RUSSIAN

Overview & Learning Goals

Overview and Learning Goals

The Department of Russian offers courses on Russian language, literature, and culture which are taught on Russian history and politics by affiliated faculty. Students can choose to specialize in the Russian language, literature, and culture or to undertake a broad course of interdisciplinary study including courses on Russian history and politics. Students who complete the Russian major develop skills and knowledge including the following:

1. Majors complete a program of language learning and literary and cultural studies that permits them to operate at an advanced level of Russian and to exhibit core competencies in listening, speaking, reading, writing, and cultural engagement.
2. Students are able to understand the main ideas in one-on-one and group communication, including conversations, interviews, and lectures on familiar topics.
3. Students are able to speak clearly in most social situations, narrate and describe events, communicate facts, ask questions, and speak about topics of public and personal interest.
4. Students are able to read with understanding and follow the essential points in most texts on familiar topics. They can comprehend texts from diverse genres in order to make appropriate inferences and to recognize different uses of language and styles.
5. Students are able to write about a variety of topics with sufficient precision.
6. Students display grammatical accuracy in their speaking and writing and familiarity with higher-level language competencies such as a sense for stylistic register.
7. Students have a general knowledge of Russian literary history and literary genres and are familiar with some of the major Russian writers of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. They have developed the tools for effective analysis and close reading of literary texts in Russian and in translation.
8. Students have a basic knowledge of Russian culture, as well as history and politics depending on their course selection.
9. Students have achieved a sufficient level of cultural competency to be able to interact in appropriate ways in contemporary Russian society.
10. Students are able to appreciate the diversity and complexity of human thought and experience embodied by the similarities and differences between Russophone and Anglophone cultures.

Department Website (https://www.bowdoin.edu/russian/)

Faculty

K. Page Herrlinger, Acting Department Chair
Sandra Kauffman, Department Coordinator

Lecturer: Reed Johnson
Visiting Faculty: Miroslava Nikolova

Faculty/Staff Website (https://www.bowdoin.edu/russian/faculty-and-staff/)

Requirements

Russian Major

The Russian major consists of ten courses. There are two concentrations:

- Russian Language, Literature, and Culture
- Russian Area Studies

Language, Literature, and Culture Concentration

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<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>RUS 1101</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Elementary Russian II</td>
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<td>RUS 2203</td>
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<td>RUS 2204</td>
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<td>RUS 3406</td>
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Literature and Culture Requirement

Select four courses on topics in Russian literature and culture at the 2000 or 3000 level.

- Students in this concentration are encouraged to choose courses dealing with a range of time periods, topics, and literary genres whenever possible. Advanced work is likewise strongly encouraged.
- In this concentration, students may count study-away courses toward the language requirement only; please refer to the study-away section on the Additional Information tab.

a Students who have prior knowledge of Russian begin their language study at the appropriate placement level, but are still required to complete six language courses for the major. The sequence given here is the sequence that applies to students with no prior knowledge of Russian.

b At least three of these courses must be chosen from course offerings in Bowdoin’s Russian department.

c One course may be an advanced independent study in the department.

d Students pursuing honors projects complete two semesters of advanced independent study; only one of these may count toward the major, and the second semester is an eleventh course, taken in addition to the ten required for the major.

Area Studies Concentration

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<td>RUS 2204</td>
<td>Intermediate Russian II</td>
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Literature and Culture Requirement

Select two courses on topics in Russian literature and culture chosen from course offerings in Bowdoin’s Russian department at the 2000 or 3000 level.

Area Studies Requirement
Policies

Additional Information and Department

The Russian minor consists of five courses:

**Language Requirement**

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**Literature and Culture Requirement**

Select two courses on Russian literature and culture chosen from course offerings in Bowdoin's Russian department at the 2000 or 3000 level.

- Students who have prior knowledge of Russian begin their language study at the appropriate placement level, but are still required to complete four language courses for the major. The sequence given here is the sequence that applies to students with no prior knowledge of Russian.
- Normally, this requirement is satisfied by one course on Russian politics and one course on Russian history.
- At least one elective must be an approved course taught by Russian department faculty or department-affiliated faculty at Bowdoin at the 2000 or 3000 level.
- One elective may be an advanced independent study on a topic in Russian literature, culture, history, politics, etc., or a rigorous topics course taken during study away (with approval).

**Electives**

Select two courses on Russian topics or on Russian language at the advanced level.

- In this concentration, students may count study-away courses to the language requirement only; please refer to the study-away section on the Additional Information tab.
- Students in this concentration are encouraged to choose courses dealing with a range of time periods, topics, and intellectual disciplines whenever possible. Advanced work is likewise strongly encouraged.
- Students who have prior knowledge of Russian begin their language study at the appropriate placement level, but are still required to complete three language courses for the minor. The sequence given here is the sequence that applies to students with no prior knowledge of Russian.
- Normally, this requirement is satisfied by one course on Russian politics and one course on Russian history.
- At least one elective must be an approved course taught by Russian department faculty or department-affiliated faculty at Bowdoin at the 2000 or 3000 level.
- One elective may be an advanced independent study on a topic in Russian literature, culture, history, politics, etc., or a rigorous topics course taken during study away (with approval).

**Russian Minor**

The Russian minor consists of five courses:

**Courses Taught in English Translation**

The department offers courses in English that focus on Russian literature and culture, numbered in the 2000s. These courses welcome non-majors and have no prerequisites; no knowledge of Russian language is required.

**Study Away**

Students are encouraged to spend at least one semester in Russia or another Russian-speaking region. There are intensive Russian language immersion programs in Moscow, St. Petersburg, Irkutsk, Vladimír, Yaroslavl (Russia), Kiev (Ukraine), and Almaty (Kazakhstan) that are open to students who have taken at least two semesters of college Russian. Programs and proposed coursework should be discussed with the Russian department. Russian majors returning from study away are expected to take two courses in the department unless exceptions are granted by the chair. Two courses from a one-semester study-away program may be counted toward the Russian major; three courses may be counted toward the major from a yearlong program. Up to two courses from study away may be counted toward the minor. Students who wish to transfer credit from summer study away (limit: one course per summer) should gain approval of their plans in advance; refer to Transfer of Credit from Other Institutions (https://bowdoin-public.courseleaf.com/academic-standards-regulations/#transfer-credit).

**Advanced Independent Study**

This is an option intended for students who wish to work on honors projects or who have taken advantage of all the available course offerings and wish to work more closely on a particular topic already studied. Independent study is normally not an alternative to regular coursework, and no more than one advanced independent study counts toward the Russian major. Application should be made to a member of the department prior to the semester in which the project is undertaken.

**Honors in Russian**

Russian majors may elect to complete an honors project. Candidates for departmental honors must have an outstanding record in other courses for the major (minimum grade point average of 3.5 in courses counting toward the major) and must secure the agreement of a faculty member to serve as advisor; the advisor may be chosen from outside the Russian department with the chair's approval. A research proposal outlining the project is due to the advisor and department chair by April 15 of the junior year. The proposal must be well-focused and must address an area of study in which the student can already demonstrate basic knowledge; honors candidates completing a Russian language, literature, and culture concentration in the major are required to choose a topic containing a strong literary, cinematic, or linguistic component. The bibliography should incorporate several primary and secondary sources in the original language; in most cases, the project itself is written in English. Expected length and format are determined in consultation with the faculty advisor on a project-specific basis. The honors project is completed in the context of two semesters of advanced independent study in the senior year; one of these semesters may be counted toward major requirements. In addition, candidates for honors are required to take at least one course in the Russian department in the senior year. The student must receive a grade of A- or higher on the completed honors project to receive departmental honors.

**Additional Information**

**Additional Information and Department Policies**

- A first-year writing seminar on an approved topic may be counted toward the major or minor in place of a 2000-level course.
- To be counted toward the Russian major or minor, courses must be taken for a letter grade (not Credit/D/Fail) and must receive a grade of at least C-.

- Majors and minors may double-count one course with another department or program.
Post-Graduate Study

Students planning post-graduate study should note that they present a stronger application if they take additional courses beyond what is strictly required to complete the Russian major. In particular, at least two courses on topics in Russian literature or culture at the 3000 level (taught entirely in Russian) are strongly recommended to all graduate school-bound Russian majors, regardless of concentration. Students wishing to pursue graduate study in the field of Russian language and literature should take additional courses on literary topics at the 2000 or 3000 level covering a wide range of literary-historical periods and genres (at a minimum, at least one course each focused on nineteenth-, twentieth-, and twenty-first-century literature, poetic genres, and prose genres). Students wishing to pursue graduate studies in an allied field (e.g., Russian politics, Russian history, Russian musicology, Russian cinema studies, and so on) are advised to take additional relevant courses both in the Russian department and in their field(s) of interest. All students who intend to pursue a graduate degree in a Russian-related field or subfield are strongly advised to consult with faculty on the design of their major and discuss the options of research projects through advanced independent studies, honors projects, fellowship-funded summer research, and intensive Russian language immersion programs.

Courses

RUS 1101 (c) Elementary Russian I
Mira Nikolova.
Every Fall. Fall 2021. Enrollment limit: 18.

Introduction to the Cyrillic writing system and to the fundamentals of the Russian language. Emphasis on the gradual acquisition of active language skills: speaking, understanding, reading and writing. Students will learn to introduce family members and explain what they do for a living; describe their room, possessions, city, and culinary preferences; discuss their daily activities and travels; talk about their studies and what languages they speak; ask simple questions, voice opinions, make invitations, and engage in basic everyday conversations. Authentic multimedia cultural materials (cartoons, songs, poems, videos) supplement the textbook and serve as a window onto the vibrant reality of Russian culture today. Conversation hour with native speaker.

Previous terms offered: Fall 2020, Fall 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2017.

RUS 1102 (c) Elementary Russian II

Continuation of Russian 1101. Introduction to the case and verbal systems of Russian. Emphasis on the acquisition of language skills through imitation and repetition of basic language patterns and through interactive dialogues. The course includes multimedia (video and audio) materials. Conversation hour with native speaker.

Prerequisites: RUS 1101.


RUS 2117 (c, IP) Fallen Women and Superfluous Men: Tolstoy, Dostoevsky, and the Great Russian Novel
Non-Standard Rotation. Enrollment limit: 35.

Introduces students to two giants of Russian literature, Tolstoy and Dostoevsky, and explores their significance to Russian cultural history and European thought. The course surveys the aesthetic contributions, literary styles, and artistic innovation of both authors through the close reading of their early and mature works. Themes of religion, philosophy, modernity, and art are examined through the complex lens of gender dynamics in nineteenth-century Russian literature. Special emphasis is placed on each novelist’s approach to questions of gender roles, masculinity, femininity, sexuality, prostitution, motherhood, free will, and social and familial duty. Sexual violence, suffering, spirituality, and redemption are further topics of interest. Studied texts include Dostoevsky’s Crime and Punishment and Notes from Underground, as well as Tolstoy’s Anna Karenina, The Cossacks, and “The Kreutzer Sonata,” among others. Class is conducted in English. (Same as: GSWS 2217)

Previous terms offered: Spring 2021.

RUS 2203 (c) Intermediate Russian I
Reed Johnson.
Every Fall. Fall 2021. Enrollment limit: 18.

Continuation of Elementary Russian. Emphasis on the continuing acquisition of active language skills: speaking, understanding, reading and writing. Students will improve their facility in speaking and understanding normal conversational Russian and will read increasingly sophisticated texts on a variety of topics. Authentic multimedia cultural materials (cartoons, songs, poems, videos, newspaper articles) supplement the textbook and serve as a window onto the vibrant reality of Russian culture today. Conversation hour with native speaker.

Prerequisites: RUS 1102.

Previous terms offered: Fall 2020, Fall 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2017.

RUS 2204 (c) Intermediate Russian II

Continuation of Russian 2203. Emphasis on developing proficiencies in listening, speaking, reading, and writing and on vocabulary development. Builds upon the basic grammatical competencies acquired in first-year Russian and completes a thorough introduction to the case and verbal systems of the language. The course includes multimedia (video and audio) materials. Conversation hour with native speaker.

Prerequisites: RUS 2203.

RUS 2224 (c, IP) Novelizing Nationalism: Gogol, Tolstoy, Dostoevsky
Non-Standard Rotation. Enrollment limit: 30.

Russia is a massive country, and it is no surprise that its novels are equally as large. The masterpieces of nineteenth-century Russian literature not only attempted to represent the vastness of the nation, but also strove to capture what Nikolai Gogol called “the wide, ranging sweep of the Russian character.” Novelists even hoped their works would elevate, enlighten, and transform the country’s soul, for, in the words of one of Dostoevsky’s protagonists, “beauty will save the world.” Interrogates the tension between the majesty of the Russian novel and the rise of Russian nationalism by analyzing the literary masterpieces of Nikolai Gogol, Leo Tolstoy, and Fyodor Dostoevsky. Taught in English.

Previous terms offered: Spring 2018.

RUS 2232 (c, IP) Structures of the Short Story
Reed Johnson.

Explores fundamentals of narrative construction through reading short masterworks of Russian literature alongside a variety of creative writing assignments. What makes a story compelling—or, for that matter, what makes it a story at all? This course focuses on the complex machinery producing what John Gardner called the “vivid and continuous dream” of fiction, moving from what a story means to how it means. Our guides in this process will be the Russian writers who helped innovate and fine-tune the modern short story, from Pushkin to Turgenev to Chekhov, and whose legacies continue to hold sway over the form. In response to readings, students write short creative or analytical assignments on the narrative techniques under study. This course is meant for writers and literature students alike; no previous creative writing experience required. All course materials are in English. Note: Fulfills the creative writing concentration requirement for English majors. (Same as: ENGL 2865)

RUS 2240 (c, IP, VPA) One Thousand Years of Russian Culture
Non-Standard Rotation. Enrollment limit: 35.

Winston Churchill famously called Russia “a riddle, wrapped in a mystery, inside an enigma.” This introduction to the mysteries of Russian culture from medieval times to the present includes the study of Russian art, music, architecture, dance, cinema, folk culture, and literature. Explores the ways in which Russians define themselves and their place in the world, and how they express their cultural uniqueness as well as their ties to both East and West. Literary readings will range from the ancient historical chronicles to short works by such classic Russian authors as Chekhov, Dostoevsky, Pushkin, and Tolstoy, as well as works by several contemporary authors. All course content is in English.

Previous terms offered: Spring 2020.

RUS 2245 (c, IP) Rebels, Workers, Mothers, Dreamers: Women in Russian Art and Literature since the Age of Revolution
Non-Standard Rotation. Enrollment limit: 35.

Although the Russian cultural tradition has long been male-dominated, this paradigm began to shift with the advent of brilliant women writers and artists prior to the Russian Revolution. Since the collapse of the USSR, women have again emerged as leaders in the tumultuous post-Soviet cultural scene, even overshadowing their male counterparts. Explores the work of female Russian writers, artists, and filmmakers against a backdrop of revolutionary change, from the turn of the twentieth century to the present. Themes include representations of masculinity and femininity in extremis; artistic responses to social, political, and moral questions; and women’s artistry as cultural subversion. (Same as: GSWS 2249)

Previous terms offered: Fall 2017.

RUS 2302 (c, IP) Russian Demonology
Non-Standard Rotation. Enrollment limit: 35.

Restless corpses, malevolent forest demons and giant talking black cats: Russian storytelling is suffused with the uncanny light of black magic, from popular superstitions to vampires at the modern-day multiplex. In this course, we’ll investigate this abiding interest in the demonic, starting with Russian folk beliefs and tracing how these traditions were transformed by the great nineteenth-century writers like Dostoevsky and Gogol in their explorations of the darker recesses of the human heart. We’ll also look at how fictional portrayals of Satan in twentieth-century Soviet works convey the existential terror of life in Stalin’s Moscow, and how contemporary horror reflects cultural anxieties around nation and self in Russia today. Course themes include fears of otherness and gendered depictions of supernatural evil, the dread of death and the undead, the seductiveness of sin, and the complex mechanisms of redemption. All course materials are in English.

Previous terms offered: Fall 2020.

RUS 2310 (c, IP) Modernity and Barbarism
Non-Standard Rotation. Enrollment limit: 35.

All forms of modernity are acts of violence. The creation of the new entails the destruction of the old. But in Russia, whose cultural development has proceeded in fits and starts, the tension between dreams of the future and the weight of the past is especially pronounced. This course explores artistic and literary reactions to the paradoxes of modern life, from the building of St. Petersburg to Putin’s Russia, in four units: Making Russia Modern (the everyman in the imperial capital, emancipation of the serfs, and early stages of capitalism), Modernism and the Avant Garde (the metropolis, machines, and the mass destruction of war and revolution), Modernization and the Five-Year Plan (the industrial revolution, utopian town planning, and class war), and Modernity Now (art and cinema of post-Soviet Russia). Works by Chekhov, Dostoevsky, Eisenstein, Gogol, Malevich, Marx, Mayakovsky, Popova, Pushkin, Rodchenko, Stepanova, and Tolstoy.

Previous terms offered: Spring 2019.
RUS 2410 (c, VPA) Post-Soviet Russian Cinema
Non-Standard Rotation. Enrollment limit: 35.

Newly freed from censorship, Russian filmmakers in the quarter-century between 1990 and 2015 created compelling portraits of a society in transition. Their films reassess traumatic periods in Soviet history; grapple with formerly taboo social problems such as alcoholism, anti-Semitism, and sexual violence; explore the breakdown of the Soviet system; and critique the darker aspects of today's Russia, often through the lens of gender or sexuality—specifically addressing subjects such as machismo, absent fathers, rape, cross-dressing, and birthing. Central are the rapid evolution of post-Soviet Russian society, the emergence of new types of social differences and disparities and the reinvention of old ones, and the changing nature of social roles within the post-Soviet social fabric. Taught in English. (Same as: CINE 2602, GSWS 2410)

Previous terms offered: Spring 2019.

RUS 2447 (c, IP) Nature and the Environment in Russian Culture
Non-Standard Rotation. Enrollment limit: 35.

Introduces students to major works of Russian/Soviet/post-Soviet literature (by authors such as Pushkin, Turgenev, Chekhov, Solzhenitsyn, Alexievich, and others), supplemented by films and visual art, within the thematic context of a focus on nature and the environment in the Russian geographic and cultural space. Topics include the role of nature in the Russian Romantic sublime; artistic constructions of the exotic in Russia's borderlands (Georgia, Mongolia); representations of the peasant village; feminization of the land and related metaphors of violent conquest; testaments to the instrumentalization of nature (St. Petersburg, Belomor Canal, Gulag); and the cultural legacy of environmental decay and disaster (pollution, Chernobyl). (Same as: ENVS 2460)

Previous terms offered: Fall 2018.

RUS 3005 (c, IP) Advanced Russian Language and Society I
Every Fall. Fall 2021. Enrollment limit: 10.

Building on the language skills developed in the Intermediate Russian I and II sequence, this course allows students to move beyond everyday language use to develop advanced lexical, grammatical and cultural knowledge on a variety of topics relevant to Russian speakers today. Within the context of a four-skills approach to language acquisition (writing, speaking, listening, reading), students engage with a wide variety of course materials in the target language, including Russian mass media, film, music, and literature. Individual units focus on specific issues or problems in modern Russian society, such as politics, art, health, identity and belonging, youth culture, economic development, technology and society. By the end of the course, students will be able to summarize and analyze different viewpoints on complex issues and articulate their own arguments both orally and in written Russian, from formulating clear theses to providing logical reasoning and evidence for their ideas.

Prerequisites: RUS 2204.

Previous terms offered: Fall 2020.

RUS 3006 (c, IP) Advanced Russian Language and Society II

Continuation of Advanced Russian Language and Society I. This course allows students to move beyond everyday language use to develop advanced lexical, grammatical and cultural knowledge on a variety of topics relevant to Russian speakers today. Within the context of a four-skills approach to language acquisition (writing, speaking, listening, reading), students engage with a wide variety of course materials in the target language, including Russian mass media, film, music, and literature. Individual units focus on specific issues or problems in modern Russian society, such as politics, art, health, identity and belonging, youth culture, economic development, technology and society. By the end of the course, students will be able to summarize and analyze different viewpoints on complex issues and articulate their own arguments both orally and in written Russian, from formulating clear theses to providing logical reasoning and evidence for their ideas.

Prerequisites: RUS 3005.

Previous terms offered: Spring 2021.
RUS 3099 (c, IP) Words that Scorch the Heart: Readings from Nineteenth-Century Russian Literature
Non-Standard Rotation. Enrollment limit: 16.

The nineteenth century is referred to as the golden age of Russian literature with good cause. During this period figures such as Dostoevsky, Gogol, Pushkin, and Tolstoy laid the foundation of the modern Russian literary canon and brought Russian literature to the world stage. These writers fomented rebellion, challenged the status quo, and dared to tell the truth in a repressive and conformist society. As a result, many of them became prophets, pariahs, or both. Students read and analyze important works of poetry and short prose from this era, paying attention to the texts' social and cultural context, the specifics of their construction as works of verbal art, and the nuances conveyed by their creators' linguistic choices. All primary texts, discussions, and presentations in Russian, as are the majority of writing assignments. Emphasis on vocabulary development, stylistics, and the ability to articulate sophisticated arguments in both oral and written Russian.

Prerequisites: RUS 3406.

Previous terms offered: Fall 2018.

RUS 3100 (c, IP) My Beautiful, Pitiful Epoch: Readings from Modern Russian Literature
Non-Standard Rotation. Enrollment limit: 16.

Russia has experienced a number of staggering transformations since the close of the nineteenth century, and these dramatic upheaval are mirrored in its national literature. This course will serve as an introduction to the evolution of Russian literature from the turn of the twentieth century, through the Revolution and the Soviet decades, to the contemporary post-Soviet period. Students will read and analyze important works of poetry and short prose from this era of radical change and experimentation, paying attention to the texts' social and cultural context, the specifics of their construction as works of verbal art, and the nuances conveyed by their creators' linguistic choices. All primary texts, discussions, and presentations will be in Russian, as will the majority of writing assignments. Emphasis on vocabulary development, stylistics, and the ability to articulate sophisticated arguments in both oral and written Russian.

Prerequisites: RUS 3406.

Previous terms offered: Fall 2020, Spring 2019.

RUS 3201 (c, IP) Pushkin
Non-Standard Rotation. Enrollment limit: 12.

Introduction to the lyric verse, narrative poetry, drama, fairytales, and prose of Alexander Pushkin, the “father of Russian literature.” Students will gain an appreciation for Pushkin’s extraordinary literary imagination and innovativeness, and for the complexity that underlies the seeming simplicity of his works. Attention to Pushkin’s evolving understanding of his role as Russia’s national poet, including such themes as the beauty of the Russian countryside, the poet’s sacred calling, political repression and the dream of civic freedom, the dialectic between chance and fate, St. Petersburg and the specter of revolution, poet as historian, inspiration and eroticism, poet vs. tsar, and the subversive power of art. All primary texts, discussions, and presentations and most writing assignments will be in Russian. Emphasis on learning to read and appreciate complex literary texts, vocabulary development, and the ability to articulate sophisticated arguments in both oral and written Russian.

Prerequisites: RUS 3406.

Previous terms offered: Fall 2019.

RUS 3210 (c, IP) Petersburg: City, Myth, Text
Reed Johnson.

St. Petersburg looms large in Russian history, from its creation as Russia’s “window to the West” and its role in World War II to its post-Soviet incarnation as cultural antipode to Moscow. This course focuses on the rich assemblage of myth and literature around what Dostoevsky called “the most artificial city in the world.” How did Petersburg’s creation as a planned city shape its physical space and make it a ready metaphor for European rationality? How do we square this with literary Petersburg—a realm of ghosts, madmen and doubles? We'll read foundational Petersburg texts by Pushkin, Gogol, and Dostoevsky and trace how they inspired later authors like Blok, Akhmatova, and Tolstaya. We'll also look at visual representations of Petersburg, from fine art to tourist brochures and contemporary films. All materials and assignments in Russian. Emphasis on reading complex texts, vocabulary development, and ability to articulate arguments in spoken and written Russian.

Prerequisites: RUS 3406.

Previous terms offered: Spring 2021.

RUS 3224 (c, IP) Novelizing Nationalism: Gogol, Tolstoy, Dostoevsky
Non-Standard Rotation. Enrollment limit: 05.

Russia is a massive country, and it is no surprise that its novels are equally as large. The masterpieces of nineteenth-century Russian literature not only attempted to represent the vastness of the nation, but also strove to capture what Nikolai Gogol called “the wide, ranging sweep of the Russian character.” Novelists even hoped their works would elevate, enlighten, and transform the country’s soul, for, in the words of one of Dostoevsky’s protagonists, “beauty will save the world.” Interrogates the tension between the majesty of the Russian novel and the rise of Russian nationalism by analyzing the literary masterpieces of Nikolai Gogol, Leo Tolstoy, and Fyodor Dostoevsky. Taught concurrently with Russian 2224.

Prerequisites: RUS 3406.

Previous terms offered: Spring 2018.
RUS 3245 (c, IP) Rebels, Workers, Mothers, Dreamers: Women in Russian Art and Literature Since the Age of Revolution

Non-Standard Rotation. Enrollment limit: 12.

Although the Russian cultural tradition has long been male-dominated, this paradigm began to shift with the advent of brilliant women writers and artists prior to the Russian Revolution. Since the collapse of the USSR, women have again emerged as leaders in the tumultuous post-Soviet cultural scene, even overshadowing their male counterparts. This course explores the work of female Russian writers, artists, and filmmakers against a backdrop of revolutionary change, from the turn of the 20th century to the present. Themes include representations of masculinity and femininity in extremis; artistic responses to social, political and moral questions; and women’s artistry as cultural subversion.

Prerequisites: RUS 2204.

Previous terms offered: Fall 2017.

RUS 3405 (c, IP) Advanced Russian I

Every Fall. Enrollment limit: 10.

Continuation of Intermediate Russian. Emphasis on the equal importance of speaking, understanding, reading, and writing for free and expressive communication in the Russian language. Course materials focus on topics in Russian literature, history, film, or culture to provide a broad conceptual base for students to practice and refine their language skills, improve their mastery of advanced grammar concepts, and expand their vocabulary. Course requirements include grammar practice, oral presentations, participation in class discussions, written compositions, and written and oral quizzes and tests. Conversation hour with native speaker.

Prerequisites: RUS 2204.

Previous terms offered: Fall 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2017.

RUS 3406 (c, IP) Advanced Russian II


Uses a four-skill approach (reading, writing, listening, speaking), emphasizing these skills’ equal importance for free communication in the target language. Course materials focus on topics in nineteenth-century Russian history, advanced grammar concepts, and vocabulary development. While the content of the readings is historical, their language is modern and authentic. Course requirements include oral presentations, written compositions, and oral and written exams.

Prerequisites: RUS 3405.