Slavic Courses: Winter 2018

Slavic 101-2 - Elementary Russian - Natalia Malinina/Nadia Vinogradova (MTWF 9-9:50 or 2-2:50)
Welcome to continuing Elementary Russian! This is the second part in a three-quarter sequence designed to introduce students to the Russian language and contemporary Russian culture. Students will continue to develop the fundamentals of speaking, listening, writing, and reading through a variety of communicative and content-based activities. Emphasis will be placed on practical communication so that students should be able to function at a basic level in authentic situations by the end of the year.

Slavic 102-2 - Intermediate Russian - Natalia Malinina (MTWF 12-12:50)
Добро пожаловать! Welcome back to Intermediate Russian! This is the second part in a three-quarter sequence focusing on the Russian language and contemporary Russian culture. Students continue to develop the skills of speaking, listening, writing, and reading through a variety of communicative and content-based activities. Emphasis will be placed on practical communication so that students should be able to function in many authentic situations by the end of the year.

Slavic 108-2 - Elementary Polish - Kinga Kosmala (MTWF 10-10:50)
Slavic 108-2 is the second part in a three-quarter sequence designed to introduce students to Polish language and culture. We will continue to learn the basic grammar of Polish, building on the material acquired in first quarter. Our focus will be on speaking, reading, writing, and listening.

Slavic 208-2 - Intermediate Polish - Kinga Kosmala (MTWF 1-1:50)
In Winter Quarter of Second Year Polish, the students expand their speaking, reading and writing skills by building on grammar and vocabulary. As a complement to the linguistic side of the course, the students will gain a greater familiarity with Polish history and culture through varied means including readings of literary works, articles from contemporary Polish newspapers and movies.

Slavic 210-1 - Introduction to Russian Literature - Ilya Kutik (MW 2-3:20)
Before Tolstoy and Dostoevsky came three canonical nineteenth-century Russian writers: Pushkin, Gogol, and Lermontov. In this early era, Russia was heavily in dialogue with Western European culture, which introduced Russia to a new genre of writing—the novel. Steeped in poetry, the gothic, and the Romantic, these writers' groundbreaking works resounded through the generations that followed. We explore the history, culture, and society that produced these long-studied classics of Russian literature.

Slavic 211-1 - 20th Century Russian Literature - Nina Gourianova (TTh 11-12:20)
(Co-listed with CLS 202) This course focuses on interconnections between new ideas in literature, culture and politics in the early 20th century. Texts include great Modernist novels Peterburg (1913) by Andrei Bely, Master and Margarita (1940) by Mikhail Bulgakov, and Evgeny Zamiatin's We (1921); poetry by Aleksandr Blok, Vladimir Mayakovsky, and Osip Mandelstam. These major works are discussed in the broad Russian and European cultural and historical context.
Slavic 255 - Slavic Civilizations: The Balkans - Elisabeth Elliott (TTh 12:30-1:50)
(Co-listed with LING 222) Students will examine and analyze political and identity issues in terms of the languages and dialects of the Balkans (particularly Albanian, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Croatian, Macedonian, Romani, and Serbian). Topics include: linguistic nationalism, language laws, rights of minority languages, language discrimination, language and religion, alphabet issues, language and dialect as ethnic identity, standard language, and others. We explore key issues that have plagued the Balkans and continue to shape its future. Area IV, Historical Studies, in SLAVIC 255 and Area V, Ethics and Values, in LING 222.

Slavic 302-2 - Russian Language and Culture - Natalia Malinina (MWF 11-11:50)
While focusing on conversation, this year-long course promotes the development of all language skills--speaking, reading, writing, and listening--through a variety of communicative and content-based activities. The goal is to help students to master all of the major structures of Russian and to begin to function in a wide range of settings over a wide range of topics. Beyond assigned topics and themes, students will be encouraged to pursue and develop their own interests in Russian contemporary culture.

Slavic 314 - Chekhov - Susan McReynolds (MWF 11-11:50)
Anton Chekhov was born into a family of former serfs, worked his way through medical school while supporting his parents and siblings, and became one of the most admired story-tellers in the modern world. He represents a profound departure from his Russian context and pioneered modernist literary form, yet his work is also rooted in the culture of late imperial Russia. This course introduces elements of Chekhov's biography and his Russian context, and follows the trajectory of his development, from the early short stories to mature prose. No previous background in Russian literature is required.

Slavic 358-1 - Polish for Advanced and Native Speakers - Kinga Kosmala (MW 3:30-4:50)
The goal of this course is to help students acquire and improve their reading and writing skills in Polish. It is taught entirely in Polish. All discussions and readings will also be in Polish; students will learn how to discuss literature, culture and politics in Polish. Topics in grammar and stylistics will also be covered.

Slavic 369 - 200 Years of Russian Drama - Dassia Posner (MW 2-3:20)
(Co-listed with Theatre 366-0-22) Russia’s early 20th century experienced an explosion of activity in the arts. In theatre, the director emerged out of an increased interest in artistically unified theatrical works; avant-garde easel painters began designing for the stage; and a vibrant underground cabaret culture flourished. This course will examine how a rapidly growing pluralism of artistic perspectives and a series of wars, most notably the 1917 October Revolution, coincided with and contributed to one of the most prolific and innovative theatrical periods in history. We will also touch on visual art, opera, and ballet.

Slavic 390 - Lit/Politics in Cent. & Eastern Europe - Germans and Slavs - Martina Kerlova (TTh 3:30-4:50)
(Co-listed with German 322-0-20) Despite the intertwined historical and biological connections of Slavs and Germans, intellectuals and then politicians in the 19th and 20th century developed cultural and political ideologies that viewed the two groups as distinct and in competition for political and cultural mastery of the region. Some viewed them as peoples with fundamentally different values and approaches to life, destined to conflict. Yet, their proximity supported an unusual, culturally productive environment. We will read various works of literature translated from German and Slavic languages.

Slavic 396-0 - Alternatives: Modeling Choice - Saul Morson and Morty Schapiro (TTh 12:30-1:50)
(Co-listed with HUM 260) This course offers a cross-disciplinary approach to the concept of alternatives and choices. At any given moment, how many alternatives are possible? Is there really such a thing as chance or choice? On what basis do we choose? How does our understanding of the past affect the future? Can we predict the future? Professor Gary Saul Morson, a specialist in literature, and Professor Morton Schapiro, a labor economist specializing in the economics of higher education, will themselves offer alternative approaches to these questions based on the presuppositions of their disciplines.

Slavic 436 - 19th Century Russian Literature - Susan McReynolds (W 3-5:50)
Slavic 438 - 20th Century Russian Literature - Nina Gourianova (T 2-4:50)