Eastern and Central Europe underwent social and political change in the 20th-21st centuries that by far exceeded the more gradual and progressive transitions that affected other “Western” cultures. This course gives students an opportunity to explore the major historical, social and cultural upheavals of the twentieth-twenty-first centuries through the eyes of a large community of European Slavs. We will do this through the medium of literature, film and other contemporary art forms. The course will take its lead from the assumption that it is not so much events as perceptions of events that influence the thoughts and ideas of subsequent generations. The course will place special emphasis on how these perceptions changed over an extended period of time (1900-2019). Taught entirely in English; no knowledge of any other language required. (Gen Ed credit: H, N)