



**RUSS 4304-001 / ENGL 4337-001  
BANNED AND CENSORED WORKS OF  
RUSSIAN LITERATURE**

**Department of Modern Languages  
University of Texas at Arlington  
Spring 2017 T/TH 2:00-3:20  
Trimble Hall 202**

Dr. Lonny Harrison

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### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Except for infrequent intervals of short-lived reforms, censorship was a consistent, if not always effective mechanism of state control over the arts and culture of Russia and the Soviet Union. This course examines selected works of Russian literature and media that were banned, censored or otherwise prohibited, from the Imperial through the Soviet periods. We will discuss the role of censorship in Russian cultural life in conjunction with a detailed analysis of some of the great works of political and cultural expression that flourished in spite of it.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

Engaging with textual and other cultural media, students gain knowledge of widely ranging perspectives on the dynamic and changing historical, social, political and artistic realities of Russia and the Soviet Union from the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century to today. A major objective is to develop skills of textual analysis through reading, discussion, journaling, and academic writing.

By the end of this course you should expect to have:

- become acquainted with some of the most outstanding Russian and Soviet writers and their best-known works;

- developed the language and skills of textual analysis and awareness of language as an artistic medium;
- developed broad knowledge of the themes and tendencies in the texts and topics addressed, as well as the social and historical contexts to which they respond.

**Russian Majors and Minors will also:**

- considerably expand your Russian vocabulary;
- significantly improve your reading comprehension of Russian;
- gain deeper and wider understanding of Russian parts of speech, the case system, and syntax;
- increase your ability to think analytically in Russian and express your ideas in written Russian.

**Interdisciplinary Students will also:**

- significantly improve your scholarly research and writing skills.

**REQUIREMENTS and GRADING**

Readings and assignments are in English for interdisciplinary students.

Russian majors and minors read some materials and complete assignments in Russian.

**Evaluation for all students is based on:**

- Attendance and participation in class discussion and reflective writing on the weekly readings;
- A midterm and final exam;
- A research paper of 10-12 pages on a topic chosen in consultation with the instructor;

Regular attendance and participation is mandatory and forms part of the final grade. See attendance policy below.

Grades are apportioned as follows:

Attendance and participation	10%
Midterm exam	30%
Final paper	30%
Final exam	30%

**REQUIRED TEXTS**

Yuri Olesha, *Envoy*

Mikhail Bulgakov, *The Master and Margarita*

Boris Pasternak, *Doctor Zhivago*

Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*

Venedikt Erofeev, *Moscow Circles (aka Moscow to the End of the Line)*

Additional materials will be made available on Blackboard.

**REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES**

**Attendance:** At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required but attendance is a critical indicator in student success. Each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students' academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance.

However, while UT Arlington does not require instructors to take attendance in their courses, the U.S. Department of Education requires that the University have a mechanism in place to mark when Federal Student Aid recipients "begin attendance in a course." UT Arlington instructors will report when students begin attendance in a course as part of the final grading process. Specifically, when assigning a student a grade of F, faculty report the last date a student attended their class based on evidence such as a test, participation in a class project or presentation, or an engagement online via Blackboard. This date is reported to the Department of Education for federal financial aid recipients.

*As the instructor of this section, I expect regular classroom attendance of all students. Coursework, assignments, and evaluative measures are based upon that assumption. You are responsible for acquiring class notes if you have to miss. Inform me of any extenuating circumstances before a class is missed. In the case of illness, please provide a doctor's note. -LH*

**Grading:** See the distribution of grades above. Progress report schedules can be found here: <http://www.uta.edu/records/calendars/progress-reports.php> Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels; see "Student Support Services," below.

**Expectations for Out-of-Class Study:** Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least an additional 9 hours per week of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for exams, etc.

**Grade Grievances:** Any appeal of a grade in this course must follow the procedures and deadlines for grade-related grievances as published in the current University Catalog. For undergraduate courses, see <http://catalog.uta.edu/academicregulations/grades/#undergraduatetext>; For student complaints, see <http://www.uta.edu/deanofstudents/student-complaints/index.php>.

**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/>).

**Disability Accommodations:** UT 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)*, *The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA)*, and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act*. 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 disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a **letter certified** by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD). Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

**The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD)** [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or calling 817-272-3364. 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).

**Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS)** [www.uta.edu/caps/](http://www.uta.edu/caps/) or calling 817-272-3671 is also available to all students to help increase their understanding of personal issues, address mental and behavioral health problems and make positive changes in their lives.

**Non-Discrimination Policy:** *The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit [uta.edu/eos](http://uta.edu/eos).*

**Title IX Policy:** The University of Texas at Arlington (“University”) is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated. *For information regarding Title IX, visit [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX) or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or [jmhood@uta.edu](mailto:jmhood@uta.edu).*

**Academic Integrity:** Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses 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 in their courses by 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. Additional information is available at <https://www.uta.edu/conduct/>.

**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>.

**Campus Carry:** Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/>

**Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in face-to-face and online classes categorized as "lecture," "seminar," or "laboratory" are 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 via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. Students' anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

**Final Review Week:** for semester-long courses, 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.

**Emergency Exit Procedures:** Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which is located at the door on the far right end of the classroom. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities. You are encouraged to subscribe to the MavAlert system that will send information in case of an emergency to your cell phone or email account. Anyone can subscribe at <https://mavalert.uta.edu/> or <https://mavalert.uta.edu/register.php>

**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 <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php>.

**The IDEAS Center** (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of Central Library) offers **free** tutoring to all students with a focus on transfer students, sophomores, veterans and others undergoing a transition to UT Arlington. To schedule an appointment with a peer tutor or mentor email [IDEAS@uta.edu](mailto:IDEAS@uta.edu) or call (817) 272-6593.

**The English Writing Center (411LIBR):** The Writing Center Offers free tutoring in 20-, 40-, or 60-minute face-to-face and online sessions to all UTA students on any phase of their UTA coursework. Hours are 9 am to 8 pm Mon.-Thurs., 9 am-3 pm Fri. and Noon-6 pm Sat. and Sun. Register and make appointments online at <http://uta.mywconline.com>. Classroom Visits, workshops, and specialized services for graduate students are also available. Please see [www.uta.edu/owl](http://www.uta.edu/owl) for detailed information on all our programs and services.

The Library's 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Academic Plaza offers students a central hub of support services, including IDEAS Center, University Advising Services, Transfer UTA and various college/school advising hours. Services are available during the library's hours of operation. <http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza>

**Our Librarian to Contact: Diane Shepelwich** – <http://library.uta.edu/staff/diane-shepelwich>

**Central Library, Office 516; 817-272-7521; [dianec@uta.edu](mailto:dianec@uta.edu)**

**Office Hours:** Monday: 9:00 am-12:00 pm; Tuesday: 10:00 am-1:00 pm

#### MORE LINKS & RESOURCES

Library Home Page: [library.uta.edu](http://library.uta.edu)

Click here for [Subject Guides](#)

Academic Plaza Consultation Services: [library.uta.edu/academic-plaza](http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza)

Ask Us: [ask.uta.edu/](http://ask.uta.edu/)

Library Tutorials: [library.uta.edu/how-to](http://library.uta.edu/how-to)

A to Z List of Library Databases: [libguides.uta.edu/az.php](http://libguides.uta.edu/az.php)

Course Reserves: [pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/enterCourseReserve.do](http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/enterCourseReserve.do)

FabLab: [fablab.uta.edu/](http://fablab.uta.edu/)

Special Collections: [library.uta.edu/special-collections](http://library.uta.edu/special-collections)

Study Room Reservations: [openroom.uta.edu/](http://openroom.uta.edu/)

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## **Topics and Reading Schedule**

*NB: Topics and dates are tentative. As the instructor of this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled. –LH*

**WEEK 1 – Jan. 17 & 19**

**Course introduction. 'Enlightened Despotism' and Censorship. Classicism, Satire and the Rise of Literary Journals in Russia.**

N. I. Novikov's Polemic with Catherine II, June 16, 1769.

**WEEK 2 – Jan. 24 & 26**

**'Enlightened Despotism' and Censorship, cont.**

Aleksandr Radishchev, excerpts from "*Journey from St. Petersburg to Moscow.*"

**WEEK 3 – Jan. 31 & Feb. 2**

**Autocracy and Rebellion. The Decembrist Revolt. Reaction and Censorship under Nicholas I.**

Aleksandr Pushkin, "Stanzas" (to Nicholas I; 1826); "19 October, 1827" or "To Siberia."

A. I. Odoevskii's Response to A. S. Pushkin's Poem, 1827.

Nicholas I's Manifesto Upon Ascending the Throne, December 24, 1825.

Concerning his views on censorship, December 12, 1826.

Petr Chaadaev, "First Philosophical Letter," 1836. Critical comments on Russian history and culture.

**WEEK 4 – Feb. 7 & 9**

**Liberals and Radicals: The Russian Intelligentsia of the 1840's – 1860's.**

Vissarion Belinskii, "Letter to Gogol," July 15, 1847.

Aleksandr Herzen's commentaries on the Russian scene, 1849-1855.

**WEEK 5 – Feb. 14 (no class on Feb. 16)**

**Liberals and Radicals: The Russian Intelligentsia of the 1840's – 1860's, cont.**

Konstantine Aksakov's defense of the freedom of expression, "Free Word," 1853.

Aleksandr Herzen, *From the Other Shore* (1855).

**WEEK 6 – Feb. 21 & 23**

**Midterm Exam, Tuesday, Feb. 21**

**Feb. 23**

**Literature and Revolution. "Soviet" Literature of the 1920's and 30's.**

**Yuri Olesha, *Envy***

**WEEK 7 – Feb. 28 & Mar. 2**

**High Stalinism and Russian Literature in the 1930's and 40's. Socialist Realism.**

**Yuri Olesha, *Envy*, cont.**

**WEEK 8 – Mar. 7 & 9**

**Soviet satire. Writing for posterity.**

**Mikhail Bulgakov, *The Master and Margarita*.**

**WEEK 9**

**Spring Break; no classes**

**WEEK 10 – Mar. 21 & 23**

**Mikhail Bulgakov, *The Master and Margarita*, cont.**

**WEEK 11 – Mar. 28 & 30**

**The Thaw. Russian literature in the 1960's. Banned and "Underground" Lit.**

**Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich* (1962).**

**WEEK 12 – Apr. 4 & 6**

**Revolution and Civil War Revisited.**

**Boris Pasternak, *Doctor Zhivago***

**WEEK 13 – Apr. 11 & 13**

**Boris Pasternak, *Doctor Zhivago*, cont.**

**WEEK 14 – Apr. 18 & 20**

**Boris Pasternak, *Doctor Zhivago*, cont.**

**WEEK 15 – Apr. 25 & 27**

**Internal Exile.**

**Venedict Erofeev, *Moscow Circles*, aka *Moscow to the End of the Line***

**WEEK 16 – May 2 & 4**

**Final papers due: Tuesday, May 2**

**Venedict Erofeev, *Moscow Circles*, cont.**

**FINAL EXAM**

**Tuesday, May 9, 2:00-4:30pm**

**Emergency Phone Numbers:** In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at 817-272-3003 (non-campus phone), 2-3003 (campus phone). You may also dial 911. Non-emergency number is 817-272-3381.