

## LITERATURE 119: THE NINETEENTH-CENTURY RUSSIAN NOVEL

This course examines the explosive growth of that great contribution to world literature, the 19<sup>th</sup>-century Russian novel, from its beginnings in the elegant tales of Pushkin to its culmination in the massive grandeur of Tolstoy. Over the course of the semester, we will delve into the artistic richness of Russian fiction, the development of Russian realism, and the Russian novel's treatment of such issues as love, honor, crime, the individual's relation to society, imperialism and nationalism, and Russia's relation to the west--topics still very much with us today.

Assignments consist of two papers (one of three to four pages, the other of five to seven pages), a midterm, and a final examination. Late papers will be graded down for every other day that they are late. The class will be conducted by a combination of lecture and discussion, with some meetings devoted entirely to discussion. We will also have a few additional meetings, e.g., at the Athenaeum. Mental as well as physical presence in class is required! Any unexcused absences beyond two will result in a lowering of the course grade by one step for every class missed.

Grade percentages:

First essay: 20%  
Second essay: 30%  
Midterm: 20%  
Final: 30%

Required texts:

Alexander Pushkin	<u>The Complete Prose Tales of Alexander Pushkin</u> (or <u>The Captain's Daughter and Other Stories</u> )
Alexander Pushkin	<u>Eugene Onegin</u> (Walter Arndt translation required)
Mikhail Lermontov	<u>A Hero of Our Time</u>
Nikolai Gogol	<u>Dead Souls</u>
Ivan Turgenev	<u>Fathers and Sons</u>
Feodor Dostoevsky	<u>Crime and Punishment</u>
Leo Tolstoy	<u>Anna Karenina</u>

## THE RUSSIAN NOVEL

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Literature 119  
 CMC  
 Fall 2004

DATE	TOPIC	READING
<u>September</u>		
1	Introduction: Background and Beginnings	
6	Alexander Pushkin, Fountainhead of Russian Fiction	Pushkin: <u>Tales of Belkin</u>
8	Pushkin continued:	<u>Tales of Belkin</u> continued; also read "The Queen of "Spades"
13-15	A Novel in Verse: <u>Eugene Onegin</u>	Pushkin: <u>EO</u> , I-IV
20	A Novel in Verse continued	<u>EO</u> , V-VIII
22	Lermontov: A Byron a la Russe? Russian Romanticism	Lermontov: <u>A Hero of Our Time</u> : (Intro., "Bela," "Maksim Maksimych"
27-29	Lermontov continued: The Theme of the Superfluous Man <b>First essay due September 29</b>	finish <u>A Hero of Our Time</u> ("Taman," Princess Mary," "The Fatalist")
<u>October</u>		
1	Extra class session—time and place to be announced.	Gogol, <u>Dead Souls</u> , Chps. 1-3
4-6	No class—read ahead. Class will be made up by our additional sessions.	
11	Social Satire in a Poem in Prose	Gogol: <u>Dead Souls</u> , Chps. 4-6
13	Social Satire and the Weapon of Laughter	Gogol: <u>Dead Souls</u> , Chps. 7-8
<u>October continued:</u>		
15	Extra class session—time and place to be announced	Gogol, <u>Dead Souls</u> , Chps. 9-11
18	<b>FALL BREAK</b>	

20	<b>Midterm on Pushkin, Lermontov, and Gogol</b>	
25	Turgenev: A Novelist's Novelist	Turgenev, <u>Father and Sons</u> , Chps. 1-13
27	Russian Realism; Revolutionary Themes; A 19 <sup>th</sup> -Century Generation Gap	Turgenev, Chapters 14-28
<u>November</u>		
1	The Russian Novel Grows Up: Realism in Dostoevsky	Dostoevsky, <u>Crime and Punishment</u> , Parts 1-2
3	Dostoevskian Themes	<u>C and P</u> , Part 3
8	Dostoevskian Themes	<u>C and P</u> , Parts 4-5
10	Dostoevskian Themes	<u>C and P</u> , Part 6, epilogues
15	Russia's Other Czar: Tolstoy, his Life and Writings; <b>Second Essay due</b>	
17	Tolstoy continued	<u>Anna Karenina</u> , Part 1
22	Tolstoy continued	<u>Anna K.</u> , Parts 2-3
24	Tolstoy continued	<u>Anna K.</u> , Part 4
25-26	<b>Thanksgiving Recess</b>	
29	Tolstoy continued	<u>Anna K.</u> , Parts 5-6
<u>December</u>		
1	Tolstoy continued	<u>Anna K.</u> , Part 7
6	Tolstoy continued	<u>Anna K.</u> , Part 8
8	Conclusion	