Russian Studies Course Offerings ~ Spring Semester 2019

For questions about course selection or the Russian major/minor, contact:
Dr. Galina Rylkova (grylkova@ufl.edu), Office Hours: T: 3.15-4.30 p.m.; R: 4.15-5.30 p.m., 256 Dauer Hall

RUS 1131: Introduction to Russian Language & Culture 2 [5 credits]
Continues where RUS 1130 left off, building your basic skill set in speaking, writing, and comprehending language and culture. Prerequisite: RUS 1130 or the instructor’s permission.

MTWRF 3 (0877) Dr. Kleespies
MTWRF 4 (17A6) Ms. Wladyka

MTWRF 5 (1A21) Ms. Wladyka
MTWRF 6 (2033) Ms. Wladyka

Note: RUS 1131 is a required pre-requisite for all Russian minors and majors and not offered fall semester.

RUS 3400: Intermediate Russian 2 [4 credits]
Continues where Intermediate Russian 1 left off, helping you expand your vocabulary, your active command of Russian grammar, and your ability to read and write at the intermediate level. Prerequisite: RUS 2220 or instructor’s permission. (Required for all majors/minors ~ not offered fall semester!)

MTWR 4 (3264) Ms. Renz
MTWR 5 (7726) Ms. Renz

Intermediate-level courses:

RUS 4780 (088D): Corrective Phonetics & Intonation, T:7; R: 7-8: (Dr. Burak) [3]. This is an intermediate-level phonetics and intonation course that aims to eliminate typical elements of a foreign accent in the speech of predominantly non-native Russian speakers. This aim will be pursued through intensive pronunciation practice using popular Russian songs, verses, tongue twisters, and excerpts from movies. Prerequisites: RUS 2220 or the Undergraduate Advisor’s permission. Students taking RUS 3400 are particularly encouraged to take this class. Highly motivated and adventurous students can take this class concurrently with RUS 1131.

Advanced-level courses:

RUS 4001 (19EB): Advanced Russian 2, MW 7 (Dr. Goodwin) [3]. This is the second stage of a REQUIRED third-year language sequence that involves written and oral practice in the use of the most frequently occurring vocabulary and grammar structures in Russian. The course enhances students’ ability to read complex Russian texts more easily and to express themselves with greater confidence and precision on more complicated topics, both in writing and everyday conversation. Prerequisites: RUS 4000: Advanced Russian 1 or the Undergraduate Advisor’s permission.

RUW 4301 (1F56): Russian Drama and Poetry, T: 8-9; R: 9 (Dr. Rylkova) [3] This course is an introduction to Chekhov’s short comedies (“The Bear” and “The Wedding”) and the Russian poetry of the 19th-21st century. The objective of this course is to enhance your appreciation of some of the most popular plays in Russian and American theater and to introduce you to the poetry of such celebrated and beloved poets as Pushkin, Tiutchev, Lermontov, Blok, Kuzmin, Akhmatova, Mandelstam, and Pasternak. The class is a combination of lectures and discussions. This is your opportunity to fall in love with Chekhov’s humor and the Russian poetry and experience first-hand its proverbial “untranslatability.” All texts will be available in Russian as well as in English. But Readings and discussion will be predominantly in Russian. Prerequisite: RUS 4000 or the instructor's permission.
Russian Literature and Culture Courses (in English)

RUT3442 (12E9 Honors) The Culture of the Cold War, MWF: 5 (Dr. Kleespies) [3]. Emerging from the chaotic destruction of WWII, the Cold War appeared to divide the world in two in both physical and symbolic ways. It amplified extant political and sociocultural binaries of “good” and “evil,” “us” and “them,” and “capitalism” and communism,” to an unprecedented degree. Under the harsh glare of the threat of total destruction, nearly all aspects of Soviet and American life were organized around these poles for a period of almost fifty years. What were the American and Soviet cultural responses to the intense and unprecedented situation of the “atomic age?” How can we compare these “rival” visions and experiences? In this course, students will be asked to examine the culture of the Cold War from the Soviet and American perspectives across a wide range of phenomena (including literature, film, and propaganda), to consider how and why relations between the U.S. and the USSR came to be framed as a global ideological contest, and to be aware of the legacy of the Cold War and cultural responses to it in today’s world. Taught entirely in English. No prerequisites or knowledge of Russian required. GenEd Credit: H, N. Counts toward a Russian major or minor.

RUT 3442 (1F48) Russia Through Film, T: 8-9; R: 9 (Dr. Burak) [3]
An examination of history, culture, everyday life and institutions of Russia in the 20th-21st centuries through the media of its most popular feature, documentary and animation films. The films will be analyzed, interpreted, and critically assessed in the context of the period-defining historical, political and cultural events from the early 20th century to the present day. Students will get acquainted with the key events and personalities of Stalin’s Soviet Union, the Great Patriotic War, the Khrushchev Thaw, the Brezhnev “stagnation period,” Gorbachev’s perestroika and glasnost, the “wild” 1990s of the Yeltsin period, and the new era of Putin, Medvedev, and Putin again. The classes will be conducted entirely in English in the form of a combination of lectures and discussions, based on close reading of the latest sources on Russia and watching relevant excerpts from selected films. Students will be required to read, on average, about 40 pages of mandatory course texts a week. Midterm and final take-home exams. No prerequisites or knowledge of Russian required. GenEd Credit: H, N. Counts toward a Russian major or minor.

RUT 3530 (20573) Russia's Struggle with Nature: Legacies of Destruction and Preservation, MWF 6 (Dr. Goodwin) [3]
This course examines modern Russia’s relationship with the natural world as reflected in works of literature and visual art of the past century. Fictional and documentary (geographical/biological) texts explore issues of ecology, environmental history and sustainability in light of Russian thought and creative endeavor. Beginning from basic facts surrounding well-known historical events (e.g. the exploration and development of wilderness in the Far East; Communist attempts to engineer and control nature; the degradation of iconic landmarks like the Aral Sea & Lake Baikal; the Chernobyl nuclear disaster, etc.), we will investigate Russian cultural responses to their consequences, both real and potential, as we analyze the tension between Russia’s traditional urge to preserve its natural treasures, and ongoing pressures to exploit it. [Format:] Lectures and class discussions of assigned readings; three exams on course material; one detailed book review, one brief oral presentation on a selected reading. Taught entirely in *English*. NO prerequisites or knowledge of Russian required.

LIT 2000 (032E), Introduction to Literature, T: 7; R: 7-8 (Dr. Rylkova) [3]. This course examines the unique and changing role literature has played in individuals’ lives and in society. It is centered on three deceptively simple questions: What is literature? Why do we write literature? And why do we read literature? It introduces students to a range of literary genres, from different countries and historical periods. Among the primary aims of this course is to help students develop the critical skill of analysis and interpretation. From Russian literature we will read Chekhov’s stories and Dostoevsky’s Crime and Punishment in its entirety. This literature course is required of all CLAS students. GenEd: Humanities.