Russian

Raymond H. Miller, Department Chair
Tammis L. Lareau, Department Coordinator

Professor: Jane E. Knox-Voina
Associate Professor: Raymond H. Miller

Requirements for the Major in Russian Language and Literature
The Russian major consists of ten courses (eleven for honors). These include Russian 101, 102 and 203, 204; four courses in Russian higher than Russian 204; and two approved courses in either Russian literature in translation or Slavic civilization, or approved related courses in government, history, or economics (e.g., History 218. The History of Russia, 1825–1936).

Interdisciplinary Major
The department participates in an interdisciplinary major in Eurasian and East European studies. See pages 210–212.
Study Abroad
Students are encouraged to spend at least one semester in Russia. There are several approved summer and one-semester Russian-language programs in Moscow, St. Petersburg, Yaroslavl, Voronezh, and Irkutsk that are open to all students who have taken the equivalent of two or three years of Russian. Programs should be discussed with the Russian department. Students returning from study abroad will be expected to take two courses in the department unless exceptions are granted by the chair. Two of the four semester credits from a one-semester study abroad program may be counted toward both the Eurasian and East European major and the Russian major; four credits may be counted toward a Russian major from a year-long program.

Advanced Independent Study
This is an option intended for students who wish to work on honors projects or who have taken advantage of all the available regular course offerings and wish to work more closely on a particular topic already studied. Independent study is not an alternative to regular course work. Application should be made to a member of the department prior to the semester in which the project is to be undertaken and must involve a specific proposal in an area in which the student can already demonstrate basic knowledge. Two semesters of advanced independent studies are required for honors in Russian. Petition for an honors project must be made in the spring of the junior year.

Requirements for the Minor in Russian
The minor consists of seven courses (including the first two years of Russian).

Courses Taught in English Translation
The department offers courses in English that focus on Russian history, literature, and culture. These may be taken by non-majors and include a series of 200-level courses: Russian 220–251.

First-Year Seminars
22c. “It Happens Rarely, Maybe, but It Does Happen” – Fantasy and Satire in East Central Europe. Fall 2010. RAYMOND MILLER.

Courses in Russian for Majors and Minors
101c. Elementary Russian I. Every fall. Fall 2009. JANE KNOX-VOINA.
Emphasis on the acquisition of language skills through imitation and repetition of basic language patterns; multimedia material (seeing and making short film clips); the development of facility in speaking through interactive dialogs and understanding simple Russian. Conversation hour with native speaker.

102c. Elementary Russian II. Spring 2010. JANE KNOX-VOINA.
Continuation of Russian 101. Emphasis on the acquisition of language skills through imitation and repetition of basic language patterns; multimedia material (seeing and making short film clips); the development of facility in speaking through interactive dialogs and understanding simple Russian. Conversation hour with native speaker.
Prerequisite: Russian 101 or permission of the instructor.
Courses of Instruction

A continuation of Russian 101, 102. Emphasis on maintaining and improving the student’s facility in speaking and understanding normal conversational Russian. Writing and reading skills are also stressed. Conversation hour with native speaker.
Prerequisite: Russian 102 or permission of the instructor.

A continuation of Russian 203. Emphasis on maintaining and improving the student’s facility in speaking and understanding normal conversational Russian. Writing and reading skills are also stressed. Conversation hour with native speaker.
Prerequisite: Russian 203 or permission of the instructor.

Upon demand, this course may be conducted as a small seminar for several students in areas not covered in the above courses (e.g., the Russian media or intensive language study).
Prerequisite: Russian 305 or permission of the instructor.

Intended to develop the ability to read Russian at a sophisticated level by combining selected language and literature readings, grammar review, and study of Russian word formation. Discussion and reports in Russian. Conversation hour with native speaker.
Prerequisite: Russian 204 or permission of the instructor.

A study of Russian folk culture: folk tales, fairy tales, legends, and traditional oral verse, as well as the development of folk motives in the work of modern writers. Special emphasis on Indo-European and Common Slavic background. Reading and discussion in Russian. Short term papers.
Prerequisite: Russian 305 or permission of the instructor.

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An introduction to twentieth-century Russian literature from Symbolism to Postmodernism. Reading of poetry by Blok, Akhmatova, Mayakovskiy, Evtushenko, and Okudzhava, along with short prose by Zamiatin, Babel, Zoshchenko, Kharms, Shalamov, Aksenov, Shukshin, Petrushevskaya, Tolstaya, Ulitskaya, Sadur, and Pelevin. Close readings of the assigned works are viewed alongside other artistic texts and cultural phenomena, including the hard song, film, conceptual and sots-art, and rock- and pop-music.
Prerequisite: Russian 305 or permission of the instructor.

Examines various nineteenth- and twentieth-century Russian poets, including Pushkin, Lermontov, Blok, and Mayakovskiy. Earlier history of Russian verse is also discussed. Includes study of Russian poetics and the cultural-historical context of each poet’s work. Reading and discussion are in Russian. Short term papers.
Prerequisite: Russian 305 or permission of the instructor.
**401c–404c. Advanced Independent Study and Honors in Russian.** The Department.

Individual research in Russian studies. Major sources should be read in Russian. A two-semester project is necessary for honors in Russian.

Prerequisite: One course in Russian higher than 305 and permission of the instructor.

**IN ENGLISH TRANSLATION**


Traces the development of Russian realism and the Russian novel in the context of contemporary intellectual history. Specific topics include the Russian response to Romanticism; the rejection of Romanticism in favor of the “realistic” exposure of Russia’s social ills; Russian nationalism and literary Orientalism; the portrayal of women and their role in Russian society; the reflection of contemporary political controversies in Russian writing. Authors include Pushkin, Gogol’, Lermontov, Belinsky, Turgenev, Dostoevsky, and Tolstoy. Russian majors are required to do some reading in Russian.

**221c - IP, VPA. Soviet Worker Bees, Revolution, and Red Love in Russian Film.** Fall 2009. Jane Knox-Voina.

Explores twentieth-century Russian society through critical analysis of film, art, architecture, music, and literature. Topics include scientific utopias, eternal revolution, individual freedom versus collectivism, conflict between the intelligentsia and the common man, the “new Soviet woman,” nationalism, the thaw and double think, stagnation of the 1970s, post-glastnost sexual liberation, and black hole art. Works of Eisenstein, Tarkovsky, Kandinsky, Chagall, Mayakovskiy, Bulgakov, Pasternak, Brodsky, Akhmatova, Solzhenitsyn, Petrushevskaya, and Tolstaya. Weekly film viewings. Russian majors are required to do some reading in Russian. (Same as Gender and Women's Studies 220.)

**223c. Dostoevsky and the Novel.** Spring 2011. The Department.

Examines Fyodor Dostoevsky’s later novels. Studies the author’s unique brand of realism (“fantastic realism,” “realism of a higher order”), which explores the depths of human psychology and spirituality. Emphasis on the anti-Western, anti-materialist bias of Dostoevsky’s quest for meaning in a world growing increasingly unstable, violent, and cynical. Special attention is given to the author’s treatment of urban poverty and the place of women in Russian society. (Same as Gender and Women’s Studies 221.)

**224c. Dostoevsky or Tolstoy.** Spring 2010. Raymond Miller.

Explores and compares two giants of Russian literature, Lev Tolstoy and Fyodor Dostoevskiy. Their works are read for their significance, both to Russian cultural history and to European thought; special attention is paid to the portrayal of women and women’s issues by both authors. Part I studies Dostoevsky’s quest for guiding principles of freedom and love in a world of growing violence, cynicism, and chaos. “The Woman Question” emerges as a constant subject: Dostoevskiy particularly concerned himself with the suffering of poor and humiliated women. A close reading of several short works and the novel Brothers Karamazov set in their historical and intellectual framework. Emphasis on the novelist’s struggle between Western materialistic individualism and Eastern voluntary self-renunciation. Examines Dostoevskiy’s “fantastic realism” as a polyphony of voices, archetypes, and religious symbols. Part II studies Tolstoy’s development both as a novelist and a moral philosopher. Examines several works, the most important being the novel Anna Karenina, with special emphasis on the tension between Tolstoy-the-artist and Tolstoy-the-moralist. Discussion of the writer’s role as “the conscience of Russia” in the last thirty years of his life, as well as his influence on such figures as Gandhi and Martin Luther King. (Same as Gender and Women’s Studies 217.)
[226c. Engineering Human Souls: Stalinist Culture and Russian Society.]

251c - IP, VPA. Russia’s “Others”: Siberia and Central Asia through Film and Literature. Spring 2010. JANE KNOX-VOINA.
Films, music, short stories, folklore, art analyzed for the construction of national identity of Asian peoples from the Caucasus to the Siberian Bering Straits—Russia and the Former Central Asia (the “stans” and Mongolia). Themes: Multicultural conflicts along the Silk Road, the transit zone linking West to East. Changing roles of Asian women as cornerstone for nations. Survival and role of indigenous peoples in solving cultural, economic, and geopolitical issues facing the twenty-first century. Arrival of “outsiders”: from early traders and Siberian settlers to exiled convicts; from early conquerors to despotic Bolshevik rulers, from Genghis Khan to Stalin. Impact of Soviet collectivization, industrialization, and modernism on traditional beliefs, the environment, subsistence indigenous cultures, and Eastern spiritualities (Muslimism, shamanism). Questions how film and literature both tell and shape the story of “nations.” Films include S. Bodrov’s Prisoner of the Mountains (Caucasus) and Mongol; V. Pudovskin’s Storm Over Asia, A. Kurosawa’s Dersu Uzala, N. Mikhalkov’s Close to Eden, A. Konchalovsky’s Siberiade, G. Omarova’s Schizo. (Same as Gender and Women’s Studies 243.)

Sociology and Anthropology

Nancy E. Riley, Department Chair
Lori B. Quimby, Department Coordinator

Professors: Susan E. Bell, Sara A. Dickey**, Scott MacEachern, Craig A. McEwen, Nancy E. Riley
Associate Professors: Pamela Ballinger†, Joe Bandy†, Susan A. Kaplan, Krista E. Van Vleet†
Assistant Professors: Dhiraj Murthy, Seth Ovadia†
Visiting Faculty: Jan M. Brunson, Marie Sarita Gaytán, H. Roy Partridge Jr., Leslie Shaw
Fellow: Chad Uran

Requirements for the Major

In consultation with an advisor, each student plans a major program that will nurture an understanding of society and the human condition, demonstrate how social and cultural knowledge are acquired through research, and enrich his or her general education. On the practical level, a major program prepares the student for graduate study in sociology or anthropology and contributes to preprofessional programs such as law and medicine. It also provides background preparation for careers in urban planning, public policy, the civil service, social work, business or personnel administration, social research, public administration, criminal justice, the health professions, journalism, secondary school teaching, and development programs.

A student may choose either of two major programs or two minor programs:

The major in sociology consists of ten courses, including Sociology 101, 201, 211, and 310. One or two of the ten courses may be advanced courses from anthropology (or, if