

**Slavic and Eastern Languages 222 (S: 3)**  
**English 227 (S: 3)**  
Boston College/ Fall Semester 2011  
Classes: M W F 2-2<sup>50</sup> Lyons 207

Professor Maxim D. Shrayer  
Office: Lyons Hall 210  
Office hours: M 3-4; F1-2\*

## CLASSICS OF RUSSIAN LITERATURE (SL 222/EN 227)

### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

A survey of selected major works, authors, genres and movements in 19<sup>th</sup>-century Russian literature, with emphasis on the classic works by Pushkin, Lermontov, Gogol, Turgenev, Tolstoy, Dostoevsky, and Chekhov. *All readings and discussions are in English. Students and speakers of Russian are encouraged to contribute their expertise.*

**REQUIRED TEXTS** (books for sale at the BC Bookstore and on reserve at O'Neill; please use **only** the required editions/translations):

- Chekhov, Anton. *The Lady with the Little Dog and Other Stories, 1896-1904*. Tr. Ronald Wilks. New York: Penguin Books, 2002.
- Dostoevsky, Fyodor. *Crime and Punishment*. Tr. Constance Garnett. New York: Bantam Classic, 1987.
- Gibian, George, ed. *The Portable Nineteenth-Century Russian Reader*. New York: Penguin, 1993 (hereafter Gibian).
- Lermontov, Mikhail. *A Hero of Our Time*. Tr. Paul Foote. New York: Penguin, 2001.
- Pushkin, Aleksandr. *Eugene Onegin*. Tr. and comment. Vladimir Nabokov. Princeton: Princeton UP, 1975 (vol. 1 only).
- Tolstoy, Leo. *Anna Karenina*. Tr. Richard Pevear and Larissa Volokhonsky. New York: Penguin, 2001.
- Turgenev, Ivan. *Fathers and Sons*. Tr. Rosemary Edmonds. New York: Penguin, 1975.

### HIGHLY RECOMMENDED TEXT:

Riasanovsky, Nicholas V., and Mark D. Steinberg, *A History of Russia*. 7<sup>th</sup> ed. New York: Oxford UP, 2005 (hereafter *A History of Russia*).

### REQUIREMENTS:

- attendance of all class meetings and active participation in class discussions;
- two short papers (4-5 double-spaced pp./1100-1200 words; hard copy), due in class, Oct. 3 and Dec. 5;
- midterm examination, Oct. 21;
- final examination, Dec. 20.

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\* To schedule an appointment, please contact Ms. Demetra Parasirakis at (617) 552-3910 or demetra.parasirakis@bc.edu.

**The FINAL GRADE** will be calculated as follows:

- 35% daily attendance, class participation;
- 30% two short papers;
- 15% midterm examination;
- 20% final examination

**A** = excellent **B** = good **C** = satisfactory **D** = unsatisfactory but passing **F** = failure  
plus and minus are discretionary qualifiers.

### **CLASS ATTENDANCE AND ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:**

Class attendance is mandatory. Boston College values the academic integrity of its students and faculty. It is your responsibility to familiarize yourself with the university's policy on academic integrity (BC Catalog; <http://www.bc.edu/offices/stserv/academic/resources/policy.html#integrity>). If you have any questions, please approach the instructor. Violations of academic integrity will be reported to your class dean and judged by the academic integrity committee in your school. If you are found responsible for violating the policy, penalties may include a failing grade as well as possible probation, suspension, or expulsion, depending on the seriousness and circumstances of the violation.

### **REFERENCE WORKS:**

A number of reference works on Russian literary history are in print. The following titles have been popular among students:

Cornwell, Neil, ed. *Reference Guide to Russian Literature*. London: Fitzroy Dearborn, 1998.

Gilbert, Martin. *Atlas of Russian History*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1993.

Kasack, Wolfgang. *Dictionary of Russian Literature since 1917*. New York: Columbia UP, 1988.

Terras, Victor, ed. *Handbook of Russian Literature*. New Haven: Yale UP, 1985.

Note also that the Media Center of the O'Neill Library has an impressive collection of Russian and Soviet cinema, including film adaptations of literary works.

Additionally, numerous reference works on literary history, terminology, and theory are in print. The library will have many different titles in the stacks and in the reference area. The following titles have been popular among students:

Cuddon, J. A. *A Dictionary of Literary Terms and Literary Theory*. Cambridge, MA: Blackwell, 1991.

Drabble, Margaret, ed. *The Oxford Companion to English Literature*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1985.

Preminger, Alex and T. V. F. Brogan, eds. *The New Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics*. New York: MJF Press, 1993.  
 Prince, Gerald. *Dictionary of Narratology*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1987.

**SCHEDULE OF CLASS MEETINGS, READINGS, AND ASSIGNMENTS:**

W, Sept. 7	Course Introduction, Gibian, ix-xxii; <i>A History of Russia</i> , 3-9, 48-52, 181-256, 264-279
F, Sept. 9	Pushkin, Intro in Gibian, 1-4, shorter poems in Gibian, 1-8; 21-22; <i>A History of Russia</i> , 279-300
M, Sept. 12	Pushkin, "The Bronze Horseman" in Gibian, 8-21
W, Sept. 14	Pushkin, <i>Eugene Onegin</i> , vii-xiv, 3-14, 60-73, 89-122; <i>A History of Russia</i> , 301-322
F, Sept. 16	Pushkin, <i>Eugene Onegin</i> , 123-173; <i>A History of Russia</i> , 323-340
M, Sept. 19	Pushkin, <i>Eugene Onegin</i> , 173-277
W, Sept. 21	Pushkin, <i>Eugene Onegin</i> , 279-334, 15-59
F, Sept. 23	Pushkin, "The Shot" in Gibian, 22-33
M, Sept. 26	Lermontov, Intro in Gibian, 129-131; poems in Gibian, 131-132; Chronology in Lermontov, <i>Hero of Our Time</i> , ix-xxviii, 3-42, notes in back of <i>Hero of Our Time</i>
W, Sept. 28	Lermontov, <i>Hero of Our Time</i> , 43-69
F, Sept. 30	Lermontov, <i>Hero of Our Time</i> , 70-157
M, Oct. 3	FIRST PAPER DUE IN CLASS
M, Oct. 3	Gogol, Intro, <i>The Overcoat</i> in Gibian, 199-232
W, Oct. 5	Gogol, <i>The Overcoat</i> (ctnd); Tyutchev, Intro, poems in Gibian, 274-280
F, Oct. 7	Turgenev, Intro, <i>First Love</i> in Gibian, 334-390; <i>A History of Russia</i> , 341-361
M, Oct. 10	NO CLASSES: COLUMBUS DAY
W, Oct. 12	Turgenev, <i>First Love</i> in Gibian, 334-390 ctnd.
F, Oct. 14	Turgenev, <i>Fathers and Sons</i> , 7-61 (+Isaiah Berlin's lecture "Fathers and Children"); 63-73, 73-116
M, Oct. 17	Turgenev, <i>Fathers and Sons</i> , 117-203
W, Oct. 19	Turgenev, <i>Fathers and Sons</i> , 203-295
F, Oct. 21	MIDTERM EXAMINATION

M, Oct. 24	Dostoevsky, Intro in Gibian, 410-413; <i>Crime and Punishment</i> , vi-xxiii (Joseph Frank's Introduction); 1-90
W, Oct. 26	Dostoevsky, <i>Crime and Punishment</i> , 91-195
F, Oct. 28	Dostoevsky, <i>Crime and Punishment</i> , 196-278
M, Oct. 31	Dostoevsky, <i>Crime and Punishment</i> , 279-356
W, Nov. 2	Dostoevsky, <i>Crime and Punishment</i> , 357-432
F, Nov. 4	Dostoevsky, <i>Crime and Punishment</i> , 433-526
M, Nov. 7	Dostoevsky, <i>Crime and Punishment</i> , 527-542
W, Nov. 9	Tolstoy, Intro in Gibian, 437-440; Tolstoy, <i>Anna Karenina</i> , vii-xvii, 1-115
F, Nov. 11	Tolstoy, <i>Anna Karenina</i> , 117-236
M, Nov. 14	Tolstoy, <i>Anna Karenina</i> , 237-352
W, Nov. 16	Tolstoy, <i>Anna Karenina</i> , 353-435
F, Nov. 18	Tolstoy, <i>Anna Karenina</i> , 437-549
M, Nov. 21	Tolstoy, <i>Anna Karenina</i> , 551-669
W, Nov. 23-F, Nov. 25	NO CLASSES: THANKSGIVING VACATION
M, Nov. 28	Tolstoy, <i>Anna Karenina</i> , 671-768
W, Nov. 30	Tolstoy, <i>Anna Karenina</i> , 769-817; <i>A History of Russia</i> , 362-376
F, Dec. 2	Chekhov, Intro in Gibian, 532-534; Intro in Chekhov, <i>The Lady with the Little Dog</i> , vii-xxxiv, 61-94 ("Man in a Case"; "Gooseberries"; About Love")
M, Dec. 5	Chekhov, <i>The Lady with the Little Dog</i> , 114-132 ("Ionych"); 223-240 ("The Lady with the Little Dog"); also read different tr. in Gibian, 534-549
M., Dec. 5	SECOND PAPER DUE IN CLASS
W, Dec. 7	Chekhov, <i>Uncle Vanya</i> , in Gibian, 549-607
F, Dec. 9	Chekhov, <i>The Lady with the Little Dog</i> , 293-329 ("The Bishop"; "The Bride")
T, Dec. 20	FINAL EXAMINATION: 9:00 AM