

Dr. Stephen Berk

Dr. Stephen M. Berk is a professor of history at Union College and holder of the Henry and Sally Schaffer Chair of Holocaust and Jewish Studies. He is also the recipient of the Florence B. Sherwood Chair in History and Culture and a consultant to the Wiesenthal Holocaust Center.

A gifted presenter, Dr. Berk has lectured on the Holocaust at distinguished higher education institutions such as Princeton, Vanderbilt, The University of Texas at Austin, and Williams College. In addition, he has lectured extensively in the former Soviet Union, Israel, Egypt, and Poland.

Professor Berk is the author of *Year of Crisis, Year of Hope: Russian Jewry and the Pogroms of 1881-1882* and numerous articles on Russian history, Russian-Jewish history, anti-Semitism, and American policy in the Middle East.

A native of New York City, Dr. Berk received his B.A. in history from the University of Pennsylvania, his Master's degree from the University of Chicago, and his Ph.D. from Columbia University.



Dr. Stephen Berk Lecture Series

2016 Dates

Sept. 19, Sept. 26, Oct. 6, Oct. 13, Oct. 20, and Oct. 27

Cost

Complete Series: \$50
(may be purchased in advance or at the first two lectures)

Single Lecture: \$10



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Congregation Agudat Achim

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**Congregation Agudat Achim
presents:**

From Lenin to Putin: The Rise and Fall of the Soviet Union and the Resurgence of Russia

Professor Stephen Berk Lecture Series



Sept. 19, Sept. 26, Oct. 6, Oct. 13, Oct. 20, and Oct. 27

Tel: 518-393-9211

From Lenin to Putin: The Rise and Fall of the Soviet Union and the Resurgence of Russia

All Lectures begin at 7:30 p.m.

I. The Twilight of Imperial Russia and the Revolutions of 1917: The Romanov Dynasty failed to deal with the serious problems confronting Russia. The result was two revolutions and the end of the dynasty.

II. Lenin in Power: By the use of terror, military force and effective leadership, the Bolshevik Party defeated all of its enemies inside and outside the country and began construction of a new society.

III. The Stalin Revolution: In the aftermath of Lenin's untimely death, his subordinates struggled to be his successor. Stalin emerged as the victor and transformed the Soviet Union.

IV. The Great Patriotic War: Stalin made one of the greatest miscalculations in modern history. Hitler's armies reached the gates of Leningrad and Moscow, and only the tenacious resistance of the Soviet peoples made possible the saving of the country and the defeat of the Nazis.

V. Khrushchev and De-Stalinization: In February 1956 Nikita Khrushchev dropped a bombshell on the Soviet Union and put a nail in the coffin of communism.

VI. The End of Empire and the Rise of Russia: The combination of important personalities and major internal problems brought an end to the Soviet Union. Gorbachev, Yeltsin and Putin changed the course of history not only in their own country, but in the world.

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To reserve tickets, complete this form, enclose a check (payable to *Congregation Agudat Achim*), and mail to: **Jack Mintzer, 2117 Union Street, Schenectady, NY 12309**, by **September 14**.
Remaining and reserved tickets will be available at the door.

☐ **Complete series \$50**

(Complete Series may only be purchased in advance or at the first two lectures.)

Single Lecture: \$10 (check date)

<input type="checkbox"/> Sept. 19	<input type="checkbox"/> Sept. 26	<input type="checkbox"/> Oct. 6
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