

Björklunden Seminars

"Vacation with a purpose"

JULY 14-19, 2024 AT BJÖRKLUNDEN



Russia and Ukraine: From Partners to Enemies

Course Description

The Romanov Dynasty dominated Russia for over 300 hundred years, and in 1917 the Czarist autocracy was overthrown, and the Soviet Union was born. Of the 15 Soviet Republics, Russia represented the largest republic, while Ukraine was the second largest.

The relationship between Russia and Ukraine was very poor, and made worse by the Stalinist Holodomor, as well as World War II. For most of the 20th Century Russia remained fully in control of Ukraine as well as all other Soviet Republics, but in 1989 the winds of change began to sweep across Eastern Europe, and two years later the Soviet Union collapsed. With the rise of Vladimir Putin to power, the relationship between Ukraine and Russia disintegrated further, and in February 2022 Russia invaded Ukraine.

The seminar will explore the historic relationship between Russia and Ukraine, the future of the two countries engaged in conflict, and why the area is of such vital interest to the EU, NATO, and the United States.

[Register Here>>](#)

Instructor



Tim Crain

Crain received a Ph.D. in modern Europe, modern British and Irish, and modern Jewish history at Arizona State University, after earning his B.A. and M.A. from Marquette University.

Crain taught for 15 years at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Marquette University. He left UW-Madison after accepting a position at Seton Hill University where he was a professor and director of the National Catholic Center for Holocaust Education.

Crain is a recipient of numerous teaching and professional awards, and in 2015, he received Marquette University's Alumni Award for Leadership Excellence. A noted public speaker, Crain delivers over 100 lectures nationally each year.

He has instructed over 25 seminars at Björklunden, and Tim and his family always look forward to their time there each year.