

Place your name on the back of this sheet of paper and nowhere else. Staple your answers on the front of this sheet of paper. Failure to follow these directions will cost you 1 point. Your assignment will be typed, except graphs can be drawn by hand and mathematical equations can be done by hand. Failure to type it will cost you 10 points. If you use double-sided printing or print on the back of scrap paper, I will give you one additional point.

- 1) (15 points) Both the Reagan Administration and the Taliban claim they brought down the Soviet Union. I personally disagree; however, they have some valid arguments. Explain how they contributed to the fall of the USSR.
- 2) (25 points) There is a major corruption problem in Russia. Explain why that is bad. If you were Medvedev and Putin, what would you do about it? How would those actions reduce the problem?
- 3) (20 points) What do you consider to be the biggest cause of the fall of the USSR. Explain why you feel that caused it to fall.
- 4) (15 points) If *glasnost* and *perestroika* had occurred in the 1950s, do you think that the USSR could have been saved? Explain your logic.
- 5) (25 points) Do you think that Marx would have approved of Lenin's New Economic Policy (NEP)? Explain what NEP was and why you feel he would have or would not have approved.