COURSE DESCRIPTION: The Seminar will grapple with the way in which Soviet citizens tried to make sense of what went on around them during the 1930s, a decade in which several million peasants died after their farms were collectivized, millions of innocent people were sent to forced labor in the Gulag prison camps, and another million or so were executed for political crimes they did not actually commit. We will read documents, diaries, memoirs, and fiction written during the 1930s but not published until much later.

LEARNING OBJECTIVE: Writing analytical essays. Evaluating historical evidence (in this seminar, mostly diaries and memoirs).

AREA OF CONCENTRATION: European

TEACHING METHOD: Seminar

EVALUATION METHOD: Papers - if they improve during the seminar, the best grade on a paper will be the grade for the seminar.

GRADING BASIS: ANC

TENTATIVE READING LIST:
Package of essays, available at Quarter Digital Printing.
Miron Dolot, Execution by Hunger. The Hidden Holocaust (1985)
Sheila Fitzpatrick and Yuri Slezkine, eds., In the Shadow of Revolution: Life Stories of Russian Women from 1917 to the Second World War (2000)
Nina Lugovskaya, Diary of a Soviet Schoolgirl: 1932-1937 (1995) (this will be available on Canvas)
And a few short readings that will be available on Canvas.