

Course Descriptions for Slavic Course Spring 2017

See also our courses listed under Literature in Translation.

Slavic 102 Second Semester Russian, 4 credits

001	9:55 AM	10:45 AM	MTWRF
002	11:00 AM	11:50 AM	MTWRF
003	12:05 PM	12:55 PM	MTWRF
004	01:20 PM	02:10 PM	MTWRF

Prerequisites: Slavic 101 or equiv. Open to Fr

Continuation of Slavic 101.

Slavic 112 – Second Semester Polish, 3 credits

MTWF 1:20-2:10

Open to Freshmen

Emphasis on proficiency in Polish through speaking, understanding, reading, and writing, with introduction to Polish culture. Vocabulary is reinforced through reading of easy texts from Polish press, watching Polish movies and viewing Polish Internet sites. Very engaging class.

Slavic 142 Second Semester Serbo-Croatian, 3 credits

Milan Simic, MWF 9:55-10:45am

Prerequisites: Slavic 141 or equiv. Open to Fr

Designed as a follow-up course to 141 as students continue to develop skills in Serbo-Croatian (speaking, listening/understanding, reading, and writing).

Slavic 204 Fourth Semester Russian, 4 credits

001	09:55 AM	10:45 AM	MTWRF
002	01:20 PM	02:10 PM	MTWRF

Prerequisites: Slavic 203 or equiv. Open to Fr

Continuation of Slavic 203.

Slavic 242/ LitTrans 241 Cultures of Dissent in East Central Europe: Censorship and the Politics of Resistance, 3 credits

Dijana Mitrovic, TR, 2:30-3:45pm

In this class we will be learning about cultures of Eastern and Central Europe through works of literature, theatre, and film produced between the end of WWII and the fall of the Berlin Wall (1945–1989). Special focus will be placed on the strategies political regimes were employing to control artistic production during the Cold War era, as well as the subversive techniques of resistance that artists and authors used in return. Apart from learning about the region of the time, the class material will help us recognize/resist various forms of (self)censorship in general, thus making us better scholars, artists, and citizens of the world.

Please contact dmitrovic@wisc.edu with any questions.

Slavic 245/ LitTrans 247 Topics in Slavic Literatures in Translation: Russia and the Jews, 3 credits

Marina Zilbergerts, T-Th, 11-12:15

Language of instruction: English

This course explores the rich world of Russian Jewish culture from its very beginnings. Reading literary, theological and political works by Jewish and Russian writers, our aim will be to understand the creative and often-troubled relationships among them. The course will take us from the Imperial through the Soviet periods, examining the rise of movements such as Hasidism, Zionism, and Communism, as we analyze each literary work amid the cultural developments of its day. All materials will be provided in English translation and no prior knowledge is required.

Please contact zilbergerts@wisc.edu with any questions.

Slavic/Poli. Sci./History/Geography 253 Russia: An Interdisciplinary Survey, 4 credits

Manon van de Water, TR 1:00-2:15 Lecture, W discussion sections

Prerequisites: open to freshmen

This course is designed as an interdisciplinary introduction to Russian civilization, drawing on contributions by over a dozen faculty members from ten departments at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, as well as visiting lecturers. The course aims to impart a basic knowledge of Russian history, literature, politics, religion, philosophy, art, geography, economy, cinema, theatre, and foreign affairs, to provide students with the tools to begin to grasp the complex issues that Russian culture and society present us. By the end of the semester, students will be familiar with the major issues, approaches, and topics of disagreement among Russian area specialists, and have a solid understanding of Russian culture, history, geography, and politics.

Course Requirements include quizzes, a midterm, a final exam, responses to select lectures and films, and short presentations in discussion sections.

Required Texts:

- Thompson, John M., *Russia and the Soviet Union: An Historical Introduction from the Kievan State to the Present* (7th ed.)
- Turgenev, Ivan S. *Mumu*.
- Solzhenitsyn, Alexander *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*, trans. H. T. Willetts
- Electronic Readings.

All readings are also on reserve at Helen C. White Library.

Please contact mvandewa@wisc.edu with any questions.

Slavic 276 Third Year Russian II, 4 Credits

Alexandra Walter, MWF, 9:55am-10:45am

Prerequisites: Slavic 275 or equiv

Emphasizes reading classic Russian short stories, writing longer compositions at the advanced level, and all the important concepts of grammar.

Slavic 277/278/331/332 Third and Fourth Year Polish - Advanced level.

MWF 9:45-10:45

Open to Freshmen.

Students expand their vocabulary by engaging with texts from different genres, historical periods and perspectives. Continued work on grammar and vocabulary with written exercises and compositions. This intensive writing course follows the writing process (drafts, revising, editing) and exposes students to different styles: narrative, argumentative, and creative. Readings offer a variety of authentic materials: short stories, novels, poems, and press articles. The program includes also films, music and visual arts.

Slavic 285 Language and Worldview, 3 credits

David Danaher, MWF, 1:20-2:10

Prerequisites and target audience: open only to students in the Honors Program

Language of instruction: English

Do languages shape the way we think? For bicultural individuals, the answer to this question is obviously yes. Even, however, for students who have attained an intermediate- or advanced-level proficiency in another language, the idea that languages present different “pictures of the world” – that language and worldview often go hand-in-hand – seems self-evident. If differences in how languages convey meaning exist, then it should certainly be possible to develop a framework for reflecting on these “linguistic pictures of the world.” This course represents both an introduction to semantic analysis (how do languages encode meaning?) as well as a content-based course in comparative ethnosemantics (to what extent does language shape the way we think and how can we systematically investigate this question?). Cross-linguistic case studies of the meanings of terms and concepts – everyday words like home, modes of conveying spatial orientation, words relating to human psychology, philosophy, morality, and spirituality – will serve as practical vehicles for an explanation and a discussion of the theory of a cultural approach to semantics. In addition, we will examine the consequences of a cultural approach to language for reading and interpreting literature, and suggest thereby that different languages may tell different stories about meaning. Some evidence for the encoding of culture in grammatical constructions and in discourse will also be introduced. This course requires no formal background in linguistics; no knowledge of a Slavic language or other language besides English will be necessary, although such knowledge would be welcome. The course lies at the intersection of humanities proper and social sciences. One of its primary goals is to hone critical-thinking skills related to language and culture that should prove relevant to any number of academic disciplines (literature, psychology, history, political science, philosophy, anthropology, sociology, communications, education, human geography) as well as to everyday self-understanding.

Required texts

G. Deustcher, *Through the Language Glass*

A. Wierzbicka, *Understanding Cultures Through Their Key Words.*

* Other texts will be made available as pdfs via Learn@UW

Course requirements and assessment

1. Participation in class discussion (20%)
2. Informal reaction journals (30%)
3. Mid-term exam (15%)
4. Small-group reports (15%)
5. Research and/or reflection paper (20%)

Instructor's email: dsdanaher@wisc.edu

Slavic 316 Russian Language and Culture II, 2 credit

Anna Tumarkin, TR, 1:20-2:10

Prerequisites: Slavic 275 or equiv

Emphasizes speaking and listening skills, helping students to converse on different stylistic levels, with varying degrees of formality, according to the rules of Russian speech etiquette.

Slavic 322 Fourth Year Russian II, 4 credits

Galina Lapina, MWF, 1:20 PM-2:10 PM

Prerequisite: Slavic 321 or cons inst

Slavic 342 Uvod u srpsku i hrvatsku literaturu, 3 credit

Milan Simic, MWF, 9:55AM-10:45AM

Prerequisites: Slavic 341, Grad st or cons inst

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of Serbian and Croatian literature. Students learn how to speak, write and use the basic concepts of literary analysis: character, plot, setting, style, etc.

Slavic 362 Drama for Teaching and Learning, 3 credit

001 03:50 PM 05:30 PM MW

002 03:50 PM 05:30 PM TR

This is a methods course useful for all involved in teaching and learning, including foreign languages. Introduction to philosophy, methodology, and practice of the use of drama and performance techniques in any educational or recreational settings. Focus on creativity and embodied and contextual learning, based on current neurological, psychological, and sociological research. A practical class which includes demonstration and practice with children.

Slavic 405 Women in Russian Literature, 4 credits

Jennifer Tishler, MWF 11:00-11:50 & T 11:00-11:50

Prerequisites: Slavic 276 or equiv

Slavic 422 Dostoevsky, 4 credits

Alexander Dolinin, MWF 12:05-12:55 PM & T 12:05-12:55 PM

Prerequisite: Slavic 276 or equiv

Slavic 434 Contemporary Russian Culture, 3 credits

Galina Lapina, MWF, 12:05-12:55PM

Prerequisites: Slavic 322 or cons inst

Second in a two-semester course sequence, this course focuses on those topics in modern Russian cultural history that are most often discussed by Russians and serve as the basis for contemporary political and media discourse.

Slavic 701 Survey of Old Russian Literature, 2 credits

Irina Shevelenko, W, 2:30-4:15 PM

Prerequisites: Graduate or professional standing

Slavic 803 Introduction to Old Church Slavonic and the History of Russian Literary Language, 2 credits

Irina Shevelenko, MF, 11:00-11:50 AM

Prerequisites: Slavic 275, 276

This course introduces students with advanced competence in modern Russian to Old Church Slavonic (OCS) and its impact on the formation of Russian literary language.

Slavic 820 College Teaching of Russian, 1 credit

Anna Tumarkin,

R, 2:30-4:00

This course is designed and required for current Slavic Department Russian-language Teaching Assistants and provides important professional development in course design, lesson planning, and assessment. Course participants work cooperatively to develop course activities and assessment instruments, and will learn how to identify and solve problems in the classroom.

Slavic 900 Seminar: Russian Emigre Literature, 3 credits

Alexander Dolinin,

M, 2:30-5:00 PM

Prerequisites: Graduate standing