Central Asia
- Local rules vs. Western Norms
- NGOs as security threat
- People flows