

SL4: Russian Literature and Culture from the Golden Age to the Silver Age



Russian Writer Matryoshka

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Handbook 2023-24
(updated August 2023)

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SL.4: Russian Literature and Culture from the Golden Age to the Silver Age

Introduction

Russian literature came of age in the nineteenth century. Within a few decades (1810s to 1860s), authors went from struggling to develop and refine the literary language, to writing some of the greatest novels of all time. Beginning with Pushkin and the Golden Age of Russian poetry, this course traces the evolution of the Russian literary tradition and the rise of the great Russian novel, culminating with its heyday in the 1860s-70s, and then the return to shorter forms at the end of the century. Students will learn how Russian authors engaged with formal/aesthetic problems and also made literature the site for rich debates about all the pressing concerns of their day: social, psychological, political, scientific, and philosophical.

In order to achieve a balance of depth and breadth, the paper is organized around the study of two set texts and four topics. (There are suggested pathways through the texts and topics tailored to Part IB, option A [*ex-ab initio*] students).

Overview of Texts and Topics for 2023-24

Set Texts:

- A1. Aleksandr Pushkin, *Evgenii Onegin* (1825-32)
- A2. Lev Tolstói, *Anna Karenina* (1875-78)

Topics:

- B1. Lyric Poetry (1800-40)
- B2. Exposing the Need for Reform (1850s)
- B3. The Novel of Ideas (1860s)
- B4. Short Forms (1880-1910)

Teaching

Weekly lectures in Michaelmas and Lent; weekly revision seminars in Easter.

Ten fortnightly supervisions throughout the year.

Students taking the Long Essay option can discuss adjustments to the schedule below that best accommodate their interests.

Lecture Schedule

Michaelmas

<u>Wk.</u>	<u>Lecture</u>	<u>Supervision</u>
1	Lyric Poetry	
2	Lyric Poetry	Lyric Poetry
3	<i>Evgenii Onegin</i>	
4	<i>Evgenii Onegin</i>	<i>Evgenii Onegin</i>
5	Need for Reform	
6	Need for Reform	<i>Evgenii Onegin</i>
7	Need for Reform	
8	Novel of Ideas	Need for Reform

Lent

<u>Wk.</u>	<u>Lecture</u>	<u>Supervision</u>
1	Novel of Ideas	
2	Novel of Ideas	Novel of Ideas
3	<i>Anna Karenina</i>	
4	<i>Anna Karenina</i>	<i>Anna Karenina</i>
5	<i>Anna Karenina</i>	
6	<i>Anna Karenina</i>	<i>Anna Karenina</i>
7	Short Forms	
8	Short Forms/Conclusions	Short Forms

Easter

Revision sessions in lecture slots, Weeks 1-3 (2hrs).

2 x revision supervisions.

Assessment

Assessment by Long Essay instead of final examination is available in this paper for students in Part IB (Options A & B).

The examination is structured as follows: **Section A** will consist of a commentary on one of the set texts and essay questions on the other. **Section B** will offer several questions on each of the prescribed topics as well as more open questions that might be answered with reference to a wide range of texts and periods. All questions in Section B will require candidates to write about at least two texts.

All candidates must answer three questions.

Students for Part IB (Options A & B) answer:

1 question from Section A

any other 2 questions (which may include 1 further question from Section A)

Students for Part II answer:

1 question on one of the set-texts as a coursework essay (a replacement for Section A)

2 questions from Section B on the prescribed topics during the Easter term exam

Preparatory Reading and General Background

Students are urged to buy and read both Set Texts during the summer (or Year Abroad), as well as any optional longer texts they wish to cover (i.e. *Prestuplenie i nakazanie*). The following reading list serves as an introduction to the subject.

Emerson, Caryl. *The Cambridge Introduction to Russian Literature*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008. [Especially chapters 1, 4, 5, and 6]

Todd, William Mills, III. *Fiction and Society in the Age of Pushkin: Ideology, Institutions and Narrative*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1986. [Especially chapters 1-3]

Jones, Malcolm V. and Robin Feuer Miller, eds. *The Cambridge Companion to the Classic Russian Novel*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1998.

Wachtel, Michael. *Cambridge Introduction to Russian Poetry*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004. [Especially chapters 1-4]

Students should read through a scholarly history of 19th-century Russia such as:

Freeze, Gregory, ed. *Russia: A History*. 3rd edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009. [Chapters 5-8]

Riasanovsky, Nicholas and Mark Steinberg. *A History of Russia*. 9th Edition. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 2019. [Chapters 24-30]

Reading Lists

Using the Reading Lists

The lists below specify Primary and Secondary texts. The lists are extensive but not exhaustive: in other words, you should feel neither daunted nor limited by them!

Sections B & C (Prescribed Authors & Topics)

- Remember that you will be making *selections* from among the primary texts here; they are not all compulsory reading.
- In particular, students are reminded that the novel *Prestuplenie i nakazanie* by Dostoevskii (B3) is optional. Those who wish to read it should plan ahead.
- Students should consult with their supervisor to select primary texts from the suggested options according to their interests and experience in Russian. Students may also choose to read relevant primary texts that are not listed here in consultation with their supervisor.

Secondary Readings

The suggestions for secondary reading represent a collection of resources and menus of possibilities: no one expects you to do all of the reading below! Your supervisor will help you to orientate yourself within the bibliography, and to use your time efficiently, by suggesting those texts which most closely relate to the themes and approaches that interest you.

Section A: Set Texts

A1. A.S. Pushkin, *Evgenii Onegin* (1825-32)

- **Former ab initio students** (i.e. those in **Part IB, Option A**) are only required to read chapters 1, 2, 7 and 8 in Russian; they must read the entire novel in English in order to follow the plot.
- Recommended translation: James E. Falen (keeps the meter and rhyme scheme)
- In addition, although it does not make for 'smooth reading', Nabokov's literal translation, read side by side with the original, is very helpful: it makes for an excellent primer in reading Russian verse, understanding the flexibility of word order etc.
- Students in **Part IB, Option B and Part II** should read the entire novel in Russian.

Background, Biography, Reference

Bethea, David, ed. *The Pushkin Handbook*. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2006.

Binyon, T. J. *Pushkin. A Biography*. London, 2003.

Kahn, Andrew, ed. *Cambridge Companion to Pushkin*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006.

Commentary

Lotman, Iurii. *Roman Pushkina "Evgenii Onegin": Kommentarii*. Leningrad: Prosveshchenie, 1983.

Nabokov, Vladimir (transl., introd. and extensive commentary). *Eugene Onegin: A Novel in Verse by Aleksandr Pushkin*. 4 vols. London: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1964.

Other Secondary Readings

(i) Introductory/student survey studies:

Briggs, A. D. P. *Aleksandr Pushkin: "Eugene Onegin."* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1992.

Clayton, J. Douglas. *Ice and Flame. Aleksandr Pushkin's "Eugene Onegin."* Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1985.

Dalton-Brown, S. *Pushkin's Evgenii Onegin*. Bristol: Bristol Classical Press, 1997.

Levitt, Marcus. "Evgenii Onegin." In Andrew Kahn, ed. *Cambridge Companion to Pushkin*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006.

(ii) Seminal Russian scholarship:

Hoisington, Sona, ed. *Russian Views of Pushkin's Eugene Onegin*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1988.

Lotman (see 'Commentary' above)

Shklovskii, Viktor. "Eugene Onegin (Pushkin and Sterne)." Trans. Emily Finer. *Comparative Critical Studies* 1, no. 1-2 (June 1, 2004): 171-193.

Ginzburg, Lidiia. "K postanovke problemy realizma v pushkinskoi literature." *Vremennik pushkinskoi komissii* (AN SSSR, 1936): 387-401.

(iii) Seminal/extensive studies in Western scholarship:

Emerson, Caryl. "Tatiana." In Sonia Hoisington, ed. *A Plot of Her Own. the Female Protagonist in Russian Literature*. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 1995. 6-20.

Greenleaf, Monika. *Pushkin and Romantic Fashion: Fragment, Elegy, Orient, Irony*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 1997. [See especially pages 205-286]

Hasty, Olga Peters. *Pushkin's Tatiana*. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1999.

Todd, William Mills, III. "Eugene Onegin: 'Life's Novel.'" In *Literature and Society in the Age of Pushkin*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1986.

(iv) Articles with useful, specific focus:

Bakhtin, Mikhail. "From the Prehistory of Novelistic Discourse." In *The Dialogic Imagination*, trans. Caryl Emerson and Michael Holquist. University of Texas Press, 1981 (pp. 41-51).

Burgin, Diana L. "Tatiana Larina's Letter to Onegin, or La Plume Criminelle." *Essays in Poetics* 16:2 (1991), 12-23.

Cravens, C. "Lyric and Narrative Consciousness in 'Eugene Onegin.'" *Slavic and East European Journal* 46, no. 4 (2002): 683-709.

Dvigubski, Anna. "'And What of My Onegin?' Displacement and Reinvention of the Hero in Eugene Onegin." *The Russian Review* 72, no. 1 (2013): 1-23.

Gelder, Ann. "Wandering in Exile: Byron and Pushkin." *Comparative Literature* 42:4 (Autumn, 1990), 319-334.

Greg, Richard. "Stanza and Plot in *Evgenii Onegin*: A Symbiosis?" *Slavonic and East European Review* 72:4 (October 1994), 609-621.

Hoisington, Sona Stephan. "'Eugene Onegin': An Inverted Byronic Poem." *Comparative Literature* 27 (1975): 136.

----- . "Parody in Evgenii Onegin: Lenskii's Lament." *Canadian Slavonic Papers/Revue Canadienne Des Slavistes: An Interdisciplinary Journal Devoted to Central and Eastern Europe* 29, no. 2-3 (June 1, 1987): 266-278.

Ketchian, S. I. "'What's Hidden in My Name?': Names as a Window into Pushkin's 'Evgenij Onegin'." *Russian Literature* 60, no. 2 (August 2006): 159-183.

Lesic-Thomas, Andrea. "Focalization in Pushkin's Eugene Onegin and Lermontov's A Hero of Our Time: Loving the Semantic Void and the Dizziness of Interpretation." *The Modern Language Review* 103, no. 4 (October 1, 2008).

Reid, Robert and Joe Andrew, eds. *Two Hundred Years of Pushkin*. Vols II and III. Amsterdam and New York: Rodopi, 2003-4. [Recommended articles in Vol II: Bethea, Palmer; in Vol III: Freeborn, Weststeijn, Clayton, De Haard, Livingstone.]

Reyfman, Irina. *Ritualized Violence Russian Style: The Duel in Russian Culture and Literature*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 1999.

Semenko, I. M., and Sona Hoisington. "The 'Author' in Eugene Onegin: Image and Function." *Canadian-American Slavic Studies* 29, no. 3-4 (January 1, 1995): 233-255.

Wachtel, Michael, "The Onegin stanza: from poetic digression to poetic nostalgia." In *The Development of Russian Verse: Meter and its Meanings*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006.

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**A2: L.N. Tolstoi, *Anna Karenina* (1875-78)**

- **Former ab initio students** (i.e. those in **Part IB, Option A**) read at least the extracts specified below in Russian (roughly one third of the novel); they read the entire novel in English in order to follow the plot: Part I: 1-4, 7-11, 13, 16-23, 26-34; Part 2: 7-12, 21-29; Part 3: 1-5, 13-16, 22-25, 31-32 ; Part 4: 1, 3-5, 9-13, 15-23; Part 6: 3, 7-16, 19-20, 31-33; Part 7: 9-16, 23-31; Part 8: 8-19.
- Recommended translations: either Richard Pevear and Larissa Volokhonsky OR Marian Schwartz.
- Students in **Part IB, Option B and Part II** read the entire novel in Russian.

### Background, Biography, Reference

Bartlett, Rosamund. *Tolstoy: A Russian Life* (Profile Press, 2011). [Biography]

Eikhenbaum, Boris. *Tolstoi v semidesiatykh godakh*. (Available in English: *Tolstoi in the Seventies*. Trans. Albert Kaspin. Ann Arbor, MI: Ardis, 1982.) [A masterful blend of biographical, philological and textual analysis by a leading 'formalist' critic]

Freeze, Gregory. "Reform and Counterreform, 1855-1890." In Gregory Freeze, ed. *Russia: A History*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 1997. 170-199. [Historical context]

Knapp, Liza and Amy Mandelker, eds. *Approaches to Teaching Tolstoy's Anna Karenina*. New York, NY: MLA, 2003. [Excellent, very useful anthology of short critical texts]

### Relevant Theoretical Works (not dealing with *Anna Karenina* explicitly):

Bakhtin, Mikhail. "Forms of Time and of the Chronotope in the Novel: Notes toward a Historical Poetics." In Michael Holquist, ed. *Dialogic Imagination: Four Essays*. University of Texas Press, 1982. 84-85, 224-258.

Brooks, Peter. *Reading for the Plot: Design and Intention in Narrative*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1992. 3-61.

Tanner, Tony. *Adultery in the Novel: Contract and Transgression*. Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1981.

Jakobson, Roman. "On Realism in Art." In Ladislav Matejka and Krystyna Pomorska, eds. *Readings in Russian Poetics: Formalist and Structuralist Views*. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press, 1971. 38-46

- For wrestling with 'Realism': See also entries for Gustafson, Kliger and Kovarsky below.

### Works which promote something approaching a "comprehensive" reading of the novel, through extensive engagement with the text and/or by dint of interpretative approach:

Alexandrov, Vladimir. *Limits to Interpretation. The Meanings of Anna Karenina*. Madison: Wisconsin University Press: 2004.

Gustafson, Richard. "The Poetics of Emblematic Realism." In *Leo Tolstoy: Resident and Stranger: A Study in Fiction and Theology*. Princeton University Press, 1986. 202-213.

Kliger, Ilya. "Tolstoy's Plotlines and Truth Shapes." In *The Narrative Shape of Truth: Veridiction in Modern European Literature*. University Park, PA: Pennsylvania State University Press, 2011. 145-176.

Mandelker, Amy. *Framing Anna Karenina: Tolstoy, the Woman Question, and the Victorian Novel*. Columbus: Ohio State UP, 1993.

Morson, Gary Saul. *Anna Karenina in Our Time: Seeing More Wisely*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2007.



----- "Anna Karenina's Omens." In E.C. Allen and G.S. Morson, eds. *Freedom and Responsibility in Russian Literature*. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 1995. 134-152.

### **On the epigraph:**

Eikhenbaum, Boris. *Tolstoi in the Seventies*. Trans. Albert Kaspin. Ann Arbor, MI: Ardis, 1982.

Holland, Kate. "The Opening of *Anna Karenina*." In Liza Knapp and Amy Mandelker, eds. *Approaches to Teaching Tolstoy's Anna Karenina*. New York, NY: MLA, 2003. 144-149.

Morson, Gary Saul. "Tolstoy's Absolute Language." *Critical Inquiry* 7:4 (Summer 1981): 667-687.

**Other Secondary Readings:** use the titles to navigate issues that interest you, or consult your supervisor for recommendations.

• A number of articles appear in editions of the *Tolstoy Studies Journal* (abbreviated below: *TSJ*) [in UL: North Front, Fl 5, P576.b.29]

Alexandrov, Vladimir. "Relative Time in *Anna Karenina*." *Russian Review* 41:2 (April 1982): 159-68.

Bendiksen, Anna Primrose. "The Swishing of the Scythes: The Mowing Scene in *Anna Karenina*." *Russian Literature* 40:4 (November 1996): 517-523.

Berman, Anna A. "Darwin in the Novels: Tolstoy's Evolving Literary Response." *Russian Review* 72:2 (2017): 331-351.

Bloom, Harold, ed. *Leo Tolstoy's "Anna Karenina"*. New York: Chelsea House, 1987.

de Sherbinin, Julie. "The Dismantling of Hierarchy and the Defense of Social Class in *Anna Karenina*." *Russian Review* 70:4 (October 2011): 646-662.

Emerson, Caryl. "Prosaics in *Anna Karenina*: Pro and Con." *TSJ* VIII: 150-76.

Evdokimova, Svetlana. "The Drawing and the Grease Spot: Creativity and Interpretation in *Anna Karenina*." *TSJ* VIII: 33-45.

Goscilo, Helena. "Tolstoyan Fare: Credo a la Carte." *Slavonic and East European Review* 62:4 (October 1984): 481-495.

Herman, David. "Allowable Passions in *Anna Karenina*." *TSJ* VIII: 5-32.

Jahn, Gary. "The Image of the Railroad in *Anna Karenina*." *Slavic and East European Journal* 25: 2 (1981): 1-10.

Knapp, Liza. "The Estates of Pokrovskoe and Vozdvizhenskoe: Tolstoy's Labyrinth of Linkings in *Anna Karenina*." *TSJ* VIII: 81-98.

----- "Tue-la! Tue-le!: Death Sentences, Words, and Inner Monologue in Tolstoy's *Anna Karenina* and *Three More Deaths*." *TSJ* XI: 1-19.

----- *Anna Karenina and Others: Tolstoy's Labyrinth of Plots*. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2016.

Kovarsky, Gina. "Mimesis and Moral Education in *Anna Karenina*." *TSJ* VIII: 61-80.

Kujundzic, Dragan. "Pardoning Woman in *Anna Karenina*." *TSJ* VI: 65-86.

Lonnqvist, Barbara. "Anna Karenina." In Donna Tussing Orwin, ed. *The Cambridge Companion to Tolstoy*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002. 80-95.

Meyer, Priscilla. "'Anna Karenina,' Rousseau, and the Gospels." *Russian Review* 66:2 (April 2007): 204-219.

- . 'Anna Karenina: Tolstoy's Polemic with *Madame Bovary*,' *Russian Review* 54:2 (April 1995): 243-259.
- . "Tolstoy, *Anna Karenina*." In *How the Russians Read the French*. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2008. 152-209.
- Morson, Gary Saul. "Poetic Justice, False Listening, and Falling in Love, Or, Why Anna Refuses a Divorce." *TSJ* VIII: 177-197.
- . "What is Agriculture?" *Russian Literature* 40 (1996): 481-490.
- . "Work and the Authentic Life in Tolstoy." *TSJ* IX: 36-48.
- Orwin, Donna Tussing. *Tolstoy's Art and Thought, 1847-1880*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1993.
- Paperno, Irina. *"Who, What am I?" Tolstoy Struggles to Narrate the Self*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2014.
- Schultze, Sydney. *The Structure of Anna Karenina*. Ann Arbor, MI: Ardis, 1982.
- Seifrid, Thomas. "Gazing on Life's Page: Perspectival Vision in Tolstoy." *PMLA* 113:3 (May 1998): 436-448.
- Tapp, Alyson. "Moving Stories: (E)motion and Narrative in *Anna Karenina*." *Russian Literature* 61:3 (2007): 341-361.
- Turner, C.J.G. "Psychology, Rhetoric and Morality in *Anna Karenina*." *SEEJ* 39: 2 (1995): 261-268.
- Weir, Justin. "Anna Incommunicada: Language and Consciousness in *Anna Karenina*." *TSJ* VIII: 99-111.
- Whitcomb, Curt. "Resisting the Effortless in *Anna Karenina*." *TSJ* VII: 32-43.
- . "Treacherous «Charm» in *Anna Karenina*." *Slavic and East European Journal* 39:2 (Summer 1995): 214-226.



## Section B: Topics

### B1: Lyric Poetry (Michaelmas)

Selected poems by Zhukovskii, Batiushkov, Pushkin, Lermontov, Rostopchina. The year in brackets indicates the year of composition.

Poems marked \* are suggested for the attention of **Part IB, Option A** students.

V.A. Zhukovskii

Sel'skoe kladbishche (1802)

Veher (elegiia) (1806)

K.N. Batiushkov

\*Vyzdorovlenie (1817)

Ten' druga (1814)

Moi genii (1815)

A.S. Pushkin

Probuzhdenie (1816)

\*'Ia perezhil svoi zhelan'ia' (1821)

\*К \*\*\* <Kern> (Ia pomniu chudnoe mgnoven'e) (1825)  
\*Pod nebom golubym (1826)  
Prorok (1826)  
\*Ty i vy (1828)  
Stikhi, sochinennye noch'iu vo vremia bessonnitsy (1830)  
"Pora, moi drug, pora! pokoia serdtse prosit" (1834)  
\*"Ia pamiatnik sebe vozdvig nerukotvornyi" (1836)

M.Iu. Lermontov

"Net, ia ne Bairon, ia drugoi" (1832)  
\*Parus (1832)  
Smert' poeta (1837)  
\*I skuchno i grustno (1840)  
Tuchi (1840)  
\*"Vykhozhu odin ia na dorogu" (1841)

E.P. Rostopchina

Vstrecha (1837)  
Chernovaia kniga Pushkina (1838)  
\*I on poet! (1840)  
\*Boius' (1840)  
Kak dolzhny pisat' zhenshchiny (1840)  
Ne skuchno, a grustno (1842)

## Secondary Readings

### On versification

Scherr, Barry. "Versification, Historical Survey of Russian," "Syllabotonic Versification," and "Rhyme." In Victor Terras, ed. *Handbook of Russian Literature*. London: Yale University Press, 1985. 504-508, 458-460, and 369-371.

Wachtel, Michael. *The Cambridge Introduction to Russian Poetry*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004.

### On poetry

Bristol, Evelyn. *A History of Russian Poetry*. New York, NY and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1991.

Sandler, Stephanie, ed. *Rereading Russian Poetry*. New Haven, CT and London: Yale University Press, 1999.

Ginzburg, L.Ia. *O lirike*. 2nd edition. Moscow: Sovetskii pisatel', 1974.

Greene, Roland and Stephen Cushman, eds. *The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics*. 4th edition. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2012.

Khitrova, Daria. *Lyric Complicity: Poetry and Readers in the Golden Age of Russian Literature*. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2019.

Tosi, Alessandra. "Fiction in Alexander's Russia: the Social and Cultural Context" in *Waiting for Pushkin: Russian Fiction in the Reign of Alexander I (1801-1825)*, pp 19-62.

Wachtel, Andrew and Ilya Vinitsky. "The Spirit of Poetry: Russian Culture in the Age of Alexander I" in *Russian Literature*. Cambridge: Polity, 2009. 57-88

### Works on individual poets

To set the poets quickly into the contexts in which they were writing, it might be helpful in the first instance to refer to encyclopaedias and other references. For example:

Cornwell, Neil. *Reference guide to Russian literature*. London: Fitzroy Dearborn, 1998.  
Fennell, John. *Nineteenth-century Russian Literature*. London: Faber & Faber, 1973.  
Kahn, Andrew et al. *A History of Russian Literature*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018.  
Murray, Christopher John. *Encyclopedia of the Romantic Era, 1760-1850*. New York, NY: Fitzroy Dearborn, 2004.

### Zhukovskii

Ciepiela, Catherine. "Reading Russian Pastoral: Zhukovsky's translation of Gray's Elegy." In *Reading Russian Poetry*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1999.  
Semenko, I. M. *Vasily Zhukovsky*. Boston: Twayne, 1976.  
Vinitsky, Ilya. *Vasily Zhukovsky's Romanticism and the Emotional History of Russia*. Evanston: Northwestern University Press, 2015.

### Batiushkov

Serman, I. Z. *Konstantin Batyushkov*. New York: Twayne, 1974. (English language biography)  
Greenleaf, Monika. "Found in Translation: The Subject of Batiushkov's Poetry" in *Russian Subjects: Empire, Nation, and the Culture of the Golden Age* (ed. Greenleaf and moeller-Sally), pp. 51-80.

### Pushkin

Binyon, T.J. *Pushkin: A Biography*. New York, NY: Alfred A. Knopf, 2003.  
Bethea, David and Sergei Davydov. "Pushkin's Biography." In David Bethea, ed. *The Pushkin Handbook*. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2005. 3-24.  
Eikhenbaum, Boris. "Pushkin, Tiutchev, Lermontov." In *Melodika: russkogo liricheskogo stikha*. Leipzig: Zentralantiquariat der Deutschen Demokratischen Republik, 1973. 72-118.  
Gasparov, Boris. "Pushkin and Romanticism." In David Bethea, ed. *The Pushkin Handbook*. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2005. 537-567.  
Gasparov, M.L. "Pushkin i problemy poeticheskoi formy." In David Bethea, ed. *The Pushkin Handbook*. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2005. 60-79.  
Golburt, Luba. "Alexander Pushkin as a Romantic." In Paul Hamilton, ed. *The Oxford Handbook of European Romanticism*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016. 512-532.  
Greenleaf, Monika. *Pushkin and Romantic Fashion: Fragment, Elegy, Orient, Irony*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 1994. (esp. 56-107)  
Kahn, Andrew. "Pushkin's Lyric Identities." In Andrew Kahn, ed. *The Cambridge Companion to Pushkin*. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2007. 26-40.  
-----. *Pushkin's Lyric Intelligence*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008. [Good for consultation on individual poems]

Sandler, Stephanie. *Distant Pleasures: Alexander Pushkin and the Writing of Exile*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 1989.

Wachtel, Michael. *A Commentary to Pushkin's Lyric Poetry 1826-1836*. Madison: The University of Wisconsin Press, 2011. [A very useful commentary]

### Lermontov

Binyon, T.J. "Lermontov, Tyutchev and Fet." In John Fennell, ed. *Nineteenth-Century Russian Literature: Studies of Ten Writers*. London: Faber, 1973. 168-224.

Eikhenbaum, Boris. "Pushkin, Tiutchev, Lermontov." In *Melodika: russkogo liricheskogo stikha*. Leipzig: Zentralantiquariat der Deutschen Demokratischen Republik, 1973. 72-118.

Garrard, John. *Mikhail Lermontov*. Boston: Twayne Publishers, 1982.

Powelstock, David. "Living into Language: Mikhail Lermontov and the Manufacturing of Intimacy." In Monika Greenleaf and Stephen Moeller Sally, eds. *Russian Subjects: Empire, Nation, and the Culture of the Golden Age*. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 1998. 297-324.

----- . *Becoming Mikhail Lermontov*. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 2005.

Ram, Harsha. *The Imperial Sublime: A Russian Poetics of Empire*. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2003.

### Rostopchina

Khodasevich, Vladislav. "Grafina E.P. Rostopchina: Ee zhizn' i lirika." In *Statii o russkoi poezii*. St. Petersburg: Epokha, 1922. 7-42.

Greene, Diana. "Evdokiia Rostopchina." In *Reinventing Romantic Poetry*. Madison: The University of Wisconsin Press, 2004. 88-111.

Hasty, Olga Peters. "Evdokiia Rostopchina versus the Male Tradition." In *How Women Must Write: Inventing the Russian Woman Poet*. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 2020. 43-65.



## B2. Exposing the Need for Reform (Michaelmas)

E. Tur

*Antonina* (1851)

A.N. Ostrovskii

*Groza* (1859)

N.D. Khvoshchinskaia, pseudonym: V. Krestovskii (pseudonym)

*Bratets* (1858) OR *Pansionerka* (1861)

Both Khvoshchinskaia stories will be available in the UL, the MMLL Library, and various college libraries in:

Khvoshchinskaia, N.D. *Povesti i rasskazy*. Moscow, Moskovskii rabochii: 1984.

They are also available online at <[http://az.lib.ru/h/hwoshinskaja\\_n\\_d/text\\_0050.shtml](http://az.lib.ru/h/hwoshinskaja_n_d/text_0050.shtml)> and <[http://az.lib.ru/h/hwoshinskaja\\_n\\_d/text\\_0060.shtml](http://az.lib.ru/h/hwoshinskaja_n_d/text_0060.shtml)>.

## Secondary Readings

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Marsh, Rosalind. "An Image of their own?: Feminism, Revisionism and Russian Culture." In Rosalind Marsh, ed. *Women and Russian Culture: Projections and Self-Perceptions*. New York, NY: Berghahn Books, 1998. 2-41.

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### Tur

Bowers, Katherine. "Gothic Subjectivity and the Woman Question," 115-136, in *Writing Fear: Russian Realism and the Gothic*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2022.

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### Ostrovskii

Dobrolyubov, N.A. "Luch sveta v temnom tsarstve." Available in English: "A Ray of Light in the Realm of Darkness: The Works of A. Ostrovsky" in *Selected Philosophical Essays*, trans. J. Fineberg. Westport, Connecticut: Hyperion Press, 1948. 543-628.

Hoover, Marjorie L. *Alexander Ostrovsky*. Boston: Twayne Publishers, 1981.

Leach, Robert and Victor Borovsky (eds.) *A History of Russian Theatre*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999 [chapters on Realism and on Ostrovskii]

Peace, R.A. "A.N. Ostrovsky's 'The Thunderstorm': The Dramatization of Conceptual Ambivalence" *The Modern Language Review* 84:1 (1989), 99-110.

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### Khvoshchinskaia

- Andrew, Joe. "'A Room of One's Own', Part I: Narrative, Space and Gender in *The Boarding-School Girl*." In *Narrative, Space and Gender in Russian Fiction, 1846-1903*. Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2007. 105-130.
- Gheith, Jehanne. "'V. Krestovskii,' Writer of the Fifties." In *Finding the Middle Ground*. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 2004. 156-185.
- Lounsbery, Anne. "Transcendence Deferred: Women Writers in the Provinces." In *Life Is Elsewhere: Symbolic Geography in the Russian Provinces, 1800-1917*. Ithaca: Northern Illinois University Press, 2019. 142-163.
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- "Writing the Self: Creativity and the Female Author: Nadezhda Dmitrievna Khvoshchinskaya (1824-1889)." In Marianne Liljeström et al., eds. *Gender Restructuring in Russian Studies*. Tampere: University of Tampere, 1993. 193-208.
- Zirin, Mary. "Women's Prose Fiction in the Age of Realism." In Toby Clyman and Diana Greene, eds. *Women Writers in Russian Literature*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1994. 77-94.

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B3: The Novel of Ideas (Lent)

Core Texts:

Turgenev, Ivan. *Otsy i deti* (1862).

Dostoevskii, Fedor. *Zapiski iz podpol'ia* (1864) **Part IB, Option A** students should read Part I in Russian; Part II may be read in English.

Dostoevskii, Fedor. *Prestuplenie i nakazanie* (1866) – this long novel is optional, but should be read in the vacation/year abroad by those with a particular interest in Dostoevskii.

General Secondary Readings

Jones, Malcolm and Robin Feuer Miller, eds. *Cambridge Companion to the Classic Russian Novel*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1998. [Especially the chapters "Politics," "Psychology and Society," and "Philosophy in the Nineteenth-century Novel"]

Leatherbarrow, William and Derek Offord, eds. *A History of Russian Thought*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010.

Riasanovsky, Nicholas. *Russian Identities: A Historical Survey*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005.

Walicki, Andrzej. *A History of Russian Thought from the Enlightenment to Marxism*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 1979.

Readings Relating this Literature to Current Events

"Don't Blame Dostoevsky" by Mikhail Shishkin

<https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2022/07/russian-literature-books-ukraine-war-dostoyevsky-nabokov/670928/> (This essay offers justification and praise of Russian

literature.)

“How Should Dostoevsky and Tolstoy Be Read During Russia’s War Against Ukraine?” by Ani Kokobobo

<https://theconversation.com/how-should-dostoevsky-and-tolstoy-be-read-during-russias-war-against-ukraine-179932> (This essay offers justification and praise of Russian literature.)

“What Classic Russian Literature Can Tell Us about Putin’s War on Ukraine” by Tim Brinkhof
<https://bigthink.com/the-past/russia-literature-ukraine-putin/> (Pits a Tolstoyan worldview against a Dostoevskian one.)

“No Guilty People in the World? Reading Russian Literature After the Bucha Massacre” by Oksana Zabuzhko

<https://global-factiva-com.proxy.jbs.cam.ac.uk/redirect/default.aspx?P=sa&an=TLITE00020220422ei4m0005n&cat=a&ep=ASE> (This essay is very critical of Russian literature.)

“Novels of Empire: Rereading Russian classics in the shadow of the Ukraine war” by Elif Batuman

<https://www.proquest.com/docview/2771047241/CCFF53C016F4FF1PQ/12?accountid=9851>
(This essay offers Batuman’s personal experience of rethinking the Russian classics in light of the war with a more critical eye.)

Turgenev

Allen, Elizabeth Cheresh. *Beyond Realism: Turgenev’s Poetics of Secular Salvation*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 1992.

Berlin, Isaiah. *Fathers and children: the Romanes lecture delivered in the Sheldonian Theatre 12 November 1970*. Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1972.

Costlow, Jane T. *Worlds within Worlds: The Novels of Ivan Turgenev*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1990.

Holquist, Michael. “Bazarov and Sečenov: The Role of Scientific Metaphor in Fathers and Sons” *Russian Literature* 16:4 (1984), 359-574.

Morson, Gary Saul. “Genre and Hero.” *Stanford Slavic Studies* 4.1 (1991): 367-79 [reprinted in the Norton Critical Edition of *Fathers and Children* as “Two Kinds of Love”]

Orwin, Donna Tussing. *Consequences of Consciousness: Turgenev, Dostoevsky, and Tolstoy*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2007. [Especially pages 92-112]

Valentino, Russel S. “A Wolf in Arkadia: Generic Fields, Generic Counterstatement and the Resources of Pastoral in *Fathers and Sons*.” ^[1]_[SEP] *Russian Review*, vol. 55, no. 3 (Jul., 1996), 475-493.

Dostoevsky General Secondary Readings

Bowers, Katherine, Connor Doak, and Kate Holland (eds.). *A Dostoevskii Companion: Texts and Contexts*. Boston: Academic Studies Press, 2018.

Apollonio, Carol. *Dostoevsky’s Secrets: Reading Against the Grain*. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 2009.

Corrigan, Yuri. *Dostoevsky and the Riddle of the Self*. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 2017.

Holquist, Michael. *Dostoevsky and the Novel*. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 1986.

- Leatherbarrow, William. *Cambridge Companion to Dostoevskii*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002.
- Martinsen, Deborah A. and Olga Mairorova, eds. *Dostoevsky in Context*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2016.
- McReynolds, Susan. *Redemption and the Merchant God: Dostoevsky's Economy of Salvation and Antisemitism*. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 2008.
- Mochulsky, K. *Dostoevsky: His Life and Works*, trans. Michael A. Minihan. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1971.
- Scanlan, James. *Dostoevsky the Thinker*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2002.
- Williams, Rowan. *Dostoevsky: Language, Faith, and Fiction*. Waco, TX: Baylor University Press, 2008.

Zapiski iz podpol'ia

- Bakhtin, Mikhail. *Problems of Dostoevsky's Poetics*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1984. [See pages 227-37]
- Frank, Joseph. *Dostoevsky: The Stir of Liberation, 1860-65*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1977. [See pages 310-467]
- Holquist, Michael. *Dostoevsky and the Novel*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1977.
- Knapp, Liza. *The Annihilation of Inertia: Dostoevsky and Metaphysics*. Northwestern UP: 1996.
- Peace, Richard. *Dostoevsky's Notes from Underground*. London: Bristol Classical Press, 1993.

Prestuplenie i nakazanie

- Bloom, Harold, ed. *Fyodor Dostoevsky's Crime and Punishment*. Philadelphia, PA: Chelsea House Publishers, 2004.
- Frank, Joseph. *Dostoevsky: The Miraculous Years, 1865-1871*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1995.
- Jackson, Robert Louis, ed. *Twentieth-century Interpretations of Crime and Punishment*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ and London: Prentice-Hall, 1974.
- Nuttall, A. D. *Crime and Punishment: Murder as Philosophic Experiment*. Edinburgh: Scottish Academic Press for Sussex University Press, 1978.
- Peace, Richard, ed. *Fyodor Dostoevsky's Crime and Punishment: a Casebook*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2006.
- Rosenschild, Gary. *Crime and Punishment: The Techniques of the Omniscient Author*. Lisse: Peter de Ridder Press, 1978.

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### **B4: Short Forms (Lent)**

Stories marked \* are suggested for the attention of **Part IB, Option A** students.

A.P. Chekhov

\*"Smert' chinovnika" (1883)

\*"Van'ka" (1886)

\*"Neschast'e" (1886)  
\*"Toska" (1886)  
\*"Spat' khochetsia" (1888)  
"Palata nomer 6" (1892)  
"Student" (1894)  
\*"Anna na shee" (1895)  
"Dom s mezzaninom" (1896)  
\*Malen'kaia trilogiia (1898): "Chelovek v futliare," "Kryzhovnik," "O liubvi"  
"Dama s sobachkoi" (1899)

P.D. Khvoshchinskaia  
"Semeinaia skorb'" (1879)

N.S. Leskov  
"Dukh gospozhi Zhanlis" (1881)  
"Levsha" (1881)

S. Smirnova  
"Ochertia golovu" (1897)

L.N. Tolstoi  
"Khoziain i rabotnik" (1895)  
"Posle bala" (1903)  
\*"Alesha Gorshok" (1905, pub. 1911)

## Leskov

Benjamin, Walter. "The Storyteller: Reflections on the Works of Nikolai Leskov." In *Illuminations*. London: Pimlico, 1999. 83-107.  
Eikhenbaum, Boris. "'Chrezmernyi' pisatel' (K 100-letiiu rozhdeniia N. Leskova)." In *O proze: Sbornik statei*. Leningrad: Izdatel'stvo Khudozhestvennaia literatura, 1969. 327-45.  
McLean, Hugh. *Nikolai Leskov: The Man and His Art*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1977.  
Sperrle, Irmhild Christina. *The Organic Worldview of Nikolai Leskov*. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 2002.

## Chekhov

Baehr, Stephen L. "The Locomotive and the Giant: Power in Chekhov's 'Anna on the Neck.'" *The Slavic and East European Journal*, 39 (1995): 29-37.  
Chekhov, A.P. *Letters on the Short Story, the Drama, and Other Literary Topics*. Selected and edited by Louis S. Friedland. London: Vision, 1965. [This contains Chekhov's interesting commentaries on his own writing]  
Chudakov, A.P. *Chekhov's Poetics*. Trans. Jannie Cruise and Donald Dragt. Ann Arbor, MI: Ardis, 1983.  
Corrigan, Yuri. *Chekhov in Context*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2023.  
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- Jackson, Robert Louis, ed. *Reading Chekhov's Text*. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 1993.
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## Tolstoi

- Gustafson, Richard. *Leo Tolstoy: Resident and Stranger*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1986.
- Schönle, Andreas. "Sublime Vision and Self-Derision: The Aesthetics of Death in Tolstoy" in *Anniversary Essays on Tolstoy*, ed. Donna Orwin. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2010.
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