

University of Pittsburgh
Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures

Russian 0590: Formative Masterpieces of 19th Century Russian Literature Vladimir Padunov
Fall Semester 2009 427 CL
Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:30—3:45 624-5713
CL 139 e-mail: padunov@pitt.edu

Office Hours: Mondays 10:00—11:00; Tuesdays 11:00—12:00; Thursdays 10:00—11:00,
and by appointment

I. REQUIRED TEXTS:

- Chekhov, Anton. *Anton Chekhov's Short Stories*. Ed. Ralph E. Matlaw. NY: Norton, 1979.
Dostoevsky, Fyodor. *Crime and Punishment*. Ed. George Gibian. Tr. Jessie Coulson. 3rd ed. NY: Norton, 1989.
Gogol, Nikolai. *The Overcoat and Other Tales of Good and Evil*. Tr. David Magarshack. NY: Norton, 1965.
Lermontov, Mikhail. *A Hero of Our Time*. Tr. Vladimir Nabokov. Woodstock, NY: Ardis, 1986.
Proffer, Carl, ed. *From Karamzin to Bunin: An Anthology of Russian Short Stories*. Bloomington: Indiana UP, 1969.
Pushkin, Alexandr. *The Complete Prose Tales of Alexandr Sergeyevitch Pushkin*. Tr. Gillon R. Aitken. NY: Norton, 1996.
Tolstoy, Leo. *The Resurrection*. Tr. Rosemary Edmonds. NY: Penguin, 1966.

II. RECOMMENDED SECONDARY SOURCES:

- Andrew, Joe. *Writers and Society during the Rise of Russian Realism*. Atlantic Heights, NJ: Humanities P, 1980.
—. *Russian Writers and Society in the Second Half of the Nineteenth Century*. Atlantic Heights, NJ: Humanities P, 1982.
Bloom, Harold, ed. *Fyodor Dostoevsky's Crime and Punishment*. NY: Chelsea House, 1988.
Fanger, Donald. *Dostoevsky and Romantic Realism: A Study of Dostoevsky in Relation to Balzac, Dickens, and Gogol*. Chicago: U of Chicago P, 1965.
Frank, Joseph. *Dostoevsky: The Miraculous Years, 1865-1871*. Princeton: Princeton UP, 1995.
—. *Dostoevsky: The Stir of Liberation, 1860-1865*. Princeton: Princeton UP, 1986.
Freeborn, Richard. *The Rise of the Russian Novel*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1973.
Gifford, Henry. *The Novel in Russia from Pushkin to Pasternak*. NY: Harper & Row, 1964.
Lezhnev, Abram. *Pushkin's Prose*. Tr. Roberta Reeder. Ann Arbor: Ardis, 1983.
Maguire, Robert A., ed. *Gogol from the Twentieth Century*. Tr. Robert A. Maguire. Princeton: Princeton UP, 1974.
Mersereau, John Jr. *Russian Romantic Fiction*. Ann Arbor: Ardis, 1983.
Mirsky, Dmitri S. *A History of Russian Literature*. NY: Alfred A. Knopf, 1958.
Mochulsky, Konstantin. *Dostoevsky: His Life and Works*. Tr. Michael A. Minihan. Princeton: Princeton UP, 1967.
Simmons, Ernest J. *Leo Tolstoy: The Years of Development, 1828-1879*. NY: Vintage, 1946.
—. *Leo Tolstoy: The Years of Maturity, 1880-1920*. NY: Vintage, 1946.
Slonim, Marc. *The Epic of Russian Literature*. NY: Oxford UP, 1950.
—. *Modern Russian Literature: From Chekhov to the Present*. NY: Oxford UP, 1953.
Steiner, George. *Tolstoy or Dostoevsky: An Essay in the Old Criticism*. NY: Knopf, 1959.

III. READING ASSIGNMENTS:

All reading assignments must be completed prior to the date indicated in the Schedule of Assignments. Students are responsible not only for the physical act of reading the words contained in the assigned texts, but also are obligated to reflect on them and be able to discuss the ideas (and events) these words signify. Students who have not prepared the assigned readings for the class meeting receive an automatic grade of “F” for that day’s meeting.

IV. ATTENDANCE:

Students are expected to attend all classes. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class meeting and students will receive a grade each meeting for participation in the discussions. Any students arriving after attendance has been taken must check in with the instructor at the end of the class or accept being marked absent. Excused absence due to illness—personal or in the family—must be documented and absent students are responsible for acquiring relevant class notes. All unexcused absences will receive an automatic grade of “UA” for that session. Five such “UA” grades will result in an “F” for the course.

V. COURSE METHODOLOGY:

The course will consist principally of lectures and dialogues between students and the instructor. Daily grades (“A” to “F”) for each meeting of the class will be assigned on the basis of participation in the classroom dialogues. Students are encouraged to meet with the instructor during scheduled office hours (or by appointment) to discuss their grades and work in the course (reading, participation, and quizzes). Silence during classroom dialogues receives a grade of “C”; after five consecutive such grades, silence receives a grade of “D”; and after five more, a grade of “F.”

VI. QUIZZES:

There will be **five** unannounced quizzes during the semester. Each quiz will last a maximum of 15 minutes. Quizzes will consist of **some** of the following: identification, narrative developments, and historical or critical commentary. Students who are absent on the day of a quiz receive no grade on the quiz. No quiz will be re-scheduled and no make-up quizzes are permitted.

VII. EXAMINATIONS:

The course includes an in-class midterm and final examination, the dates for which are indicated in the Schedule of Assignments at the end of this syllabus. No make-up examinations will be administered unless students can provide proof of medical incapacitation. The midterm and final examinations will consist of a series of identifications (names, years, titles, events, etc.) and two essay-answers (out of four assigned topic-questions). All examination answers must be written in the booklets provided by the instructor. Answers must be written on alternate lines and must be legible.

VIII. EVALUATION:

Students will be evaluated on the basis of their participation in class discussion and analysis, the five quizzes, the midterm and the final examination. Students are encouraged to consult with the instructor during office hours concerning their work in the course. Grades will be calculated using the following formula: participation (20%), quizzes (30%), midterm (25%), and final examination (25%).

IX. SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS:

week 1:

Tuesday, 1 September: Introduction, syllabus, student information

Thursday, 3 September: Nikolai Karamzin: "Poor Liza"

week 2:

Tuesday, 8 September: Alexander Pushkin: *The Tales of Belkin* ("From the Editor," "The Shot," "The Blizzard," and "The Undertaker")

Thursday, 10 September: Alexander Pushkin: *The Tales of Belkin* ("The Postmaster" and "The Squire's Daughter")

week 3:

Tuesday, 15 September: Alexander Pushkin: "Queen of Spades"

Thursday, 17 September: Nikolai Gogol: "The Portrait" and "Nevsky Avenue"

week 4:

Tuesday, 22 September: Nikolai Gogol: "The Nose" and "The Overcoat"

Thursday, 24 September: Mikhail Lermontov: *A Hero of Our Time* ("The Author's Introduction," "Bela," and "Maksim Maksimich")

week 5:

Tuesday, 29 September: Mikhail Lermontov: *A Hero of Our Time* ("Introduction of Pechorin's Diary," "Taman," "Princess Mary," and "The Fatalist")

Thursday, 1 October: Ivan Turgenev: "Bezhin Meadow"

week 6:

Tuesday, 6 October: Nikolai Leskov: "Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk District"

Thursday, 8 October: Fyodor Dostoevsky: *Crime and Punishment* (part one)

week 7:

Tuesday, 13 October: **NO CLASS (Monday schedule)**

Thursday, 15 October: **IN-CLASS MIDTERM**

week 8:

Tuesday, 20 October: Fyodor Dostoevsky: *Crime and Punishment* (parts two and three)

Thursday, 22 October: Fyodor Dostoevsky: *Crime and Punishment* (parts four and five)

week 9:

Tuesday, 27 October: Fyodor Dostoevsky: *Crime and Punishment* (part six and epilogue)

Thursday, 29 October: Vsevolod Garshin: "The Red Flower" and Vladimir Korolenko: "Makar's Dream"

week 10:

Tuesday, 3 November: Leo Tolstoy: "The Death of Ivan Ilych"

Thursday, 5 November: Leo Tolstoy: *Resurrection* (part one, chapters 1-26)

week 11:

Tuesday, 10 November: Leo Tolstoy: *Resurrection* (part one, chapters 27-45)

Thursday, 12 November: Leo Tolstoy: *Resurrection* (part one, chapters 46-59; part two, chapters 1-15)

week 12:

Tuesday, 17 November: Leo Tolstoy: *Resurrection* (part two, chapters 16-42)

Thursday, 19 November: Leo Tolstoy: *Resurrection* (part three, chapters 1-28)

week 13:

Tuesday, 24 November: Anton Chekhov: "Vanka," "At Home," "The Grasshopper," "Rothschild's Fiddle," "The Student," and "Anna on the Neck"

Thursday, 9 April: **NO CLASS (start of Thanksgiving break)**

week 14:

Tuesday, 1 December: Anton Chekhov: "The Man in a Case," "Gooseberries," "About Love," "The Darling," and "The Lady with the Dog"

Thursday, 3 December: Maksim Gor'kii: "Chelkash"

week 15:

Tuesday, 8 December: Aleksandr Kuprin: "The Garnet Bracelet"

Thursday, 10 December: Ivan Bunin: "The Gentleman from San Francisco"

FINAL EXAMINATION:

Friday, 18 December 2009

8:00—9:50

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