

# *RUSS 4301-001*

## *Selected Russian Authors*



### **The University of Texas at Arlington**

#### **Department of Modern Languages**

#### **Spring 2014, T/TH 12:30-1:50pm**

Instructor: Dr. Lonny Harrison

Office: Hammond Hall 221F

Phone: 817-272-9506

Email: [lonnyharrison@uta.edu](mailto:lonnyharrison@uta.edu)

Faculty profile: <https://www.uta.edu/mentis/profile/?2988>

Office hours: MWF 10-11am

### **Course Description**

This course is comprised of detailed reading and analysis of selected works by Alexander Pushkin, Nikolai Gogol, Mikhail Lermontov, Leo Tolstoy, Fyodor Dostoevsky, Anton Chekhov and others. Their works are compared in the light of urgent social, political, literary and philosophical questions of their day. Readings are in Russian for CLIS Russian majors and Russian minors, and English for interdisciplinary students. Reading assignments should be completed prior to the class for which they are assigned. Students should be prepared to discuss them in connection with specific topics assigned by the instructor.

### **Course Objectives**

The course will be conducted in a seminar format. We will read and discuss assigned texts, focusing on literary analysis and social-historical contexts. By the end of this course you should expect to have:

- become acquainted with several Russian short story writers and their works;
- developed awareness of the themes and tendencies which the texts represent, as well

- as the social and historical contexts to which they respond;
- developed a keener awareness of the language of literary texts;

**Students of Russian will also:**

- considerably expand your Russian vocabulary;
- significantly improve your ability to comprehend Russian literary texts;
- gain deeper and wider understanding of Russian roots, prefixes, suffixes, the case system, syntax, and sentence structure;
- increase your ability to express your ideas in written Russian.

**Interdisciplinary Students will also:**

- significantly improve your scholarly research skills;
- practice and improve your speaking and presentation skills.

**Coursework and Evaluation**

Russian majors and minors will complete weekly written tasks in Russian. Interdisciplinary students will complete research assignments on selected authors and topics. All students will make short presentations based on independent research as well as write a mid-term exam and a final research paper.

Detailed instructions for the presentations and research paper will be announced during class.

The breakdown of grades is as follows:

Attendance, participation and weekly assignments	30%
Mid-term exam	20%
Presentation	20%
Final Paper	30%

**Required Reading**

Please acquire the following texts, available at the UTA bookstore:

***Russian Stories: A Dual-Language Book*, edited by Gleb Struve. New York: Dover Publications, 1990.**

***Russian Classics in Russian and English: A Hero of Our Time by Mikhail Lermontov (Dual-Language Book)*, translated and edited by Alexander Vassiliev. La Vergne, TN: Ingram Book Company, 2010.**

Other reading assignments will be made available throughout the semester via Blackboard.

**Regulations and Guidelines****Attendance**

Attendance is mandatory and counts for a significant portion of the course grade. Unexcused absences and late assignments will result in grade deductions at the discretion of the instructor. In the case of unavoidable absences, please notify the instructor *before* the class missed. It is your responsibility to keep up with any work missed as a result of your absence.

**Drop Policy:** Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

**Americans with Disabilities Act:** The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

**Academic Integrity:** Students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

**Student Support Services:** UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs.

For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at [www.uta.edu/resources](http://www.uta.edu/resources).

**Electronic Communication:** UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

**Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” shall be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

**Final Review Week:** A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

### **Course Schedule**

A more detailed schedule and instructions will be available as the course begins.

*As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in the course. –LH*

Week 1                      Introduction and review of course syllabus.

Alexander Pushkin. Lecture and discussion.

Week 2                      Alexander Pushkin, “The Stationmaster”

Week 3                      Nikolai Gogol, “The Nose”

Week 4                      Mikhail Lermontov, *A Hero of Our Time*

<u>Week 5</u>	Mikhail Lermontov, <i>A Hero of Our Time</i>
<u>Week 6</u>	Mikhail Lermontov, <i>A Hero of Our Time</i>
<u>Week 7</u>	Fyodor Dostoevsky, "Bobok"
<u>Week 8</u>	Ivan Turgenev, "A Living Relic" <b>Mid-term exam</b>
<u>Week 9</u>	Lev Tolstoy, "The Three Hermits"
<u>Week 10</u>	Anton Chekhov, "Sleepy" <b>Presentations</b>
<u>Week 11</u>	Fyodor Sollogub, "In Bondage" <b>Presentations</b>
<u>Week 12</u>	Ivan Bunin, "Sunstroke" <b>Presentations</b>
<u>Week 13</u>	Evgeny Zamiatin, "The Cave" <b>Presentations</b>
<u>Week 14</u>	Mikhail Zoshchenko, "Yuletide Story" <b>Presentations</b>
<u>Week 15</u>	<b>Work on research papers</b>
<u>Week 16</u>	<b>Research papers due</b>