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Department of German and Russian

Spring 2016
Courses in German, Russian, Hebrew, and World Literature

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Dennis Mahoney, Interim Chair
Department of German and Russian
(GERM, RUSS, HEBR, WLIT),
College of Arts and Sciences

The Department of German and Russian offers courses in German, Russian, Hebrew, and World Literature.

Major in German: Thirty hours of German courses at the 100 level or above, including 155, 156; 281 or 282; one course must be a German literature in translation (WLIT 017, 117).

Major in Russian: 9 courses (27 credit hours) of coursework in Russian at the 100-level or above; one course in Russian literature in translation (WLIT 118); one Russian history course; and one additional course chosen from among the listings of the Russian and East European Studies Program (this may be any course listed among the REES offerings, including History, Political Science, World Literature, Anthropology, and other allied fields).

Minor in German: Five courses at the 100 or 200 level, one of which must be 155 or 156.

Minor in Russian: Russian 51, 52; four courses in Russian at the 100 or 200 level.

Spring 2016
German Courses

German 002: Elementary German
A 9:40-10:30 am, MWF; R 10:05-10:55 am. CRN# 10136
Kate Kenny
B 10:50-11:40 am, MWF; R 11:40-12:30 pm. CRN# 10414
Theresa Hoeck
C 2:20-3:10 pm, MWF; R 2:50-3:40 pm. CRN# 10140
Theresa Hoeck
An introduction to all aspects of contemporary standard German. Why German? German and English are both Germanic languages. They share many of the same words, word origins, and grammatical characteristics. That makes German a good choice for English speakers. With German, students gain access to an important intellectual, economic and culturally historic area of Central Europe. The objective of Elementary German is to develop language skills that enable students to communicate effectively in basic everyday situations. German 002 is the second semester of Elementary German.
Prerequisite: German 001 or equivalent. Credits: 4

Note: All German courses above German 002 are taught entirely in German.

German 052: Intermediate German
A 10:50-11:40 am, MWF. CRN# 10144
Kate Kenny
B 1:10-2:20 pm, MWF. CRN# 10145
Theresa Hoeck
The objective of Intermediate German is to reinforce and build upon students' reading, writing, listening, and conversational skills. This second-year level language course will prepare students to continue with advanced studies in German conversation, composition, and literature. Language competence is essential as a vehicle for understanding cultures. A more solid knowledge of German is also a prerequisite for successfully participating in study abroad programs in German-speaking countries. This is the second semester of Intermediate German.
For German 052A: In the second half of the semester we will watch and discuss 'Good Bye, Lenin!' by Wolfgang Becker. This tragicomedy takes place in former East-Berlin, 1989-1990. Christiane Kern, a passionate socialist, sees her son, Alex (22), marching in an anti-Berlin Wall demonstration and being hauled off by police. As a result, she suffers a heart attack and goes into a coma. While Christiane is in her coma, the Ber-
lin Wall falls and Germany reunifies. The Kerners' personal life also changes with all aspects of the new found capitalist world infiltrating their home. When Christiane emerges from her coma eight months later, her health situation is still tenuous. Any shock she experiences would probably lead to another heart attack and certain death. To protect his mother, Alex decides not to tell her of the new Germany. Although most around him don't support the idea, they go along with the extreme measures Alex goes to to recreate East Germany in their home. How long can they keep up the ruse?

**German 052B:** In the second half of the semester, we will read Friedrich Dürrenmatt's *Der Besuch der alten Dame*, the story of an old lady who returns home to take merciless revenge on her former lover. In this tragi-comedy, the question is being raised whether justice can be bought in return for material wealth. When the community slowly yields to temptation, it becomes evident that money corrupts even the most morally strong people. This play, set in postwar Europe, offers a modern answer to ancient questions of honor, morality, loyalty, community, and justice.

**Prerequisite:** German 051 or equivalent.

Credits: 3

**German 155:** German Literature in Context 1
A 11:40-12:55 pm, TR. CRN # 15223
Dennis Mahoney
This introduction to German Literature will focus on the cultural context to the first great flowering of German literature since the high Middle Ages, when German became the leading literary and intellectual language in Europe. Our readings of poetry, drama, and short prose by such writers as Goethe, Schiller, Novalis, Hoffmann, Heine, and Buchner will be supplemented by a review of political, philosophical, musical, and artistic developments from the Enlightenment through Realism. In addition to a midterm and final exam, students will write 3-250-word essays (in German) on topics of their choice, as well as a 3-4 page paper situating a particular literary work in its cultural context.

**NOTE:** This course will not be offered in 2016-2017.
**Prerequisite:** German 052 or equivalent.

Credits: 3

**German 198:** Readings & Research
A Times TBA. CRN # 10471
Special Readings and Research project to be arranged in consultation with a faculty advisor.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of department chair and faculty advisor.

Credits: 1-6

**German 282:** German Literature of the 19th Century
A 9:40-10:30 pm, MWF. CRN # 12536
Wolfgang Mieder
This seminar taught in German will deal with the various literary and cultural movements of the 19th century, covering in particular Romanticism, Biedermeier, Poetic Realism, and Naturalism. We will read nine short novelas by such well-known Austrian, German, and Swiss authors as Ludwig Tieck, Heinrich von Kleist, Adalbert Stifter, Jeremias Gotthelf, Annette von Droste-Hülshoff, Theodor Strom (two works), Gottfried Keller, and Gerhart Hauptmann. The novelas will be analyzed and discussed in great detail, stressing in particular their language, style, meaning, and significance. They all deal with very basic human issues and problems, and modern students should have no difficulty in relating to the multifaceted presentations of major concerns of life, such as beauty, love, marriage, communication, trust, honesty, belief, fate, materialism, poverty, disease, death, etc. In addition to the works themselves there will also be a large handout that provides the students with detailed bibliographies of secondary literature for each novella, explanatory texts for the literary movements, and a set of discussion questions to be completed by the students and handed in for evaluation and comments by the professor. The seminar will have a midterm and final examination, and there will of course also be a research paper in German on one of the novelas covered in the seminar. Diligent
preparation for each class, enthusiastic participation in class discussions, and a serious commitment to the intellectually challenging task of writing an excellent seminar paper are expected.

**Prerequisite:** German 155 or 156 and one other 100-level course.

Credits: 3

German 391: Master's Thesis Research.

**A.** Times TBA. CRN # 10408
Dennis Mahoney
Master's thesis research for German M.A. students.

**Prerequisite:** Graduate students only.

Credits: 1-12.

**Spring 2016**

**Hebrew Courses**

**Hebrew 002: Elementary Hebrew**
A 2:20-3:10 pm, MWF; T 2:50-3:40 pm. CRN# 10423
Gideon Bavly
The spoken language of everyday use with oral, aural, and written practice in speaking, reading, and comprehension. On Tuesdays the course meets in the Language Resource Center, where there are Hebrew word processors and students' reading practice of Hebrew can be recorded. This is the second semester of a two semester Elementary Hebrew course.

**Prerequisite:** Hebrew 001 or equivalent.

Credits: 4

**Hebrew 052: Intermediate Hebrew**
A 3:30-4:20 pm, MWF. CRN# 10424
Gideon Bavly
Reading, translation, and discussion in Hebrew of texts selected to show the development of Hebrew culture from Biblical times to the present. This is the second semester of a two-semester Intermediate Hebrew course.

**Prerequisite:** Hebrew 051 or equivalent.

Credits: 3

**Hebrew 198: Hebrew Readings and Research**
A 3:30-4:20 pm, MWF. CRN# 11598
Gideon Bavly
Readings and Research component of Intermediate Hebrew. Advanced. Part of Hebrew 052A plus additional work.

**Prerequisite:** Hebrew 051 or equivalent.

Credits: 3

**Spring 2016**

**Honors Courses**

**HON 229: Honors: German**
CRN # 10492; contact Dennis Mahoney.

**HON 253: Honors: Russian**
CRN # 10502; contact Kevin McKenna.

The College Honors program, designed for students with unusual initiative and intellectual curiosity, provides an opportunity to pursue two semesters (six credits) of independent research under the direction of a faculty sponsor. Students may pursue a thesis or creative project. Students may apply for College Honors if they have a GPA of 3.40 or higher.

Students who wish to pursue College Honors must submit their applications early in the first term of their senior year, and generally begin working on the proposal during the second semester of their junior year. Please contact Prof. Dennis Mahoney [German], or Professor Kevin McKenna [Russian] for more information, details, requirements and deadlines if you are interested in pursuing College Honors. Permission of Chair is required to enroll in an Honors course.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of Chair and faculty sponsor.

Credits: 3

**Spring 2016**

**Russian Courses**

**Russian 002: Elementary Russian**
A 9:40-10:30 am, MWF; T 10:05-11:20 am. CRN# 10427
Kathleen Scollins

B 10:50-11:40 pm, MWF; T 11:40-12:55 pm. CRN# 10852
Kathleen Scollins

An introduction to all aspects of contemporary standard Russian: speaking, listening, reading, writing. Cultural components include topics such as music, art, literature, and current events. This is the second semester of a two-semester Elementary Russian course.

**Prerequisite:** Russian 001 or equivalent.

Credits: 4

**Russian 052: Intermediate Russian**
A 12:00-12:50 pm, MWF; T 11:40-12:55 pm. CRN# 10428
Kevin McKenna
Many of our goals from Russian 051 will remain the same in Russian 052:
greater competence in speaking and reading skills; develop and expand our contextual reading strategies; expand our Russian vocabulary, using a Russian word-root-based morphological approach; better acquaintance with Russian fiction and culture through the short stories of Alexander Pushkin («Вестреля») and Anton Chekhov («Спать хочется»); develop conversational skills through dialogues, oral presentations and learning essential Russian proverbs and proverbial expressions; semester-long current events Russian research project of your choosing. Each of you will select a newspaper topic from the Russian newspaper, Новости, which you will read, analyze contextually, and then deliver a 10-15 minute summation and analysis to the class; completion of relevant sections of our Making Progress in Russian textbook (Imperative command forms; verbal governance). Students will maintain a semester-long e-mail "pen-pal" correspondence with students from a Russian university to learn more about the lives of their Russian peers, their impressions about current social/political/economic events in Russia, etc. for purposes of developing oral class presentations and written essays over the course of the spring semester.

By the end of Russian 052, all of you should be well prepared to participate in a semester study-abroad program at a Russian university of your choosing in either the spring of your junior year or the fall or spring of your senior year. In addition, you will be ready to enter into any of our Advanced Russian language/literature/culture courses.

**Prerequisite:** Russian 051 or equivalent.

**Credits:** 3

**Russian 096: Russian House**

A Time to be announced. CRN# 14167

Kevin McKenna

The UVM Russian House is a residential living component of the Global Village in the University's Living/Learning Center. Students studying the Russian language live in Global Village suites, where they engage in conversation practice, viewing of Russian films, Russian cooking lessons, and a series of lectures provided by various members of the German/Russian Department as well as the Russian/East European Studies Program. Students receive one hour of academic credit for living in the Russian House.

**Credits:** 1

**Russian 101: Phonology**

A 1:10-2:00 pm, MWF. CRN# 11214

Kathleen Scollins

This course will provide a comprehensive introduction to Russian oral communication, with intensive practical work on phonetics, intonation, vocabulary building, and communicative strategies. Students will become familiar with the fundamentals of Russian phonology through classroom, CD, and language laboratory work on phonetics and intonation patterns. In addition, students will actively build vocabulary in several key areas of everyday communication (discussing the weather; talking on the phone; discussing health and illness; etc.), memorize and recite dialogues related to these themes, and build oral proficiency toward meaningful and accurate communication. All phonetic and communicative work will be supplemented with short readings, poems, and songs from Russian culture. The course is envisioned primarily as a complement to Russian 52 (Intermediate Russian), and will be particularly useful for those students who have not yet had the opportunity to study abroad. Materials will include: Russian materials on phonetics and intonation, including coursepack and audio CD; Golosia: a Basic Course in Russian, Book 2 (textbook only); poems and songs for listening and phonetic practice.

**Prerequisite:** Russian 052 or concurrent enrollment in 052.

**Credits:** 3

**Russian 198: Readings & Research.**

A Times TBA. CRN # 10657

Special Readings and Research project to be arranged in consultation with a faculty advisor.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of department chair and faculty advisor.

**Credits:** 1-3

**Russian 202: «Мастер и Маргарита»**

A 1:15-2:30 pm, TR. CRN# 15161

Kevin McKenna

Perhaps no other novel has gripped the minds and delighted the intellectual and aesthetic palates of Russian readers more than Mikhail Bulgakov's quixotic Macepr u Maparipu. Written during the 1930s, this novel awaited its first and fleeting publication in abbreviated and censored form until 1965. Only in the waning days of the Soviet Union was it published in 1988.

Our Russian 202 course this semester will strive to unravel the many mysteries of Bulgakov's novel in a semester-long series of oral readings and discussions built around the main themes and characters of the novel. Following a film viewing of key scenes from each chapter of the novel, 3-4 students each class session will assume the identity and will read the roles of central characters from each of the 32 chapters of the novel. Each class session will then conclude with an analysis of major themes and characters treated in that particular chapter or chapters discussed the class period. Students will also write brief, periodic essays devoted to segments or major themes of the novel.

**Prerequisites:** Russian 052, WLIT 118 recommended.

**Credits:** 3
Russian 221: Culture & Civilization to the 1905 Revolution
A 11:40-12:55 pm, TR. CRN# 15172
Julia Katsnelson
This course will address those famous topics in the course of Russian culture and civilization that have so shaped the destiny and direction of Russia today, including: Kievan Rus’—862-1221, The Mongol Period of Russia’s Development: 1221-1480; The Rise of Muscovite Russia; Peter the Great and His Reforms and Successors; Catherine the Great; 19th-Century Russian Rulers; The Decembrist Revolt; The Emancipation of the Russian Serfs; Russian Culture in the 19th-Century; Industrialization and Revolutional Movement in 19th-Century Russia and The Russo-Japanese War and Revolution of 1905.
Primary focus in this course will be devoted to reading and discussion of how the above topics contributed to and shaped the later development of Russian culture and history. This course is intended for students at the third- and fourth-year levels of Russian language study. Assignments and expectations will be adjusted to differentiate the levels of those post-052 third-year students from fourth year students.
The textbook for this course is Ben Rifkin’s “Advanced Russian Through Its History!Дела давно минувших дней”. Comprehension of written texts poses a serious challenge to students of the Russian language. To overcome these obstacles in understanding Russian expository prose, we will continue to utilize and practice a so-called “contextual strategy.”
Prerequisites: none
Credits: 3

Spring 2015
World Literature

World Literature 018/118: Philosophy and Ideology in the 19th-Century Russian Novel: From Turgeniev to Dostoevsky
A 4:25-5:40 pm, TR. CRN# 12644/12666
Kevin McKenna
Anyone familiar with Russian literature of the nineteenth century recognizes, but may not always understand, the significant roles played by ideas, ideology, and philosophy in writers like Turgeniev, Dostoevsky, and Tolstoy. While Russia at the time could not boast any world-class philosophers like Kant, Hegel, or Marx, the debate over ideas and varying philosophies in a rapidly changing Russian society met with keen interest from the so-called Westernizers and the opposing Slavophiles.
In effect, the central debate of 19th-century Russian literature began with the publication (1859) of Ivan Turgeniev’s famous novel, Fathers and Sons, which introduced to readers and society alike the enigmatic figure of the Russian nihilist in the person of Bazarov. Reaction to Bazarov as well as to what many considered his new and strange philosophy of nihilism attracted immediate and divided attention in the Russian literary world. A philosophy student at Moscow University, Nikolai Chernychevsky, responded to Turgeniev’s novel in 1863 with his own novel, What Is To Be Done? Soon thereafter, Fyodor Dostoevsky contributed his own views to this literary debate among Russia’s leading thinkers and writers in his equally controversial novel, Notes from the Underground. His enigmatic “underground man” was designed to refute the hard-headed realism and “scientific” views of Chernychevsky. Dostoevsky would culminate this literary and philosophic debate in one of his most controversial novels, Demons, sometimes translated as The Possessed (published in 1871). The primary goal of this World Lit. course will be to introduce students to the engaging perplexities of Russian 19th-century intellectual thought and the power it held over the leading intellects and writers of the time. The struggle between Russia’s “men of the forties” and the “men of the sixties,” as the debate was called, reveals the riveting struggle of ideas and ideologies that characterized the philosophies of Russia’s leading intellects of the period. Students will have an option of writing a take-home midterm and final essays or of writing a research paper on a topic of their choice.
Prerequisites: none
Credits: 3