



Russia under the Czars

FALL 2017

RUSS 3550 / CLCS 3900-001: RUSSIA UNDER THE CZARS

TH, 2:00-3:20 pm, 3 credits

With Dr. Garn

In the century leading up to the 1917 Bolshevik revolution, literature became the forum for discussing Russia's social issues. In this course we will explore the major problems influencing Russian literature during this period and its vivid heroes and anti-heroes, as writers examine the role of a human being in Russian society and in forming a better future for it. Although this is not a history course, we will touch on the major cultural myths and events that impacted Russian literature and society, from Peter the Great and his "infernal" window on the West, St. Petersburg, to the Russian revolutionaries who would eventually rename his creation. READINGS AND DISCUSSION IN ENGLISH.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

1. Dostoevsky, *Notes from the Underground*
ISBN-10: 067973452X / ISBN-13: 978-0679734529
2. Sologub, *The Petty Demon*
ISBN-10: 0882338080 / ISBN-13: 978-0882338088
3. The Portable Nineteenth-Century Russian Reader
ISBN-10: 0140151036 / ISBN-13: 978-0140151039

RUSSIA UNDER THE CZARS
 RUSS 3550-001 / CLCS 3900-001 (3 credit hours)
 TH 2:00PM-3:20PM, BUC 211

Attendance is required

Instructor's Information

Name	Dr. Garn	Office	1207 LNCO
Title	Associate Professor / Lecturer	Office phone	801-581-6005
Email	Rimma.Garn@utah.edu	Office hours	Tuesday & Thursday 10-10.30 am & 5.15-5.45 pm

Course Description

RUSS 3550 Russia under the Czars (3) Fulfills Humanities Exploration. Examines Russian consciousness as it is portrayed through literary, philosophical, and historical texts including the visual (icons).

Course Overview

In the century leading up to the 1917 Bolshevik revolution, literature became the forum for discussing Russia's social issues. In this course we will explore the major issues influencing Russian literature during this period and the vivid heroes and anti-heroes of Pushkin, Gogol, Lermontov, Tolstoy, Dostoevsky, and Chekhov, as they examine the role of a human being in Russian society and in forming a better future for it. Although this is not a history course, we will touch on the major cultural myths and events that impacted Russian literature and society, from Peter the Great and his "infernal" window on the West, St. Petersburg, to the Russian revolutionaries who would eventually rename his creation.

Course Objectives:

*INTRODUCTION TO 19-CENTURY RUSSIAN CULTURE: We will encounter and discuss literary, historical, critical and visual texts on 19-century Russia, the reality and ideas that shaped them and that they strove to create.

*DEVELOPMENT OF CRITICAL SKILLS: This is a discussion class. We will spend every class period breaking into small groups for discussion and then merging into general discussion. I will ask questions, point out passages, ask you to compare and contrast, etc. In small groups you will discuss these issues and then as a class we will put together insights and conclusions. Oral discussion is only one aspect of developing critical and analytical skills. The majority of your grade will be based on written work.

*DEVELOPMENT OF WRITING SKILLS: Every student should leave a research-one institution like the University of Utah able to write well and to construct a convincing written argument. To achieve that we will work with various kinds of written assignments: questions to texts, quizzes, a critical essay with a rewrite and essay exams.

Required Materials (at the campus bookstore and/or online):

1. Dostoevsky, *Notes from the Underground*, Transl. Pevear and Volohonsky, Random House, ISBN 0-679-73452-x
 2. Sologub *The Petty Demon* Ardis Publishing, 2006 ISBN 0-88233-808-0
 3. *The Portable Nineteenth-Century Russian Reader*, Penguin Books, ISBN 0-14-015103-6
- !Make sure you have these editions, others will not do.

Electronic Reserve:

Besides the three required books mentioned above you will have readings from the electronic reserve. It's your responsibility TO PRINT THEM OUT TIMELY, READ AND BRING THEM TO CLASS. If you do not, this will affect your participation grade negatively.

Course Work

There will be the following components to your final grade:

- 1) **PARTICIPATION:** Daily participation is one of the most crucial components of your success in this course and of your final grade. If you are not present in class, you cannot participate. If you are late (coming after the class roster has been checked) this day counts as an absence. You may miss one class in the course of the semester, no questions asked. Additional absences will lower your participation grade considerably.
- 2) **HOMEWORK:** Questions to texts prepare students to look for certain concepts in the texts assigned and prepare them for class discussion. These daily questions focus repeatedly on themes, images, etc., that will form the basis for your longer essay and tests. There will also be short essays on readings and videos. You will type your homework and bring the printouts to every class.
- 3) **CRITICAL ESSAY** will take an issue discussed in class and allow you to explore it in a different venue, clarifying an argument and finding evidence to support it. We will discuss the content and form of the essays in the third part of this course. You will have a chance to revise the first draft based on my feedback. You will have to come for at least one meeting with me to discuss your paper. In addition, visiting University Writing Center for a different input regarding your essay will be strongly recommended.
- 4) **QUIZZES:** There will be regular quizzes on the primary and secondary readings. They will help you keep up with readings and discussions, and will give you a chance to analyze and interpret these materials concisely, quickly and independently. One weakest quiz score will be ignored.
- 5) **TESTS:** Essay exams give students a venue where they have to think on their feet and express ideas quickly and independently. The tests will include essay questions and other assignments. In the test essays you will have to demonstrate your knowledge of the new material and ability to interpret it, and also to demonstrate your improved ability to coherently express your thoughts on paper.

Grade Distribution

- Participation	20%
- Homework	20%
- Essay	20%
- Quizzes	20%
- Tests	20%

Grading Policy

93-100%	A	73-77%	C
90-92%	A-	70-72%	C-
88-89%	B+	68-69%	D+
83-87%	B	63-67%	D
80-82%	B-	60-62%	D-
78-79%	C+	59% & less	F

!Notes

- 1) Make sure to bookmark our course site on Canvas. You can access important information there, including the syllabus, monthly schedules and videos.
- 2) Make sure to check your email regularly, since it is the only way for me to communicate with you. You can set up your email so that my messages reach you whether it's your University or other email address.
- 3) To contact me, please email me at Rimma.Garn@utah.edu, and NOT through Canvas. Or call my office number and leave a message.

Course Policies

Attendance

This is a discussion class, so attendance is not only crucial, but mandatory: Departmental policy requires attendance in classes (see <http://www.acs.utah.edu/sched/handbook/attend.htm>.)

You may have ONE (1) unexcused absence in the course of the semester; subsequent unexcused absences will lower your participation grade considerably. If you HAVE to miss a class for a good reason, make sure to let me know ahead of time and to arrange for timely homework submission, quizzes retaking and catching up. It is your responsibility to arrange for make-up assignments in a timely fashion.

Religious holidays

It is your responsibility to inform me of your observance of religious holidays; quizzes and homework assignments will be rescheduled for religious holidays. However, you MUST inform me ahead of time!

American with Disabilities Act

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services (CDS), 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification to the CDS.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

***TARDINESS** distracts both your instructor and your classmates. Please be always on time. Make sure to warn me if you have to come to class a few minutes late or have to leave a few minutes early. If you have a work or another class scheduling problem, you should take care of it right away. If you come after roll taking, this day counts as an absence. In a Russian classroom it's rude to be late, so it's unacceptable for us as well.

*While drinking in class is not a problem, **EATING & CHEWING GUM** – is. Do not eat or chew gum during class, as it is distracting both to your instructor and to your classmates. This is not acceptable in a Russian classroom, so consider this an authentic cultural experience.

***LAPTOPS & all other BEEPY SHINY THINGS** are not allowed in this class. They will not contribute to the development of your critical and writings skills, but will lure you away from communicating with your instructor and classmates. They are also distracting for everybody. Make sure to switch them off and enjoy them after class.

These rules help create a respectful atmosphere conducive to **THINKING & LEARNING** and thus make our time together more enjoyable and efficient.

PLAGIARISM, the use of another person's writing without acknowledgment, is a criminal offense off-campus and is considered a serious infraction against academic integrity within the university community. Acts of plagiarism will result in failure of the paper and may lead to failure of the course; in extreme cases, it can result in expulsion from the University. Plagiarism is unethical and unworthy of a University of Utah student. Please read the university definition of plagiarism and student code of conduct at the UofU site.

TENTATIVE SEMESTER PLAN (Subject to Change)

Weeks	Primary Literature	Secondary Literature
Part 1: CITY & COUNTRY 18 th -century Czars: from Peter I to Catherine II		
1	Radishchev, <i>Journey from Moscow to Petersburg</i> , 1790	Figes, <i>Natasha's Dance</i>
2	Pushkin, <i>The Bronze Horseman</i> , 1833, QUIZ 1	Figes, <i>Natasha's Dance</i>
3	Gogol, <i>The Overcoat</i> , 1842,	Figes, <i>Natasha's Dance</i>
4	Tolstoi, <i>Death of Ivan Il'ich</i> , 1886, QUIZ 2	Figes, <i>Natasha's Dance</i>
5	Tolstoi, <i>Master and Man</i> , 1895, Review & TEST 1	Hingley, Goncharov
Part 2: PROBLEMS & SOLUTIONS 19 th -century Czars: from Alexander I to Alexander III		
6	Lermontov, <i>Hero of Our Time</i> , 1840	Chances, Hingley
7	Goncharov, <i>Oblomov's Dream</i> , 1859, QUIZ 3	Reyfman, Freeze
8*	Fall Break, 9-15 October	
9	Chernyshevsky, <i>What is to be Done?</i> 1863	Dobroliubov, Frank
10	Dostoevsky, <i>Notes from the Underground</i> , 1864, QUIZ 4	Lincoln
11	Review & TEST 2	Lincoln
Part 3: INTO THE NEW CENTURY The Last Czar, Nicholas II, and the End of the Empire (?)		
12	Chekhov, <i>Uncle Vania</i> , 1899	Merezhkovsky
13	Chekhov, <i>Uncle Vania</i> , continued, QUIZ 5	Lincoln
14*	Sologub, <i>The Little Demon</i> , 1907, Thanksgiving Break	Nabokov
15	Sologub, <i>The Little Demon</i> , continued, ESSAY 1/1 is due	Fitzpatrick
16	Review & TEST 3, Essay Feedback	Chronologies
Final Exam: Friday, December 15 th , 2017, 1:00-3:00 pm ESSAY 1/2 is due		