RETHINKING “SOVIET HISTORY”: ATTEMPTS, COMPROMISES, IMPLICATIONS

Robertson Hall, 016 (bowl)

PARTICIPANTS
Elissa Bemporad
Ivanna Cherchovych
Michael David-Fox
Heather De Haan
Peter Holquist
Yanni Kotsonis
Malogosia Mazurek
Eldor Mehilli
Ben Nathans
Anne O’Donnell
Serguei Oushakine
Yana Prymachenko
Yana Skorobogatova
Katherine Zubovich

ORGANIZERS
Sophia Dyak
Director of the Center for Urban History, Lviv, Ukraine

Mayhill Fowler
Stetson University

Ekaterina Pravilova
Princeton University

Iuliia Skubytska
Princeton University

Does “Soviet history” exist? Is it a temporal category, a geographical area, or a political notion? Russia’s full-scale invasion of Ukraine has prompted historians to reconsider the directions of their research and rewrite the curricula of their courses. Historians now face a range of new challenges – ideological, ethical, and logistical. One of the most difficult questions concerns the future of “Soviet studies.” Scholars used to think about the Soviet Union as a single state encompassing a multitude of entities – regions and nationalities, former kingdoms turned colonies and republics, and independent countries that were annexed or conquered. Given the diversity of these historical trajectories and experiences, the concept of “Soviet history” may appear now as a misnomer. This seminar invites scholars to discuss the future of “Soviet studies” and to share thoughts and ideas about research and teaching.

NOVEMBER 3
FRIDAY
1:30 - 6 PM ET