

**Paper #2**

Your **second** paper will be a **research proposal** (3-5 pages) for your final paper (see Paper #3 prompt). This will be due during Session 16. In this research proposal you will include several elements:

- A one-paragraph statement of your topic, indicating what you will be researching, the years your topic will cover, and perhaps who will be some of the central figures.
- A second paragraph indicating the key questions you hope to be able to answer in your paper. What makes this topic inherently interesting? What can it tell us about how Russia works? Can you see parallels to key Soviet policies, events, and developments?
- Your third paragraph should consider your proposed argument. What do you think will make this topic interesting and provocative? Try to make a gainsayable hypothesis, i.e., one that could be disproved if other scholars found confounding evidence. (We will discuss this in class.)
- The next section of the paper will discuss the types of sources you will use for your paper and how you will find them. (I understand that almost all of you will have to use English language materials. That is fine.)
- The final section will contain a bibliography of some of your primary and secondary sources (we will discuss this in class) with annotations indicating what the main ideas they contain.

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