Slavic Languages and Literatures Fall 2018



Slavic 101-1-20 and 21 - Elementary Russian - Jae Kyu Lee/Natalia Malinina - MTWF 9-9:50 am or 2-2:50 pm Elementary Russian 101-1 is the first in a three-quarter sequence designed to introduce students to the Russian language and contemporary Russian culture. In this course, students will continue to develop the fundamentals of speaking, listening, writing, and reading. Emphasis will be placed on practical communication so that students can function at a basic level in several authentic situations by the end of the year.

Slavic 102-1 - Intermediate Russian - Natalia Malinina - MTWF 12-12:50

Intermediate Russian 102-1 is the first in a three-quarter sequence designed to continue exploring the Russian language and contemporary Russian culture. In this course, students will develop the skills of speaking, listening, writing, and reading through a variety of activities. They will be able to function in many authentic situations at an intermediate level by the end of the year.

Slavic 105-6 - First-Year Seminar - Elisabeth Elliott - MW 9:30-10:50

In this course we will explore some of the sociolinguistic issues in Slavic speaking countries and areas (the Russian Federation, the former Soviet Union, the former Czechoslovakia, etc.) and in Central Europe (specifically, Turkish in Germany). We will look at contemporary issues in Russia and the Ukraine, especially the annexation of the Crimea, anti-gay laws in Russia, and censorship of Pussy Riot. We will explore language policies, minority language rights, language vs. dialect, language planning, language and identity, and language and nationalism.

Slavic 108-1 – Elementary Polish - Kinga Kosmala - MTWF 10-10:50

This course is the first in a three-quarter sequence designed to introduce students to Polish language and culture. We learn the basic Polish grammar and vocabulary, focusing on speaking, reading, writing, and listening.

Slavic 208-1 - Intermediate Polish: Language and Culture - Kinga Kosmala - MTWF 1-1:50

The primary goal of Intermediate Polish is to expand the student's speaking, reading and writing skills by building on grammar and vocabulary learned during the first year of study. As a complement to the linguistic side of the course, the student 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 210-2 - Introduction to Russian Literature - Gary Saul Morson - TTh 12:30-1:50

In this course, we will examine two of the greatest works of world literature, *The Brothers Karamazov* by Dostoevsky, and *Anna Karenina* by Tolstoy, in depth. These two novels raise profound questions and offer challenging answers to the most important issues of life: What gives life meaning, how to understand evil, the nature and kinds of love, the significance of death, faith and despair, how to make ourselves and the world around us better, and the way human minds work. We will see why Tolstoy and Dostoevsky are often considered the greatest psychologists who ever lived—and why Russian literature conveys a sense of urgency perhaps unmatched anywhere else in human culture. Students will also learn skills for understanding novels that will make it easier and more rewarding to read great fiction generally.

Slavic 303-1 - Modern Russian Readings and Language - Natalia Malinina - MWF 11-11:50

This course is the first part of a three-quarter sequence focusing on communication, cultural understanding, connections of Russian language and culture with other disciplines (such as history and sociology), and comparisons of Russian and American culture and language. It is a combined third- and fourth-year all skills language and culture class. This course includes topics in grammar, a focus on developing discussion and conversational skills and writing, and readings from a range of contemporary Russian writers. It is taught in Russian and is intended for students who have completed the SLAVIC 302 series and/or the SLAVIC 102 series.

Slavic 341-0 - Structure of Modern Russian - Elisabeth Elliott - MW 1-2:20

In this course we will explore much of the most challenging parts of the grammatical structure of the Contemporary Standard Russian language from a synchronic point of view (that is, not historical). Topics will include: tense, aspect, phonology (sound system), and possibly case, morphology (prefixes, roots, suffixes). The course is designed to fill the needs and gaps in knowledge of Russian language students, teachers, TAs and native speakers of the Russian language. No prior knowledge of linguistics is needed.

Slavic 367-1 - Russian Film - Ilya Kutik - T 2-4:50

(Co-listed with RTVF 351-0-20) The goal of this course is to provide students with a firm understanding of the major contributions of Russian film art to world cinema, especially what is often termed Russian, or dialectical, montage, introduced in the early 20th century by Lev Kuleshov and developed by Sergei Eisenstein. Students will gain knowledge in classic Russian cinematography, as well as in the theatrical "method" of Stanislavsky and "biomechanics" of Meyerhold that were influential in shaping Russian film theory and history. We will watch major films by Protazanov, Eisenstein, Pudovkin, and Vertov -- and texts – and discuss them in class.

Slavic 390-0 - Literature and Politics in Russia (from Stalin to Putin) - Ian Kelly - W 4-6:50pm

(Co-listed with Intl. Studies 390) We examine the relationship of the Russian writer to the State. While the Tsars sought to place limits on Tolstoy, Pushkin, and others, they had a privileged place in society. But Stalin's regime expected the writer not just to enlighten the masses, but to mobilize them to accomplish the goals of the State. Repressive measures continued until the 1980s, when Gorbachev allowed more free debate ("glasnost"). Under Putin, repression returns, rewarding those who support the State, and intimidating or silencing those who don't.

Slavic 393 - Prague: City of Cultures, City of Conflict - Martina Kerlova - TTh 3:30-4:50

(Co-listed with German 346) This course examines Prague, one of the most beautiful and culturally vibrant cities in Europe. Its magnificent streets and buildings both conceal and reveal a past full of multiethnic coexistence and interethnic conflict. We explore the development over the past two centuries from a multicultural, democratic city to a homogeneous, communist one, and ultimately to its present open and capitalist incarnation. We will read a range of literary and historical sources, including the story of the Golem and writings by Milan Kundera, Václav Havel, and Franz Kafka, and will study Prague's architecture and watch several films set on its streets.

Slavic 411-0 - Proseminar - Gary Saul Morson - W 3-5:50pm

This course will consider the Russian debates of the early 1860s, about nihilism, materialism, utilitarianism, irrationality, love, God, history, and other "accursed questions." We will read Turgenev' greatest novel, *Fathers and Children*, and Russia's most widely read work, Chernyshevsky's *What Is to Be Done?* Dostoevsky responded with *Notes from the Underground* and *Crime and Punishment*. We will trace these works and related articles.

Slavic 434-0 - Studies in 18th Century Russian Literature - Ilya Kutik - M 3-5:550

This course offers a survey of Russian 18th-century culture in its major literary genres and generic trends. Students will be introduced to European classicism in literature as a bigger screen to project and compare with the Russian one, noting major theoretical and practical similarities and differences. We focus on works by Lomonosov, Trediakovsky, Sumarokov, Derzhavin, Bogdanovich, Knyazhnin, Fonvizin, and Karamzin, in comparison with Dryden and Pope (England), Boileau, Racine and Corneille (France).