

HIST 5568: Stalinism
BOOK ANALYSIS NO. 2
Due Date: April 8, 2024

Write a 4-page (single-spaced) review of Sheila Fitzpatrick's *Everyday Stalinism: Ordinary life in Extraordinary Times: Soviet Russia in the 1930s*. As you can imagine, the challenge here is to synthesize a vast amount of information into such a short space. As a guide, consider the following organization of the four pages:

- Introductory paragraph or two: Introduce the book and the subject matter of the book with some broader historical background material (e.g., provide some details of the time period covered by the book, the focus of the book, her methodological approach and innovation(s), the challenges of such an approach, etc.).
- About 1 page: Summarize the first part of the book (Chapters 1, 2, 3, and 4) giving a sense of what each chapter is about and the overall theme of the entire set of chapters.
- About 1 page: Summarize the second part of the book (Chapters 5, 6 plus either 7 or 8). Remember to not just focus on the theme or topic but also the argument/thesis she is making. The latter might be more subtly expressed but it's there.
- About 1 page: I would like you to zone in on either Chapter 7 or 8 and provide some sense of the content and argument(s) advanced in this chapter.
- Conclusion: Explain in a paragraph Fitzpatrick's contribution to the understanding of "Stalinism." Make sure to read both the "Introduction" and "Conclusion" carefully. Conclude with some thoughts on whether you think this book can (or cannot) be useful for twentieth century historians studying *other* non-Soviet historical contexts.

As part of the assignment, there are two requirements:

1. I want you to use quotes from the Fitzpatrick book as appropriate. These should be relevant to the point you are making. Do not use quotes longer than a couple of lines (no block quotes!). If you're thinking of quoting something that is several lines long, it's better not to quote, and instead paraphrase it in your own words.
2. I want you to cite three other secondary sources on Soviet everyday life in the 1930s. These secondary sources could be journal articles or books written by a historian. If you'd like to use journal articles, you can find them through the [JSTOR database](#) at the Fordham Library. In JSTOR, you can search for "Soviet social history," for example. **Make sure that the book or article you cite was published after 1970.** The idea is to mention other sources either as a point of comparison with Fitzpatrick or to deepen our knowledge of an aspect of the topic that Fitzpatrick describes.

When you refer to something in the text or use a quote, please note the page number from *Everyday Stalinism*. For example, you could say: “Fitzpatrick argues that poor bananas were the reason factory workers favored oranges.” (45).

The paper should be approximately four pages long, **single-spaced**. All papers should be on 8” X 11” paper, in 12 pt font in Times New Roman, with 1” X 1” margins.

The paper is due in class on Monday, April 8.