RUSS 305L.01: Introduction to Russian Literature I

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RUSSIAN 305L
INTRODUCTION TO RUSSIAN LITERATURE I

Fall 2003
Time: MWF 1:10-2:00
Location: LA 234
Credits: 3

Professor: Ona Renner-Fahey
Office hours: MTW 2:10 - 3:30, Th F 9-10.
And by appointment.
Office: LA 316
Office phone: 243-4602
E-mail: Ona.Renner@mso.umt.edu
E-mail hours: 9:00 – 5:00

Course description:
A survey of Russian prose, poetry, and drama from their beginnings through their development into the early nineteenth century. No language or literature prerequisites. Course may be taken for a traditional letter grade only. Cross-listed with FLLG 305L and LS 305L. May be applied to General Education Perspective 2 (Literary and Artistic Studies). Required for Russian majors.

Goals and outcomes:
In this course students will find out how and why Russian literature began and will trace its development into the nineteenth century. The course structure will consist of occasional lectures and frequent class discussion. The students will have readings assigned for nearly every class period and will work on writing and analytic skills by keeping a journal of their reactions to the readings. The readings will be arranged into units and quizzes will be administered at the end of each unit to prepare students for the final exam. Through attentive reading, analytical writing, and active participation, the students will finish the semester with a general yet solid knowledge of Russian literature from the medieval period into its “Golden Age.”

Assessment:
Attendance, preparation, and active participation are required. The students will be given a participation grade of 0-3 every day: 0 for being absent, 1 for present without contributing to the discussion (letter grade of C), 2 for adequate participation (letter grade of B), 3 for high quality (not just quantity) of participation (letter grade of A). Others factors figured into the daily participation grade are: 1.) arriving to class late and 2.) being unprepared to contribute when called upon. Each student may be absent one time without his/her grade being affected. No make-ups are allowed for absences or missed quizzes. Each student may, however, drop his/her lowest quiz grade. The final exam may not be taken early or made-up after its scheduled time.

There will be both an assigned reading and a written response (“journal” entry) to be completed for almost every class day. The journals are: 1.) to familiarize students with writing about literature and 2.) to prepare them for class discussion. The readings will be grouped into units. At the end of each unit the students will: 1.) hand in all their journal entries and 2.) take a quiz on the material covered in that unit. Guidelines and expectations for the journal entries will be discussed in class.
Percentage distribution of final course grade:

Participation: 20%
Journals: 30%
Quizzes: 25%
Final exam: 25%

Grading scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93-100</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-92</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88-89</td>
<td>B+</td>
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<tr>
<td>83-87</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>78-79</td>
<td>C+</td>
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<tr>
<td>73-77</td>
<td>C</td>
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<td>68-69</td>
<td>D+</td>
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<tr>
<td>65-67</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64 &amp; below</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Required reading:

I. Books: (Available at the University Bookstore)
1.) Zenkovsky, Serge. *Medieval Russia’s Epics, Chronicles, and Tales.*
2.) Durova, Nadezhda. *The Cavalry Maiden: Journals of a Russian Officer in the Napoleonic Wars.*
3.) Lermontov, Mikhail. *A Hero of Our Time.*

II. Texts on reserve:
The following works may be accessed through electronic reserve (http://eres.lib.umt.edu/coursepage.asp?cid=823) or found on traditional reserve at the Mansfield Library. The password for electronic reserve is: LITERATURA

Princess Dolgorukii (Excerpt from her *Memoirs*)
Derzhavin (“Felitsa”)
Lomonosov (“Morning Meditations” and “Evening Meditations”)
Chulkov (“The Comely Cook”)
Fonvizin (“The Brigadier”)
Karamzin (“Poor Liza”)
Pushkin (“The Bronze Horseman”)
Baratynsky (“Death”)
Lermontov (“The Sail” and “The Death of a Poet”)

COURSE SCHEDULE:
*This schedule is subject to change.

W 9/3  Introduction

MEDIEVAL LITERATURE: KIEVAN
F  9/5  The Primary Chronicle
     Reading: Zenkovsky pp. 65-71 (“Vladimir Christianizes Russia”),
     pp. 101-105 (“The Martyrdom of Boris and Gleb”)
M  9/8  The Lay of Igor’s Campaign
     Reading: Zenkovsky pp. 167-193 (The Lay of Igor’s Campaign)
W  9/10 Military Tales
     Reading: Zenkovsky pp. 211-224 (“Sofony of Riazan: Zadonshchina”)
F  9/12  Quiz, Journal due

MEDIEVAL LITERATURE: MUSCOVITE
M  9/15 Saints’ Lives
     Reading: Zenkovsky pp. 290-300 (“Peter and Fevronia of Murom”)
W  9/17 Ideological Writing
     Zenkovsky pp. 323-333 (“The Tale of the White Cowl”)
F  9/19 Folk Tales (TBA)
M  9/22 Folk Tales (TBA)
W  9/24  Quiz, Journal due

THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY
F  9/26  Autobiography
     Zenkovsky pp. 399-449 (“The Life of Archpriest Avvakum by Himself”)
M  9/29 Secular Tales
     Reading: Zenkovsky pp. 449-487 (“Shemiaka’s Judgement,” “The Tale of
     Savva Grudtsyn,” and “Frol Skobeev, the Rogue.”)
W  10/1 Poetry
     Reading: Zenkovsky pp. 489-501 (“Misery, Luckless, Plight”)
F  10/3  Quiz, Journal due

THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY
M  10/6  Reading: Lomonosov (On Reserve)
W  10/8  Reading: Derzhavin (On Reserve)
M  10/13 Reading: Princess Dolgorukii (on Reserve)
F  10/10 Reading: Chulkov (On Reserve)
W  10/15 Reading: Chulkov (On Reserve)
F  10/17 Reading: Fonvizin (On Reserve)
M  10/20 Reading: Fonvizin (On Reserve)
W  10/22 Reading: Karamzin (On Reserve)
F  10/24  Quiz, Journal due
PUSHKIN
M 10/27  “The Bronze Horseman” (On Reserve)

DUROVA
W 10/29  “My Childhood Years” and Ch. 1
F 10/31  Chaps. 2 & 3
M 11/3   Chaps. 4 & 5
W 11/5   Ch. 6
F 11/7   Ch. 7
M 11/10  Chaps. 8 & 9
W 11/12  Ch. 10
F 11/14  Ch. 11
M 11/17  Chaps. 12 & 13
W 11/19  Quiz, Journal due

LERMONTOV
W 11/21  Introduction
F 11/24  Ch. 1

* Thanksgiving Break

M 12/1   Ch. 2
W 12/3   Ch. 3
F 12/5   Ch. 4
M 12/8   Ch. 5
W 12/10  Quiz, Journal due

F 12/12  Review

* Final Exam: Tues., Dec. 13.  1:10-3:10