

Slavic Courses: Winter 2019



Slavic 101-2 - Elementary Russian – Anthony Topoleski/Natalia Malinina (MTWF 9-9:50am or 2-2:50pm)
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 12-12:50pm)
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 10-10:50am)
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 1-1:50pm)
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 2-3:20pm)
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 – Christopher Pike (TTh 11-12:20pm)
(Co-listed with CLS 202) This course focuses on the interconnections between Soviet ideology and ecological philosophy in the early to mid-20th century. Texts include the dystopian Modernist novel *We* (1921) by Evgeny Zamiatin, the classic Soviet novel *Russian Forest* (1953) by Leonid Leonov, and Boris Pasternak's Nobel Prize-winning novel *Doctor Zhivago* (1957). These works will be discussed in broad Russian and European cultural and historical contexts, as well as ecocritically, in terms of their relevance to contemporary thinking on the environment and potential crises of the 21st century.

Slavic 255 - Slavic Civilizations: The Balkans – Elisabeth Elliott (TTh 12:30-1:50pm)

(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 303-2 - Modern Russian Readings and Language – Natalia Malinina (MWF 11-11:50am)

Slavic 303-2 is the second part in a three-quarter sequence designed to improve students' speaking and writing ability from the word and sentence to the paragraph-length discourse. We will continue to move from conversing about concrete subjects to discussing more abstract ones (expressing opinions, arguing a point, etc.) Special attention is given to strengthening grammar, comprehension and communication skills, and expanding knowledge of Russian culture.

Slavic 390 - Introduction to Polish Literature – Kinga Kosmala (T 3-5:50pm)

This NEW COURSE investigates the richness and complexity of historical and cultural aspects, myths, and multi-religious traditions that have shaped Polish literature in the modern period (1800-2010) — especially the works of Polish-Jewish writers, such as Bruno Schulz, Zuzanna Ginczanka (Sara Ginzburg), and Julian Tuwim. Readings are offered both in English translation and original Polish. Discussion in class is in English, with optional Polish discussion section.

Slavic 393 - Prague: City of Cultures, City of Conflict – Martina Kerlova (MW 3:30-4:45pm)

(Co-listed with German 346) This course examines one of the most beautiful and culturally vibrant cities in Europe. Its magnificent streets and buildings reveal a past full of multiethnic coexistence and interethnic conflict. We explore Prague over the past two centuries, from a multicultural, democratic city—to a homogeneous, communist one—to its open and capitalist incarnation. We read a range of literary and historical sources, including the story of the Golem, and writings by Milan Kundera, Václav Havel, and Franz Kafka. We will study architecture and see films set in Prague. *Area IV, Historical Studies, and Area VI, Literature and Fine Arts.*

Slavic 396 - Economics and the Humanities: Understanding Choice in the Past, Present & Future –

Gary Saul Morson and Morton Schapiro (TTh 12:30-1:50pm)

(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 respective disciplines. If you enjoyed reading *The Signal and the Noise*, and want to dig into topics and questions like uncertainty, prediction, modelling, and judgment, this class is the perfect complement.

Slavic 438 - Studies in Russian Prose 20th Century – Nina Gourianova (W 2-4:50pm)

This advanced graduate seminar will explore Soviet and Russian Prose from mid-20th to 21 century, with emphasis on Postmodernist works in the context of social and political issues of the era. Readings are in Russian (or in both Russian and English translation where available) and include major works and short stories by Solzhenitsyn, Shalamov, Andrei Siniavsky, Mamleev, Pelevin, Sorokin, Shargunov, and others. Undergraduates are required to get instructor's permission before registering.

See CAESAR for times and locations. Visit <http://www.slavic.northwestern.edu> and like us on Facebook! 
NU Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures 847-491-5636. Interested in a major or minor? See <https://www.slavic.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/major-program.html> Questions? Contact our Director of Undergraduate Studies: Martina Kerlova, at m-kerlova@northwestern.edu