

# INTL-I 300 / REEI-R 300 / REEI-R 500

## Topics in International Studies: Russian Foreign Relations & Eastern Europe

Michael DeGroot TR 4:45–6:00 p.m.

This course examines Russian foreign relations with Eastern Europe since the Second World War. Course objectives include examining and discussing:

- ✓ motivations, objectives, and strategies of Russian policymakers, and how they try to reconcile interests and ideals
- ✓ how factors such as ideology, geopolitics, economics, memory, domestic politics shape policymaking
- ✓ the interaction between human agency and structural forces, which helps us understand how individuals develop strategy and make policy choices within material and cultural constraints
- ✓ how Russian relations with other parts of the world, particularly in the West, influenced Moscow's behavior the region during the Cold War and after

Lectures, discussions, and readings will also place Russian-Eastern European relations in a global perspective, locating their place in the Cold War and post-Cold War world orders.

