Historical Juxtapositions:
America and Russia in the 19th and 20th Centuries

Selected Readings and Related Web Sites

Slavery in the United States

—There are many sources for slave narratives, but this volume contains 10 key texts.

—Includes “Suggestions for Further Reading,” organized by theme.


Related Web Sites

Library of Congress, The Frederick Douglass Papers Collection
http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/doughml/doughome.html


Library of Congress, Slaves and the Courts, 1740-1860
http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/sthtml/sthome.html

Library of Congress, Voices from the Days of Slavery: Former Slaves Tell Their Stories
http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/vfshtml/vfshome.html

OurDocuments.gov, “100 Milestone Documents of American History”
University of Michigan, Center for Russian and East European Studies: Syllabus for “American Slavery and Russian Serfdom in Comparative Perspective” by Prof. Craig Patton, Alabama A&M, http://www.umich.edu/~iinet/crees/outreach/pattonsyllabus.htm

**Description:** This course is an in-depth examination of American slavery and Russian serfdom from their inception (c. 1500) to their eventual abolition in the mid-1800’s, as well as to their legacy in both countries. The course is explicitly comparative. It systematically tries to discover the similarities and differences between these two systems of unfree labor and, by implication, how each was similar to or different from other patterns of coerced labor in human history. The course is designed for junior/senior history majors.

**SERFDOM IN RUSSIA**


**Russian Serf Biographies**

There are relatively few biographies of Russian serfs compared to the writings and narratives by American slaves. Fewer still have been translated into English, including the following:


—This memoir can be compared with Frederick Douglass’s autobiography. See the volume’s foreword by Peter Kolchin for points of comparison between the two.
**AMERICAN ROBBER BARONS**


**Related Web Sites**

DeLong, J. Bradford, professor of economics at UC Berkeley, “Robber Barons”  
http://econ161.berkeley.edu/Econ_Articles/carnegie/delong_moscow_paper2.html


http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/carnegie/

http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/rockefellers/index.html

**RUSSIAN OLIGARCHS**


—Photos and short bios of eight Russians from the *Forbes* 2001 list of energy billionaires.


—Comparison of Mikhail Khodorkovsky and John D. Rockefeller.


**Related Web Sites**


http://www.pbs.org/frontlineworld/stories/moscow/billionaires.html

—Highlights eight Russian billionaires