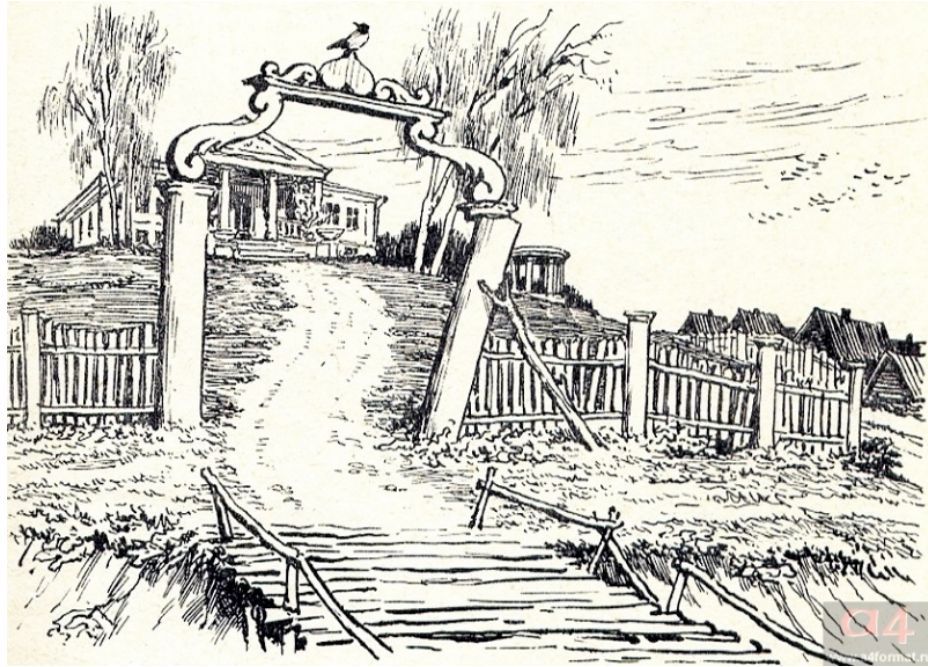


# THE LITERARY JOURNEY

## RUT3442 | FALL 2017

**Instructor:** Dr. Ingrid Kleespies

**Email:** iakl@ufl.edu



### Course Description

The journey is one of the most central and symbolic themes in literature. It appears in a multitude of forms, from the epic and allegorical to the political, satirical, exploratory, military, futuristic, imperial, and personal. The idea that life is a journey marked by significant adventures and events goes back as far as such epic texts as the *Odyssey*; since its earliest iterations, literary travel has served as a means of establishing personal and national identities and of engaging in social and political critique.

This course introduces students to various forms of writing about travel, with a close look at the relevance of the journey metaphor to notions of Russian identity. We will read the *Odyssey*, *Gulliver's Travels*, and Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness* as a basis for our reading of several key Russian works, including Nikolai Gogol's *Dead Souls*, Ivan Goncharov's *Oblomov*, Venedikt Erofeev's *Moscow to the End of the Line*, as well as texts by Feodor Dostoevsky, Nikolai Karamzin, and others. Taught entirely in English. No previous knowledge of Russian language, history or culture required. **(GenEd Credit: H, N)**

### General Education Objectives

This course will provide students with an opportunity to explore the interrelationship between literature, art, and national identity. In so doing, it is designed to fulfill General Education distribution requirements in the categories of "Humanities" (H) and "International" (N). The content of the course draws students' attention to the values, attitudes, and norms that shape

Russian culture, as well as to those that shape the English, Bhutanese, and ancient Greek literary and cultural traditions (N). Students will be exposed to a variety of theoretical and critical approaches in the humanities, such as philosophy, film and cultural studies, and anthropology, as well as to techniques of close textual analysis (H). Students will be asked to develop their critical thinking skills through examination of a variety of cultural norms, including their own (N), and critique of various approaches to fundamental questions of representation and identity (H). Additionally, students will be required to communicate knowledge, thoughts and reasoning clearly and effectively in written assignments, class presentations, debates, and in small group/whole class discussion (H).

### **REQUIRED TEXTS**

1. *The Odyssey*. Homer. Trans. Robert Fagles. New York; Penguin Classics, 1999.
2. *Gulliver's Travels*. Jonathon Swift. New York; W. W. Norton & Co., 2001.
3. *Dead Souls*. Nikolai Gogol. Trans. Richard Pevear and Larissa Volokhonsky. New York; Vintage, 1997.
4. *Oblomov*. Ivan Goncharov. Trans. Stephen Pearl. New York; Penguin Classics, 2005.
5. *Moscow to the End of the Line*. Venedikt Erofeev. Tr. H. Tjalsma. Evanston; Northwestern UP, 1980.
6. *Heart of Darkness*. Joseph Conrad. 3rd ed. New York: W. W. Norton & Co., 1988.
7. Additional required readings are available on E-Reserves (indicated on the syllabus by an asterisk).

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS | GRADING POLICY**

#### **1. REGULAR SECTION REQUIREMENTS (14H8):**

Attendance and Participation (20%). Attendance (10%) is mandatory and is included in your participation grade. Participation in this class is a significant part of your grade (10%). Please come to class having completed the assigned reading and prepared to take part in discussion. Failure to participate on a regular basis will significantly affect your grade. If you miss more than 4 classes, please drop this course. (For details, see "Attendance Policies," Undergraduate Catalog.)

Presentation (15%). You will be expected to prepare one 10-minute presentation on a topic relevant to the course. Topics and schedule will be provided. Presentations will be graded based on their organization, clarity, and effectiveness of delivery.

Seven Response Papers (20%) of 1-2 pages in length are due during the course of the semester. These require you to respond informally to some aspect of the reading, film, or class discussion that you find particularly interesting. Please be prepared to share your ideas in class. Due dates are indicated on the syllabus. These are not graded.

Mid-Term Essay of 4-5 pages (20%). Topics will be provided, but you are also free to write about a topic of your own choosing with prior instructor approval. All papers must be submitted via turnitin.com and in print copy by 12:50pm.

Final Essay of 5-7 pages (25%). The final paper will require you to develop a topic of your choosing (with prior instructor approval). All papers must be submitted via turnitin.com and in print copy by 12:50pm.

## 2. HONORS SECTION REQUIREMENTS (074B):

Attendance and Participation (20%). Attendance (10%) is mandatory and is included in your participation grade. Participation in this class is a significant part of your grade (10%). Please come to class having completed the assigned reading and prepared to take part in discussion. Failure to participate on a regular basis will significantly affect your grade. If you miss more than 4 classes, please drop this course. (For details, see "Attendance Policies," Undergraduate Catalog.)

Presentation (20%). You will be expected to prepare a 10-15 minute presentation on your research/paper topic toward the end of the semester. Presentations will be graded based on the quality of research, clarity of argument, organization, and effectiveness of delivery.

Seven Response Papers (20%) of 1-2 pages in length are due during the course of the semester. These require you to respond informally to some aspect of the reading, film, or class discussion that you find particularly interesting. Please be prepared to share your ideas in class. Due dates are indicated on the syllabus.

Final Essay of 12-15 pages (40%). You will be required to write a paper on a topic of your choosing, selected in consultation with the instructor. This paper may be a piece of significant literary analysis of one or more of the course texts, or be a work of research on a topic related to one or more of the course texts. You will be expected to develop this paper over the course of the semester. All papers must be submitted via turnitin.com and in print copy by 12:50pm.

**\*Plagiarism will not be tolerated.** Any example of academic dishonesty will be subject to university rules and regulations: [www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/students.html](http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/students.html).

**\*Missed coursework** may be made up, pending discussion with instructor.

**\*Disability Policy:** Students requesting classroom accommodation must register with the Dean of Students Office and provide appropriate documentation. [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc).

### Grading Scale

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
94-100	90-93	87-89	84-86	80-83	77-79	74-76	70-73	67-69	64-66	60-63	0-59

\*A C- will not be a qualifying grade for major, minor, Gen Ed, Gordon Rule or Basic College Distribution Credit.

**Grading Policy:** [www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html](http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html).

**Honor Code:** [www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php).

**Counselling and Wellness Center:** [www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc](http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc)

**COURSE SCHEDULE**

<u>Date</u>	<u>In Class</u>	<u>Assignment FOR NEXT CLASS</u>
August 21	Introduction	<i>The Odyssey</i> , pp. 77-123 (Books 1-3)
August 23	<i>The Odyssey</i> , Books 1-3	<i>The Odyssey</i> , pp.124-167 (Books 4-5)
August 25	<i>The Odyssey</i> , Books 4-5	<i>The Odyssey</i> , pp.168-229 (Books 6-9)
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August 28	<i>The Odyssey</i> Books 6-9	<i>The Odyssey</i> , pp.230-285 (Books 10-12)
August 30	<i>The Odyssey</i> Books 10-12	<i>The Odyssey</i> , pp.286-337 (Books 13-15); <b>Response Paper #1 due in class 9/1</b>
September 1	<i>The Odyssey</i> Books 13-15 <b>Response Paper #1</b>	<i>The Odyssey</i> , pp.338-389 (Books 16-18)
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September 4	<b>NO CLASS</b> (Labor Day)	<i>The Odyssey</i> , pp.338-389 (Books 16-18)
September 6	<i>The Odyssey</i> Books 16-18 <b>Presentation #1: Schliemann's Gold (9/6)</b>	<i>The Odyssey</i> , pp.390-438 (Books 19-21)
September 8	<i>The Odyssey</i> Books 19-21	<i>The Odyssey</i> , pp.439-485 (Books 22-24)
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September 11	<i>The Odyssey</i> Books 22-24	<i>Gulliver's Travels</i> , 15-65 ("Voyage to Lilliput")
September 13	<i>Gulliver's Travels</i> "Voyage to Lilliput"	<i>Gulliver's Travels</i> , 69-125 ("Voyage to Brobdingnag")
September 15	<i>Gulliver's Travels</i> "Voyage to Brobdingnag"	<i>Gulliver's Travels</i> , 129-184 ("Voyage to Laputa")

September 18	<i>Gulliver's Travels</i> "Voyage to Laputa" <b>Presentation #2:</b> The Royal Academy of Sciences	<i>Gulliver's Travels</i> , 187-250 ("Voyage to the Country of the Houyhnhnms") <b>Response Paper #2 due 9/20</b>
September 20	<i>Gulliver's Travels</i> "Voyage to the Country of The Houyhnhnms" <b>Response Paper #2</b>	Prepare for Debate
September 22	<i>Gulliver's Travels</i> In-Class Debate: Interpreting Gulliver's Fourth Voyage	* <i>The Travels of Afanasius Nikitin of Twer</i>
September 25	<i>The Travels of Afanasius Nikitin of Twer</i>	* <i>A Journey from St. Petersburg to Moscow</i> LISTEN: Audio Report
September 27	<i>A Journey from St. Petersburg to Moscow</i>	* <i>Letters of a Russian Traveler</i>
September 29	<i>Letters of a Russian Traveller</i> <b>Presentation #3:</b> The Grand Tour (9/29)	<i>Dead Souls</i> , pp.3-58 (Chaps.1-3); <b>Response Paper #3 due 10/2</b>
October 2	<i>Dead Souls</i> Chaps. 1-3 <b>Response Paper #3</b>	<i>Dead Souls</i> , pp.59-109 (Chaps. 4-5)
October 4	<i>Dead Souls</i> Chaps. 4-5	<i>Dead Souls</i> , pp.110-179 (Chaps. 6-8)
October 6	<b>NO CLASS</b> (Homecoming)	<i>Dead Souls</i> , pp.110-179 (Chaps. 6-8)
October 9	<i>Dead Souls</i> Chaps. 6-8	<i>Dead Souls</i> , pp.180-253 (Chaps. 9-11)
October 11	<i>Dead Souls</i> Chaps. 9-11	<b>Mid-Term Essay due 10/16</b>

October 13	Paper Consultation/ Writing Workshop	<b>Mid-Term Essay</b> due 10/16
October 16	“Travelers and Magicians” Film Screening <b>*Mid-Term Essay*</b> due in class and via turnitin.com at 12:50pm	<b>Response Paper #4</b> due 10/20 (On Film)
October 18	“Travelers and Magicians” Film Screening	<b>Response Paper #4</b> due 10/20 (On Film)
October 20	“Travelers and Magicians” Discussion <b>Response Paper #4</b>	<i>Oblomov</i> , pp.1-161 (Pt.I:ch.1-Pt.II:ch.4)
October 23	<i>Oblomov</i> Pt.I:ch.1-Pt.II:ch.4 <b>Presentation #4:</b> "What is Oblomovism?" (10/23)	<i>Oblomov</i> , pp.162-249 (Pt.II:ch.5-Pt.II:ch.12)
October 25	<i>Oblomov</i> Pt.II:ch.5-Pt.II:ch.12	<i>Oblomov</i> , pp.251-328 (Pt.III); <b>Response Paper #5</b> <b>due 10/27</b>
October 27	<i>Oblomov</i> Pt.III; <b>Response Paper #5</b>	<i>Oblomov</i> , pp. 329-436 (Pt.IV)
October 30	<i>Oblomov</i> Pt.IV	<i>*Winter Notes on Summer Impressions</i> , pp. 1-33
November 1	<i>Winter Notes on Summer Impressions</i>	<i>*Winter Notes on Summer Impressions</i> , pp.34-74
November 3	<i>Winter Notes on Summer Impressions</i>	<i>Heart of Darkness</i> pp.3-31 (Chap.1)
November 6	<i>Heart of Darkness</i> <b>Presentation #5:</b> The Belgian Congo (11/6) (Chap. 2)	<i>Heart of Darkness</i> , pp.33-76
November 8	<b>NO CLASS</b>	<i>Heart of Darkness</i> , pp.33-76

November 10	<b>NO CLASS</b> (Veterans Day)	<i>Heart of Darkness</i> , pp.33-76
November 13	<i>Heart of Darkness</i> (Chap. 2)	*“The Very Rigid Search”
November 15	“Everything is Illuminated” Film Screening	<b>Response Paper #6 due 11/20</b> (on Film)
November 17	“Everything is Illuminated” Film Screening	<b>Response Paper #6 due 11/20</b> (on Film)
November 20	“Everything is Illuminated” Discussion; <b>Response Paper #6</b>	<i>Moscow to the End of the Line</i> , pp.13-91
November 22	<b>NO CLASS</b> (Thanksgiving)	<i>Moscow to the End of the Line</i> , pp.13-91
November 24	<b>NO CLASS</b> (Thanksgiving)	<i>Moscow to the End of the Line</i> , pp.13-91
November 27	<i>Moscow to the End of the Line</i> , pp.13-91	<i>Moscow to the End of the Line</i> , pp.91-164; <b>Response Paper #7 due 11/29</b>
November 29	<i>Moscow to the End of the Line</i> , pp.91-164 <b>Response Paper #7</b>	<b>FINAL PAPER due 12/6</b>
December 1	Paper Workshop	<b>FINAL PAPER due 12/6</b>
December 4	<b>NO CLASS</b> Writing Day/Paper Consults	<b>FINAL PAPER due 12/6</b>
December 6	Personal Travel Stories/Conclusion <b>Final Paper due</b>	