Russian and East European Studies

Department Website: http://slavic.uchicago.edu

Program of Study

The Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures offers courses in the Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, Czech, Polish, and Russian languages and literatures, and other Slavic and East European cultures, leading to a BA in Russian and East European Studies. The BA degree program is designed to provide students with skills and facility in the languages and cultures of the region. It is intended for students preparing for graduate work, those planning a career in government or industry, and those whose primary aim is to master Russian and East European cultures in the original languages. Students interested in the program are encouraged to consult with the director of undergraduate studies. The contact information for the current director of undergraduate studies may be obtained by consulting the departmental website at slavic.uchicago.edu (http://slavic.uchicago.edu/).

Students who are majoring in other fields of study may also complete a minor in Russian and East European Studies.

General Education

Depending on the language(s) of concentration, it is recommended that students majoring in REES satisfy the general education requirement in civilization studies with SOSC 24000-24100 (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/search/?P=SOSC%2024000-24100) Introduction to Russian Civilization I-II or HIST 13100-13200-13300 (http://collegecatalog.uchicago.edu/search/?P=HIST%2013100-13200-13300) History of Western Civilization I-II-III.

Grading

Students who are majoring or minoring in Russian and East European Studies must receive a quality grade in all courses taken to meet requirements in the major or minor. Nonmajors and nonminors have the option of taking courses on a P/F basis at the discretion of the instructor (except for language courses, which must be taken for quality grades). For the major a minimum of seven courses must bear University of Chicago course numbers and be completed for quality grades.

Honors

To be eligible for honors in Russian and East European Studies, students must maintain an overall College GPA of 3.25 or higher and of 3.5 or higher in the major. Students must indicate their intention to pursue honors to the director of undergraduate studies no later than the end of the first week of the first quarter of their fourth year.

In addition, students pursuing honors must write an acceptable BA paper in their final year under the supervision of a faculty member in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. Students must submit the BA paper to the BA supervisor no later than Friday of fifth week in Spring Quarter of their fourth year.

At the latest by the Autumn Quarter of their fourth year, students should begin the BA process by consulting with the director of undergraduate studies. Students may register for the BA Paper seminar (REES 29900 BA Paper Workshop) with approval of the BA supervisor. This course will confer general College elective credit, but it will not count toward the major. If the completed bachelor’s paper is judged by the supervisor and a second faculty member to be a distinguished example of original research or criticism, the student is recommended to the College for graduation with honors in Russian and East European Studies. The final decision regarding the granting of any degree with honors rests with the Collegiate divisional master.

Advising

Students wishing to declare the major should meet with the director of undergraduate studies. Further information on the undergraduate program is available in the departmental office (Foster 406, 773.702.8033). Questions about placement, competency, and proficiency examinations in Russian should be directed to the coordinator of Russian language courses.

Study Abroad

Several study abroad opportunities are offered in subjects and geographic areas of interest to students who are majoring in Russian and East European Studies, including those described below. For more information, students should consult with the study abroad advisers or visit study-abroad.uchicago.edu (http://study-abroad.uchicago.edu/).

1. **Smolny College**: The University of Chicago sponsors summer, semester-long, and year-long programs at Smolny College, a joint Russian-American college in St. Petersburg. College-level courses are taught in Russian and English on a broad range of subjects, as well as language courses.

2. **Russian Civilization in Paris**: A three-part sequence of courses is taught by University of Chicago faculty at the Center in Paris. The program includes an extended excursion to a Russian city. This program satisfies the general education requirement in civilization studies.
3. **FLAG study:** Students who wish to do a summer study abroad program can apply for a Foreign Language Acquisition Grant (FLAG) that is administered by the College and provides support for a minimum of eight weeks of study at a recognized summer program abroad. Students must have completed RUSS 10303 First-Year Russian-3 or its equivalent to be eligible for FLAG support for the study of Russian. For more information, visit study-abroad.uchicago.edu/programs/byType/summer-grants.

**PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

Major in Russian and East European Studies (REES). The BA in REES requires twelve courses, which fall into two categories: courses in the major language of study and elective courses. In this way students have the flexibility to construct a course of study that accords with their interests.

**MAJOR IN RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN STUDIES**

1. **Six language courses at the 20000 level or beyond.** In exceptional circumstances students may petition to substitute three courses in a concentrated area of study for three quarters of study in the major language.

This requirement may be satisfied in whole or in part by examination credit based on a University placement exam. Students who fulfill the language requirement with fewer than three quarters of study must substitute elective courses offered in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures.

2. **Six elective courses in REES or in languages offered by Slavic Languages and Literatures.**

This requirement is designed to allow students to tailor their program to their intended goals and career track. A maximum of one Reading and Research course (REES 29700) may be counted as an elective course.

Courses in the major may not be double-counted with general education requirements. A minimum of seven courses in the major must be completed for quality grades at the University of Chicago.

**NOTE:** Students who entered the University prior to Autumn 2015 may choose to fulfill the requirements here or those that were in place when they entered the University. For questions about course eligibility, contact the director of undergraduate studies.

**SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR IN RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN STUDIES**

- Six courses in Russian or an East European language at the 20000 level or above 600
- Six elective courses 600
- Total Units 1200

Credit may be granted by examination. Up to three quarters worth of placement credit can be counted toward the major. More than half of the language requirement (the equivalent of four to six quarters of study) is met by examination, electives in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures must be substituted for the additional quarters of language credit granted (i.e., if a student places out of four quarters of language study, one elective course must be substituted into the major. If five quarters of credit are granted, two electives must be substituted, etc.). Introductory courses in another Slavic or East European language can be used as electives.

**MINOR PROGRAM IN RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN STUDIES**

The minor in Russian and East European Studies requires seven courses, including at least three language courses at the 20000 level or higher and at least two REES courses.

Courses in the minor (1) may not be double counted with the student's major(s) or with other minors and (2) may not be counted toward general education requirements. Courses in the minor must be taken for quality grades, and more than half of the requirements for the minor must be met by registering for courses bearing University of Chicago course numbers.

**Summary of Requirements for the Minor in Russian and East European Studies**

- Three second-year courses in a Russian or East European language 300
- Four elective courses (including at least two REES courses) 400
- Total Units 700

Credit may be granted by examination.
BOSNIAN, CROATIAN, AND SERBIAN COURSES

BCSN 10103-10203-10303. First-Year Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian I-II-III.
The major objective of the sequence is to build a solid foundation in the basic grammatical patterns of written and spoken Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, while simultaneously introducing both the Cyrillic and Latin alphabets. This sequence is complemented with cultural and historical media from the Balkans and is designed for students with a wide range of interests. Screenings of movies and other audio-visual materials are held in addition to scheduled class time. Knowledge of a Slavic language and background in linguistics not required.

BCSN 10103. First-Year Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian I. 100 Units.
This three-quarter sequence course in Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian languages introduces students to the basics of four basic skills: reading, listening, speaking and writing. It maintains a good balance of the three languages, their respective grammatical and lexical differences, and the Cyrillic and Latin alphabets. Students are encouraged to concentrate on the language and culture of their interest and choice. The course objective is to build a solid foundation in the grammatical patterns of the spoken and written languages, while simultaneously working on basic interpretive, interpersonal, presentational and intercultural communication. This is achieved through a communicative situation-based approach, dialogues and texts and, reinforced by the students and instructor, screenings of short announcements, commercials, documentaries, interviews, and the like. Once a week, one-on-one 15-minute conversation sessions with the instructor offer students the opportunity to review and practice the materials presented in class. The course is supplemented with cultural events, guest speakers and selected media. Together with the conversation sessions, these supplements improve the students’ ability to interact effectively and appropriately with people from other linguistic and cultural backgrounds- essential for establishing successful, positive relationships across cultural boundaries.
Instructor(s): Nada Petkovic Terms Offered: Autumn

BCSN 10203. First-Year Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian II. 100 Units.
This three-quarter sequence course in Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian languages introduces students to the basics of four basic skills: reading, listening, speaking and writing. It maintains a good balance of the three languages, their respective grammatical and lexical differences, and the Cyrillic and Latin alphabets. Students are encouraged to concentrate on the language and culture of their interest and choice. The course objective is to build a solid foundation in the grammatical patterns of the spoken and written languages, while simultaneously working on basic interpretive, interpersonal, presentational and intercultural communication. This is achieved through a communicative situation-based approach, dialogues and texts and, reinforced by the students and instructor, screenings of short announcements, commercials, documentaries, interviews, and the like. Once a week, one-on-one 15-minute conversation sessions with the instructor offer students the opportunity to review and practice the materials presented in class. The course is supplemented with cultural events, guest speakers and selected media. Together with the conversation sessions, these supplements improve the students’ ability to interact effectively and appropriately with people from other linguistic and cultural backgrounds- essential for establishing successful, positive relationships across cultural boundaries.
Instructor(s): Nada Petkovic Terms Offered: Winter

BCSN 10303. First-Year Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian III. 100 Units.
This three-quarter sequence course in Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian languages introduces students to the basics of four basic skills: reading, listening, speaking and writing. It maintains a good balance of the three languages, their respective grammatical and lexical differences, and the Cyrillic and Latin alphabets. Students are encouraged to concentrate on the language and culture of their interest and choice. The course objective is to build a solid foundation in the grammatical patterns of the spoken and written languages, while simultaneously working on basic interpretive, interpersonal, presentational and intercultural communication. This is achieved through a communicative situation-based approach, dialogues and texts and, reinforced by the students and instructor, screenings of short announcements, commercials, documentaries, interviews, and the like. Once a week, one-on-one 15-minute conversation sessions with the instructor offer students the opportunity to review and practice the materials presented in class. The course is supplemented with cultural events, guest speakers and selected media. Together with the conversation sessions, these supplements improve the students’ ability to interact effectively and appropriately with people from other linguistic and cultural backgrounds- essential for establishing successful, positive relationships across cultural boundaries.
Instructor(s): Nada Petkovic Terms Offered: Spring
BCSN 20103-20203-20303. Second-Year Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian I-II-III.
The second-year sequence in Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian languages and cultures is a continuation of first-year BCS and therefore assumes one year of formal study of the target language(s) or equivalent course work elsewhere. The sequence is focused on spoken and written modern BCS, emphasizing communicative practice in authentic cultural contexts. The language(s) are introduced through a series of dialogues gathered from a variety of textbooks published in Serbia, Croatia, and Bosnia, as well as newspaper articles, short biographies, poems, and song lyrics in both the Latin and Cyrillic alphabets. A vast archive of audiovisual materials, representing both high and popular culture, constitutes an integral part of every unit. Simultaneously, aural comprehension, speaking, grammar, and vocabulary are reinforced and further developed throughout the year. Mandatory drill sessions are held twice a week, offering students ample opportunity to review and practice materials presented in class.

BCSN 20103. Second-Year Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian I. 100 Units.
The Second-Year Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian languages and cultures course is designed for both students who have completed the first-year sequence and heritage learners. Its main objective is to develop further communicative skills-interpretive, interpersonal, presentational and intercultural-using authentic materials representing the contemporary spoken and written language in authentic cultural contexts. Students are presented with a series of texts, such as newspaper articles, interviews with writers, actors, athletes, short biographies, book and film reviews, university websites, travel blogs, etc. Audiovisual materials, representing both high and popular culture, constitute an integral part of every unit. Grammar and vocabulary are reinforced and developed throughout the quarter. Textual and audiovisual materials are selected to best exemplify the outlined themes while maintaining a good balance of the three languages and their respective grammatical and lexical differences in order to assess students’ progress in all four skills. Each of the 12 units is accompanied with a unit test, all of which, including the final exam at the end of the term, mirror the tasks in the practical proficiency assessment test that students can take at the end of the spring quarter. The course is complemented with cultural and historical media from the Balkans, guest speakers and cultural events. The prerequisite is BCSN 10303 or the equivalent.
Instructor(s): Nada Petkovic Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): BCSN 10303 or consent of instructor

BCSN 20203. Second-Year Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian II. 100 Units.
The Second-Year Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian languages and cultures course is designed for both students who have completed the first-year sequence and heritage learners. Its main objective is to develop further communicative skills-interpretive, interpersonal, presentational and intercultural-using authentic materials representing the contemporary spoken and written language in authentic cultural contexts. Students are presented with a series of texts, such as newspaper articles, interviews with writers, actors, athletes, short biographies, book and film reviews, university websites, travel blogs, etc. Audiovisual materials, representing both high and popular culture, constitute an integral part of every unit. Grammar and vocabulary are reinforced and developed throughout the quarter. Textual and audiovisual materials are selected to best exemplify the outlined themes while maintaining a good balance of the three languages and their respective grammatical and lexical differences in order to assess students’ progress in all four skills. Each of the 12 units is accompanied with a unit test, all of which, including the final exam at the end of the term, mirror the tasks in the practical proficiency assessment test that students can take at the end of the spring quarter. The course is complemented with cultural and historical media from the Balkans, guest speakers and cultural events. The prerequisite is BCSN 10303 or the equivalent.
Instructor(s): Nada Petkovic Terms Offered: Winter

BCSN 20303. Second-Year Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian III. 100 Units.
The Second-Year Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian languages and cultures course is designed for both students who have completed the first-year sequence and heritage learners. Its main objective is to develop further communicative skills-interpretive, interpersonal, presentational and intercultural-using authentic materials representing the contemporary spoken and written language in authentic cultural contexts. Students are presented with a series of texts, such as newspaper articles, interviews with writers, actors, athletes, short biographies, book and film reviews, university websites, travel blogs, etc. Audiovisual materials, representing both high and popular culture, constitute an integral part of every unit. Grammar and vocabulary are reinforced and developed throughout the quarter. Textual and audiovisual materials are selected to best exemplify the outlined themes while maintaining a good balance of the three languages and their respective grammatical and lexical differences in order to assess students’ progress in all four skills. Each of the 12 units is accompanied with a unit test, all of which, including the final exam at the end of the term, mirror the tasks in the practical proficiency assessment test that students can take at the end of the spring quarter. The course is complemented with cultural and historical media from the Balkans, guest speakers and cultural events. The prerequisite is BCSN 10303 or the equivalent.
Instructor(s): Nada Petkovic Terms Offered: Spring
BCSN 21101. Advanced Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian: Language through Fiction. 100 Units.
This one quarter course is designed to help students over one of the most difficult hurdles in language training-the transition from working through lessons in a textbook to reading unedited literary texts. The selected pieces of fiction and the exercises drawn from them engage the language’s structure on every page. Immersed in a complete language experience, students learn how to engage the natural, organic language of literary texts across a variety of styles and themes enabling them to work with ever more challenging material. The course objective is to hone students’ abilities to analyze increasingly complex unrevised texts, identify various styles and registers of the language, and handle linguistically unfamiliar situations in both spoken and written format. Attention is given to improving students’ abilities to paraphrase, narrate, describe, support opinions, hypothesize and discuss abstract topics. Building vocabulary is stressed as a key to making progress, while issues of language structure and grammar are reinforced throughout the course. Classes are conducted in the target language and may be taken for pass/fail. The prerequisite is two years of formal study of the target language or the equivalent.
Instructor(s): Nada Petkovic Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): REES 31104, BCSN 31104, REES 21101

BCSN 21200. Advanced Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian: Language Through Film. 100 Units.
Advanced BCS courses encompass both the 3rd and 4th years of language study, with the focus changed from language structure and grammar to issues in interdisciplinary content. The courses are not in sequence. This course addresses the theme of Yugoslav and Post-Yugoslav identity through discussion and interpretation based on selected films, documentaries, images, and related texts-historical and literary, popular press, advertisements, screenplays, and literature on film. Emphasis is on interpersonal communication as well as the interpretation and production of language in written and oral forms. The course engages in systematic grammar review, along with introduction of some new linguistic topics, with constant practice in writing and vocabulary enrichment. The syllabus includes the screening of six films, each from a different director, region, and period, starting with Cinema Komunisto (2012), a documentary by Mila Turajlic. This film will be crucial for understanding how Yugoslav cinema was born and how, in its origins, it belongs to what a later cinephile, Fredric Jameson, has called a “geopolitical aesthetic.” We shall investigate the complex relationship between aesthetics and ideology in the Yugoslav and Post-Yugoslav cinema, and pay close attention to aesthetic conceptions and concrete formal properties, and more importantly, to language, narrative logic, and style.
Instructor(s): Nada Petkovic Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): REES 31203, BCSN 31203, REES 21200

BCSN 21300. (Re)Branding the Balkan City: Contemp. Belgrade/Sarajevo/Zagreb. 100 Units.
The course uses an urban studies lens to explore the complex history, infrastructure and transformations of cities, mainly the capitals of today’s Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Croatia. There is a particular need to survey this region and feed the newfound interest in it, mainly because Yugoslav architecture embodied one of the great political experiments of the modern era. Drawing on anthropological theory and ethnography of the city, we consider processes of urban destruction and renewal, practices of branding spaces and identities, urban life as praxis, art and design movements, film, music, food, architectural histories and styles, metropolitan citizenship, and the broader politics of space. The course is complemented by cultural and historical media, guest speakers, and virtual tours. One of them is a tour through the 2018 show at MoMA “Toward a Concrete Utopia: Architecture in Yugoslavia 1948-1980” a project curated with the goal to find a place for Yugoslav Modernism in the architectural canon. Classes are held in English. No knowledge of South Slavic languages is required.
Instructor(s): Nada Petkovic Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): REES 21300, BCSN 31303, REES 31303, ARCH 21300

BCSN 21400. Advanced BCS: Language through Art and Architecture. 100 Units.
This course foregrounds different periods in Yugoslav and post-Yugoslav art and architecture. Situated between the capitalist West and the socialist East, Yugoslavia’s architects responded to contradictory demands and influences, developing a postwar architecture both in line with and distinct from the design approaches seen elsewhere in Europe and beyond. Drawing on the country’s own idiosyncrasies, diverse heritage and influences, the course surveys examples of architectural styles from classical to Baroque, through Art Nouveau and Modernism, all the way to full-blown Brutalism with its heft and material honesty. Given that Yugoslav architecture also expressed one of the great political experiments of the modern era, the course entertains many questions on related topics. While exploring major cities, their infrastructure, houses, buildings, monuments, churches and more, the course delves into advanced grammatical topics with the goal of increasing proficiency in both aural and reading comprehension, in addition to honing writing and speaking styles. Classes are conducted in the target language and may be taken for pass/fail. The prerequisite is two years of formal study of the target language or the equivalent.
Instructor(s): Nada Petkovic Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): The course prerequisite is two years of formal study of the target language(s) or the consent of the instructor.
Equivalent Course(s): BCSN 31403, REES 21400, REES 31403
BCSN 29700. Reading and Research Course. 100 Units.
No description available.
Instructor(s): Nada Petkovic
Terms Offered: Autumn Spring Winter
Prerequisite(s): Consent of instructor and Departmental Adviser
Note(s): Students are required to submit the College Reading and Research Course Form.

BCSN 29910. Special Topics in Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian I. 100 Units.
The course is designed to meet the specific needs of advanced learners of Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, including heritage and native speakers, and to foster cross-cultural experiences through interdisciplinary content. The curriculum covers a wide range of topics relative to the students' field of study, research and personal interests. Although grounded in the field of philology, it expands students' knowledge in other disciplines of social and behavioral sciences such as history, anthropology, global studies, economics, political science, sociology, and the like. Attention is given to the ability to paraphrase scholarly arguments, formulate research hypotheses, and present research in the target language. The course delves into advanced grammatical topics with the goal of increasing proficiency in both aural and reading comprehension, in addition to honing writing and speaking styles. Classes are conducted in BCS. The prerequisite is three years of formal study of the target language or the equivalent.
Instructor(s): Nada Petkovic
Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): REES 39913, REES 29913, BCSN 39910

BCSN 29911. Special Topics in Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian II. 100 Units.
The course is designed to meet the specific needs of advanced learners of B/C/S, including heritage and native speakers, and to foster cross-cultural experiences through its interdisciplinary content. The curriculum covers a wide range of topics relative to the students' field of study, research and personal interests. Although grounded in the field of philology, it expands students' knowledge in other disciplines of social and behavioral sciences such as history, anthropology, global studies, economics, political science, sociology, and the like. Attention is given to the ability to paraphrase scholarly arguments, formulate research hypotheses, and present one's research in the target language. The course delves into advanced grammatical topics with the goal of increasing proficiency in both aural and reading comprehension, in addition to honing writing and speaking styles. Classes are conducted in B/C/S; the prerequisite is three years of formal study of the target language or the equivalent.
Instructor(s): Nada Petkovic
Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): BCSN 39911, REES 39914, BCSN 39914

BCSN 29912. Special Topics in Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian III. 100 Units.
The course is designed to meet the specific needs of advanced learners of B/C/S, including heritage and native speakers, and to foster cross-cultural experiences through its interdisciplinary content. The curriculum covers a wide range of topics relative to the students' field of study, research and personal interests. Although grounded in the field of philology, it expands students' knowledge in other disciplines of social and behavioral sciences such as history, anthropology, global studies, economics, political science, sociology, and the like. Attention is given to the ability to paraphrase scholarly arguments, formulate research hypotheses, and present one's research in the target language. The course delves into advanced grammatical topics with the goal of increasing proficiency in both aural and reading comprehension, in addition to honing writing and speaking styles. Classes are conducted in B/C/S; the prerequisite is three years of formal study of the target language or the equivalent.
Instructor(s): Nada Petkovic
Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): BCSN 39912, REES 29915, REES 39915

CZECH COURSES

CZEC 10103-10203-10303. First-Year Czech I-II-III.
First-Year Czech

CZEC 10103. First-Year Czech I. 100 Units.
This course introduces the Czech language to those students who would like to speak Czech or use the language for reading and research purposes. All four major communicative skills (i.e. reading, writing, listening, speaking) are stressed. Students will also learn about Czech culture through readings, films and class activities. This three- quarter sequence prepares students for the second-year Czech course and to study or travel abroad in the Czech Republic. Conversation practice is held weekly.
Instructor(s): Irena Cajkova
Terms Offered: Autumn

CZEC 10203. First-Year Czech II. 100 Units.
This course is an introduction to the basic grammar of Czech with attention given to all four skills of speaking, listening, reading, and writing, as well as exposure to Czech culture. Winter and Spring Quarters include work with Czech film and literature. Students gain some familiarity with the major differences between literary and spoken Czech as they learn to use the language both as a means of communication and as a tool for reading and research.
Instructor(s): Irena Cajkova
Terms Offered: Winter
CZEC 10303. First-Year Czech III. 100 Units.
This course is an introduction to the basic grammar of Czech with attention given to all four skills of speaking, listening, reading, and writing, as well as exposure to Czech culture. Winter and Spring Quarters include work with Czech film and literature. Students gain some familiarity with the major differences between literary and spoken Czech as they learn to use the language both as a means of communication and as a tool for reading and research.
Instructor(s): Irena Cajkova Terms Offered: Spring

CZEC 29700. Reading and Research Course. 100 Units.
No description available.
Terms Offered: Autumn Spring Winter
Prerequisite(s): Consent of instructor and Departmental Adviser
Note(s): Students are required to submit the College Reading and Research Course Form.

CZEC 29900. BA Paper. 100 Units.
No description available.
Terms Offered: Autumn Spring Winter
Prerequisite(s): Open to fourth-year students who are majoring in Slavic Languages and Literatures with consent of instructor and Departmental Adviser
Note(s): Students are required to submit the College Reading and Research Course Form. This course must be taken for a quality grade.

Polish Courses

POLI 10103-10203-10303. First-Year Polish I-II-III.
This sequence teaches students to speak, read, and write in Polish, as well as familiarizes them with Polish culture. It employs the most up-to-date techniques of language teaching (e.g., communicative and accelerated learning, and learning based on students’ native language skills), as well as multileveled target-language exposure.

POLI 10103. First-Year Polish I. 100 Units.
This course teaches students to speak, read, and write in Polish, as well as familiarizes them with Polish culture. It employs the most up-to-date techniques of language teaching (e.g., communicative and accelerated learning, and learning based on students’ native language skills), as well as multileveled target-language exposure.
Instructor(s): Sasha Lindskog Terms Offered: Autumn

POLI 10203. First-Year Polish II. 100 Units.
This course includes instruction in grammar, writing, and translation, as well as watching selected Polish movies. Selected readings are drawn from the course textbook, and students also read Polish short stories and press articles. In addition, the independent reading of students is emphasized and reinforced by class discussions. Work is adjusted to each student’s level of preparation. Drill sessions to be arranged.
Instructor(s): Sasha Lindskog Terms Offered: Winter

POLI 10303. First-Year Polish III. 100 Units.
This course teaches students to speak, read, and write in Polish, as well as familiarizes them with Polish culture. It employs the most up-to-date techniques of language teaching (e.g., communicative and accelerated learning, and learning based on students’ native language skills), as well as multileveled target-language exposure.
Instructor(s): Sasha Lindskog Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): Poli 10203 or consent of instructor.

POLI 20103-20203-20303. Second-Year Polish I-II-III.
This sequence includes instruction in grammar, writing, and translation, as well as watching selected Polish movies. Selected readings are drawn from the course textbook, and students also read Polish short stories and press articles. In addition, the independent reading of students is emphasized and reinforced by class discussions. Work is adjusted to each student’s level of preparation.

POLI 20103. Second-Year Polish I. 100 Units.
This course includes instruction in grammar, writing, and translation, as well as watching selected Polish movies. Selected readings are drawn from the course textbook, and students also read Polish short stories and press articles. In addition, the independent reading of students is emphasized and reinforced by class discussions. Work is adjusted to each student’s level of preparation.
Instructor(s): Sasha Lindskog Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): POLI 10300 or equivalent

POLI 20203. Second-Year Polish II. 100 Units.
This course includes instruction in grammar, writing, and translation, as well as watching selected Polish movies. Selected readings are drawn from the course textbook, and students also read Polish short stories and press articles. In addition, the independent reading of students is emphasized and reinforced by class discussions. Work is adjusted to each student’s level of preparation.
Instructor(s): Sasha Lindskog Terms Offered: Winter
POLI 20303. Second-Year Polish III. 100 Units.
The primary goal of second year Polish is to expand the student's speaking, reading and writing skills by building on grammar and vocabulary learned during the first year of study. As a complement to the linguistic side of the course, the student will gain a greater familiarity with Polish history and culture through varied means including readings of literary works, articles from contemporary Polish newspapers and movies.
Instructor(s): Sasha Lindskog Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): Fall Quarter of Second Year Polish or instructor consent

POLI 29700. Reading and Research Course. 100 Units.
No description available.
Instructor(s): Dag Lindskog Terms Offered: Autumn Spring Winter
Prerequisite(s): Consent of instructor and Departmental Adviser
Note(s): Students are required to submit the College Reading and Research Course Form.

RUSSIAN COURSES

RUSS 10103-10203-10303. First-Year Russian I-II-III.

RUSS 10103. First-Year Russian I. 100 Units.
This course introduces modern Russian to students who would like to speak Russian or to use the language for reading and research. All four major communicative skills (i.e., reading, writing, listening comprehension, speaking) are stressed. Students are also introduced to Russian culture through readings, videos, and class discussions. This year-long course prepares students for the College Language Competency Exam, for continued study of Russian in second-year courses, and for study or travel abroad in Russian-speaking countries. Conversation practice is held twice a week.
Instructor(s): Erik Houle, Maria Iakubovich Terms Offered: Autumn

RUSS 10203. First-Year Russian-2. 100 Units.
This course introduces modern Russian to students who would like to speak Russian or to use the language for reading and research. All five major communicative skills (i.e., reading, writing, listening, comprehension, and speaking) are stressed. Students are also introduced to Russian culture through readings, videos, and class discussions. This yearlong course prepares students for the College Language Competency Exam, for continued study of Russian in second-year courses, and for study or travel abroad in Russian-speaking countries. Conversation practice is held twice a week.
Instructor(s): Erik Houle, Maria Iakubovich Terms Offered: Winter

RUSS 10303. First-Year Russian-3. 100 Units.
This course introduces modern Russian to students who would like to speak Russian or to use the language for reading and research. All four major communicative skills (i.e., reading, writing, listening comprehension, speaking) are stressed. Students are also introduced to Russian culture through readings, videos, and class discussions. This yearlong course prepares students for the College Language Competency Exam, for continued study of Russian in second-year courses, and for study or travel abroad in Russian-speaking countries. Conversation practice is held twice a week.
Instructor(s): Erik Houle, Maria Iakubovich Terms Offered: Spring

RUSS 10400-10500-10600. Russian through Pushkin I-II-III.
This literary and linguistic approach to Russian allows students to learn the language by engaging classic Russian poetic texts (e.g., Pushkin's The Bronze Horseman), as well as excerpts from Eugene Onegin and selections from Pushkin's shorter poems and prose works. Although the focus is on reading Russian, all four major communicative skills (i.e., reading, writing, listening comprehension, speaking) are stressed, preparing students for the College Language Competency Exam and for continued study of Russian in second-year courses. Conversation practice is held twice a week.
Instructor(s): Mark Baugher Terms Offered: Autumn
Note(s): Not open to students who have taken RUSS 10100-10200-10300.
RUSS 10500. Russian through Pushkin II. 100 Units.
This literary and linguistic approach to Russian allows students to learn the language by engaging classic Russian poetic texts (e.g., Pushkin's The Bronze Horseman), as well as excerpts from Eugene Onegin and selections from Pushkin's shorter poems and prose works. Although the focus is on reading Russian, all four major communicative skills (i.e., reading, writing, listening comprehension, speaking) are stressed, preparing students for the College Language Competency Exam and for continued study of Russian in second-year courses. Conversation practice is held twice a week.
Instructor(s): Mark Baugher Terms Offered: Winter
Note(s): Not open to students who have taken RUSS 10100-10200-10300.

RUSS 10600. Russian through Pushkin III. 100 Units.
This literary and linguistic approach to Russian allows students to learn the language by engaging classic Russian poetic texts (e.g., Pushkin's The Bronze Horseman), as well as excerpts from Eugene Onegin and selections from Pushkin's shorter poems and prose works. Although the focus is on reading Russian, all four major communicative skills (i.e., reading, writing, listening comprehension, speaking) are stressed, preparing students for the College Language Competency Exam and for continued study of Russian in second-year courses. Conversation practice is held twice a week.
Instructor(s): Mark Baugher Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): Not open to students who have taken RUSS 10100-10200-10300.

RUSS 20103-20203-20303. Second-Year Russian I-II-III.
Second-Year Russian

RUSS 20103. Second-Year Russian I. 100 Units.
This course continues RUSS 10103-10203-10303; it includes review and amplification of grammar, practice in reading, elementary composition, and speaking and comprehension. Systematic study of word formation and other strategies are taught to help free students from excessive dependence on the dictionary and develop confidence in reading rather than translating. Readings are selected to help provide historical and cultural background. Conversation practice is held twice a week.
Instructor(s): Erik Houle, Mark Baugher Terms Offered: Autumn

RUSS 20203. Second-Year Russian II. 100 Units.
This course continues RUSS 10103-10203-10303; it includes review and amplification of grammar, practice in reading, elementary composition, and speaking and comprehension. Systematic study of word formation and other strategies are taught to help free students from excessive dependence on the dictionary and develop confidence in reading rather than translating. Readings are selected to help provide historical and cultural background. Conversation practices is held twice a week.
Instructor(s): Erik Houle, Mark Baugher Terms Offered: Winter

RUSS 20303. Second-Year Russian III. 100 Units.
This course continues RUSS 10103-10203-10303; it includes review and amplification of grammar, practice in reading, elementary composition, and speaking and comprehension. Systematic study of word formation and other strategies are taught to help free students from excessive dependence on the dictionary and develop confidence in reading rather than translating. Readings are selected to help provide historical and cultural background. Conversation practice is held twice a week.
Instructor(s): Erik Houle, Mark Baugher Terms Offered: Spring

RUSS 20702-20802-20902. Third-Year Russian through Culture I-II-III.
This course, which is intended for third-year students of Russian, covers various aspects of Russian grammar in context and emphasizes the four communicative skills (i.e., reading, writing, listening comprehension, speaking) in a culturally authentic context. Excerpts from popular Soviet/Russian films and clips from Russian television news reports are shown and discussed in class. Classes conducted in Russian; some aspects of grammar explained in English. Drill practice is held twice a week.

RUSS 20702. Third-Year Russian through Culture I. 100 Units.
This course, which is intended for third-year students of Russian, covers various aspects of Russian grammar in context and emphasizes the four communicative skills (i.e., reading, writing, listening comprehension, speaking) in a culturally authentic context. Excerpts from popular Soviet/Russian films and clips from Russian television news reports are shown and discussed in class. Classes conducted in Russian; some aspects of grammar explained in English. Drill practice is held twice a week.
Instructor(s): V. Pichugin Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): RUSS 20300 (two years of Russian) or equivalent

RUSS 20802. Third-Year Russian through Culture II. 100 Units.
This course, which is intended for third-year students of Russian, covers various aspects of Russian grammar in context and emphasizes the four communicative skills (i.e., reading, writing, listening comprehension, speaking) in a culturally authentic context. Excerpts from popular Soviet/Russian films and clips from Russian television news reports are shown and discussed in class. Classes conducted in Russian; some aspects of grammar explained in English. Drill practice is held twice a week.
Instructor(s): V. Pichugin Terms Offered: Winter
RUSS 20902. Third-Year Russian through Culture III. 100 Units.
This course, which is intended for third-year students of Russian, covers various aspects of Russian grammar in context and emphasizes the four communicative skills (i.e., reading, writing, listening comprehension, speaking) in a culturally authentic context. Excerpts from popular Soviet/Russian films and clips from Russian television news reports are shown and discussed in class. Classes conducted in Russian; some aspects of grammar explained in English. Drill practice is held twice a week.
Instructor(s): V. Pichugin
Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): Russian 20701 or consent of instructor.
Note(s): Drill sessions to be arranged.
Equivalent Course(s): REES 20902, RUSS 30902, REES 30902

RUSS 21302-21402-21502. Advanced Russian through Media I-II-III.
This is a three-quarter sequence designed for fourth- and fifth-year students of Russian. It is also suitable for native speakers of Russian. This sequence covers various aspects of advanced Russian stylistics and discourse grammar in context. This sequence emphasizes the four communicative skills of listening, reading, speaking, and writing in a culturally authentic context. It builds transcultural competence by expanding students' knowledge of the language, culture, history, and daily lives of the Russian-speaking people. Vocabulary building is strongly emphasized. We add to the existing skills and develop our abilities to analyze increasingly complex texts for their meaning: to identify various styles and registers of the Russian language and to provide their neutral equivalents in standard Russian. We also work on developing our abilities to paraphrase, narrate, describe, support opinions, hypothesize, discuss abstract topics, and handle linguistically unfamiliar situations (in spoken and written format). Classes conducted in Russian. Course-specific grammar issues are covered during drill sessions (weekly) and office hours (by appointment). Oral Proficiency Interviews are conducted in the beginning and the end of the course (Autumn and Spring Quarters).

RUSS 21302. Advanced Russian through Media I. 100 Units.
This is a three-quarter sequence designed for fourth- and fifth-year students of Russian. It is also suitable for native speakers of Russian. This sequence covers various aspects of advanced Russian stylistics and discourse grammar in context. This sequence emphasizes the four communicative skills of listening, reading, speaking, and writing in a culturally authentic context. It builds transcultural competence by expanding students' knowledge of the language, culture, history, and daily lives of the Russian-speaking people. Vocabulary building is strongly emphasized. We add to the existing skills and develop our abilities to analyze increasingly complex texts for their meaning: to identify various styles and registers of the Russian language and to provide their neutral equivalents in standard Russian. We also work on developing our abilities to paraphrase, narrate, describe, support opinions, hypothesize, discuss abstract topics, and handle linguistically unfamiliar situations (in spoken and written format). Classes conducted in Russian. Course-specific grammar issues are covered during drill sessions (weekly) and office hours (by appointment). Oral Proficiency Interviews are conducted in the beginning and the end of the course (Autumn and Spring Quarters). Prerequisite(s): Four years of Russian, or equivalent, or consent of instructor.
Instructor(s): Valentina Pichugin
Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): Four years of Russian, or equivalent, or consent of instructor.
Equivalent Course(s): REES 30102, REES 21302, RUSS 30102

RUSS 21402. Advanced Russian through Media II. 100 Units.
This is a three-quarter sequence designed for fourth- and fifth-year students of Russian. It is also suitable for native speakers of Russian. This sequence covers various aspects of advanced Russian stylistics and discourse grammar in context. This sequence emphasizes the four communicative skills of listening, reading, speaking, and writing in a culturally authentic context. It builds transcultural competence by expanding students' knowledge of the language, culture, history, and daily lives of the Russian-speaking people. Vocabulary building is strongly emphasized. We add to the existing skills and develop our abilities to analyze increasingly complex texts for their meaning: to identify various styles and registers of the Russian language and to provide their neutral equivalents in standard Russian. We also work on developing our abilities to paraphrase, narrate, describe, support opinions, hypothesize, discuss abstract topics, and handle linguistically unfamiliar situations (in spoken and written format).
Instructor(s): Valentina Pichugin
Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Four years of Russian, or equivalent, or consent of instructor.
Note(s): Classes conducted in Russian. Course-specific grammar issues are covered during drill sessions (weekly) and office hours (by appointment). Oral Proficiency Interviews are conducted in the beginning and the end of the course (Autumn and Spring Quarters).
Equivalent Course(s): RUSS 30202
RUSS 21502. Adv Russian Through Media-III. 100 Units.
This course, which is designed for fifth-year students of Russian, covers various aspects of Russian stylistics and discourse grammar in context. It emphasizes the four communicative skills (i.e., reading, writing, listening comprehension, speaking) in culturally authentic context. Clips from Russian/Soviet films and television news reports are shown and discussed in class. Classes conducted in Russian. Conversation practice is held twice a week.
Instructor(s): Valentina Pichugin Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): REES 30302, RUSS 30302, REES 21502

RUSS 23333. Reading Russian for Research Purposes. 100 Units.
This course prepares students to read and do research in Russian. Students will gain a fundamental knowledge of Russian grammar and a basic vocabulary while learning to work intensively with primary and secondary texts in their area of academic interest. Reading Russian for Research Purposes has a limited number of spots available for participation via electronic course sharing, intended for students who are unable to be in Chicago physically for the course.
Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: TBD
Equivalent Course(s): RUSS 33333

RUSS 25502. The Russian Novel. 100 Units.
The course will focus on three of the greatest philosophical crime novels in modern literature: Gogol’s Dead Souls, Dostoevsky’s Crime and Punishment, and Bely’s Petersburg. Together they chart the course of development of the Russian novel, engaging literature’s essential questions, but also its “accursed” ones, as the Russians say—the ones that can never be answered, but provoke the most worthy of sort of debate.
Instructor(s): William Nickell Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): FNDL 25334, RUSS 35502

RUSS 29910. Special Topics in Advanced Russian. 100 Units.
Must complete Advanced Russian through Media or equivalent, or obtain consent of instructor. Class meets for 2 hours each week. We’ll work with several topics, all of them are relevant to the general theme of “Geography and Worldview: Russian Perspective”. There will be maps, reading materials, several documentaries, clips from TV programs and other media, and feature films. Class meetings will be a combination of group discussions, short presentations, and lectures. Final - one term paper at the end (in English) based on Russian materials.
Instructor(s): Valentina Pichugin Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): RUSS 39910

RUSS 29911. Special Topics in Advanced Russian. 100 Units.
Must complete Advanced Russian through Media or equivalent, or obtain consent of instructor. Class meets for 2 hours each week. We’ll work with several topics, all of them are relevant to the general theme of “Geography and Worldview: Russian Perspective”. There will be maps, reading materials, several documentaries, clips from TV programs and other media, and feature films. Class meetings will be a combination of group discussions, short presentations, and lectures. Final - one term paper at the end (in English) based on Russian materials.
Instructor(s): Valentina Pichugin Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): RUSS 39911

RUSS 29912. Special Topics in Advanced Russian. 100 Units.
Must complete Advanced Russian through Media or equivalent, or obtain consent of instructor. Class meets for 2 hours each week. We’ll work with several topics, all of them are relevant to the general theme of “Geography and Worldview: Russian Perspective”. There will be maps, reading materials, several documentaries, clips from TV programs and other media, and feature films. Class meetings will be a combination of group discussions, short presentations, and lectures. Final - one term paper at the end (in English) based on Russian materials.
Instructor(s): Valentina Pichugin Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): REES 29912, REES 39912, RUSS 39912

RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN STUDIES COURSES

REES 13802. The Russian Empire. 100 Units.
Empire is back in contemporary Russia. Old imperial insignia have replaced hammers and sickles on government buildings, the bodies of the last tsar and his family have been exhumed and venerated, and Putin’s foreign policy stakes imperial claims on the nations on Russia’s border. This course examines what the Russian empire was, how it worked, and the legacies that it left behind. Themes to be considered include the culture of the autocracy and the tradition of reform from above; imperial expansion and multiethnic society; the construction of class, ethnic, and estate identities; and the causes and consequences of the Old Regime’s collapse. Mondays and Wednesdays are reserved for lectures. Fridays for discussion. Note(s): First-year students warmly welcomed; no prior Russian history, culture, or language assumed. Equivalent Course(s): REES 13802
Instructor(s): F. Hillis Terms Offered: Autumn
Note(s): First-year students warmly welcomed; no prior Russian history, culture, or language assumed.
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 13802
REES 20000. Tolstoy's Late Works. 100 Units.
This course examines the works written by Tolstoy after Anna Karenina, when he abandoned the novel as a form and gave up his copyright. Readings include his influential writings on non-violence and vegetarianism, his challenges to church and state authority, as well as later literary works, which some believe surpass the famous novels he had renounced. We will also explore the particularities of Tolstoy's charisma in these years, when he came to be viewed as a second Tsar in Russia and as a moral authority throughout the world.
Instructor(s): William Nickell Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): RLST 28501, REES 30000, FNDL 22850, RLIT 32900

REES 20001. War and Peace. 100 Units.
Tolstoy's novel is at once a national epic, a treatise on history, a spiritual meditation, and a masterpiece of realism. This course presents a close reading of one of the world’s great novels, and of the criticism that has been devoted to it, including landmark works by Victor Shklovsky, Boris Eikhenbaum, Isaiah Berlin, and George Steiner. (B, G)
Instructor(s): William Nickell Terms Offered: TBD
Equivalent Course(s): CMLT 32301, ENGL 28912, ENGL 32302, HIST 23704, CMLT 22301, FNDL 27103, REES 30001

REES 20004. Nabokov: Lolita. 100 Units.
Lolita, light of my life, fire of my loins. My sin, my soul, Lolita: the tip of the tongue taking a trip of three steps down the palate, to tap at three on the teeth." Popular as Nabokov’s "all-American" novel is, it is rarely discussed beyond its psychosexual profile. This intensive text-centered and discussion-based course attempts to supersede the univocal obsession with the novel’s pedophilic plot as such by concerning itself above all with the novel’s language: language as failure, as mania, and as conjuration.
Instructor(s): M. Sternstein Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): SIGN 26027, ENGL 28916, FNDL 25300, GNSE 24900

REES 20013. Dostoevsky. 100 Units.
Dostoevsky was an inveterate risk-taker, not only at the baccarat tables of the Grand Casino in Baden-Baden, but in his personal life, his political activities, and his artistic endeavors. This course is intended to investigate his two greatest wagers: on the presence of the divine in the world and on the power of artistic form to convey and articulate this presence. Dostoevsky's wager on form is evident even in his early, relatively conventional texts, like The Double. It intensifies after his decade-long sojourn in Siberia, exploding in works like The Notes from Underground, which one-and-a-half centuries later remains an aesthetic and philosophical provocation of immense power. The majority of the course will focus on Dostoevsky’s later novels. In Crime and Punishment Dostoevsky adapts suspense strategies to create a metaphysical thriller, while in The Demons he pairs a study of nihilism with the deformation of the novel as a genre. Through close readings of these works we will trace how Dostoevsky’s formal experimentation created new ways of exploring realms of existence that traditionally belonged to philosophy and theology. The results were never comfortable or comforting; we will focus on interpreting Dostoevsky’s metaphysical provocations.
Instructor(s): R. Bird Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): HUMA 24800, FNDL 24612, RLST 28204, RLIT 39501, REES 30013

REES 20020. Pale Fire. 100 Units.
This course is an intensive reading of Pale Fire by Nabokov.
Equivalent Course(s): REES 30020, FNDL 25311, GNSE 29610, GNSE 39610, ENGL 22817

REES 20200. Dostoevsky’s Brothers Karamazov. 100 Units.
We will read and interpret The Brothers Karamazov by Dostoevsky. Among major themes are the relation to God and religion to the larger society and state; the problem of evil; and the nature of sin and how it enters into religious beliefs; human "freedom," and what the word might have meant to Dostoevsky; and love.
Instructor(s): S. Meredith Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): Required of new Fundamentals majors; open to others with consent of instructor.
Note(s): Fundamentals majors get first priority
Equivalent Course(s): FNDL 20200, RLST 28206

REES 20675. St. Petersburg: Text and City. 100 Units.
St. Petersburg, Petersburg, Petrograd, Leningrad, Piter. Russia's "Window to Europe" has as many faces as it has names: eastern and western; imperial and revolutionary; physical and mythical. This course explores the relationship between geographical space and cultural imaginary by examining what Vladimir Toporov has called the "Petersburg Text of Russian Literature," a mythology of Russia’s European capital that has arisen from and through a unique constellation of literary classics. Readings include a close analysis of Andrei Bely’s modernist masterpiece PETERSBURG, as well as works by Pushkin, Gogol, Dostoevsky, Blok, Akhmatova and Kharms.
Instructor(s): David Molina Terms Offered: Course to be taught spring 2021
Note(s): Obs: All readings in English translation.
Equivalent Course(s): CMLT 20675, SCTH 20675
REES 20902. Third-Year Russian through Culture III. 100 Units.
This course, which is intended for third-year students of Russian, covers various aspects of Russian grammar in context and emphasizes the four communicative skills (i.e., reading, writing, listening comprehension, speaking) in a culturally authentic context. Excerpts from popular Soviet/Russian films and clips from Russian television news reports are shown and discussed in class. Classes conducted in Russian; some aspects of grammar explained in English. Drill practice is held twice a week.
Instructor(s): V. Pichugin Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): Russian 20701 or consent of instructor.
Note(s): Drill sessions to be arranged.
Equivalent Course(s): RUSS 20902, RUSS 30902, REES 30902

REES 20905. Walter Benjamin: 1935-1938. 100 Units.
[Volume 3 of] Harvard’s majestic annotated edition of the essays and fragments includes reflections on Brecht, Kafka and the collector Eduard Fuchs, an early version of the famous analysis of art in the age of mechanical reproduction (here more accurately translated as ‘technological reproducibility’) and the equally exhilarating inquiry into the nature of narrative, ‘The Storyteller.’ You feel smarter just holding this book in your hand.” - Michael Dirda, The Washington Post. In this course, we hold the book in our hands for extended periods of time to read it and discuss its contents. Extracurricular carriage of the book is encouraged.
Instructor(s): Malynne Sternstein Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): Open to Fundamentals students and upperclass students in other majors.
Equivalent Course(s): FNDL 20905

REES 21000. Gombrowicz: The Writer as Philosopher. 100 Units.
In this course, we dwell on Witold Gombrowicz the philosopher, exploring the components of his authorial style and concepts that substantiate his claim to both the literary and the philosophical spheres. Entangled in an ongoing battle with basic philosophical tenets and, indeed, with existence itself, this erudite Polish author is a prime example of a 20th century modernist whose philosophical novels explode with uncanny laughter. In contrast to many of his contemporaries, who established their reputations as writers/philosophers, Gombrowicz applied distinctly literary models to the same questions that they explored. We investigate these models in depth, as we focus on Gombrowicz’s novels, philosophical lectures, and some of his autobiographical writings. With an insight from recent criticism of these primary texts, we seek answers to the more general question: What makes this author a philosopher?
Instructor(s): Bozena Shallcross Terms Offered: TBD
Note(s): All readings in English.
Equivalent Course(s): REES 31000, FNDL 26903, ISHU 29405

REES 21100. Advanced Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian: Language through Fiction. 100 Units.
This one quarter course is designed to help students over one of the most difficult hurdles in language training-the transition from working through lessons in a textbook to reading unedited literary texts. The selected pieces of fiction and the exercises drawn from them engage the language’s structure on every page. Immersed in a complete language experience, students learn how to engage the natural, organic language of literary texts across a variety of styles and themes enabling them to work with ever more challenging material. The course objective is to hone students’ abilities to analyze increasingly complex unrevised texts, identify various styles and registers of the language, and handle linguistically unfamiliar situations in both spoken and written format. Attention is given to improving students’ abilities to paraphrase, narrate, describe, support opinions, hypothesize and discuss abstract topics. Building vocabulary is stressed as a key to making progress, while issues of language structure and grammar are reinforced throughout the course. Classes are conducted in the target language and may be taken for pass/fail. The prerequisite is two years of formal study of the target language or the equivalent.
Instructor(s): Nada Petkovic Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): BCSN 21101, REES 31104, BCSN 31104

REES 21200. Advanced Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian: Language Through Film. 100 Units.
Advanced BCS courses encompass both the 3rd and 4th years of language study, with the focus changed from language structure and grammar to issues in interdisciplinary content. The courses are not in sequence. This course addresses the theme of Yugoslav and Post-Yugoslav identity through discussion and interpretation based on selected films, documentaries, images, and related texts-historical and literary, popular press, advertisements, screenplays, and literature on film. Emphasis is on interpersonal communication as well as the interpretation and production of language in written and oral forms. The course engages in systematic grammar review, along with introduction of some new linguistic topics, with constant practice in writing and vocabulary enrichment. The syllabus includes the screening of six films, each from a different director, region, and period, starting with Cinema Komunisto (2012), a documentary by Mila Turajlic. This film will be crucial for understanding how Yugoslav cinema was born and how, in its origins, it belongs to what a later cinephile, Fredric Jameson, has called a “geopolitical aesthetic.” We shall investigate the complex relationship between aesthetics and ideology in the Yugoslav and Post-Yugoslav cinema, and pay close attention to aesthetic conceptions and concrete formal properties, and more importantly, to language, narrative logic, and style.
Instructor(s): Nada Petkovic Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): REES 31203, BCSN 21200, BCSN 31203
REES 21300. (Re)Branding the Balkan City: Comtemp. Belgrade/Sarajevo/Zagreb. 100 Units.
The course uses an urban studies lens to explore the complex history, infrastructure and transformations of cities, mainly the capitals of today’s Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Croatia. There is a particular need to survey this region and feed the newfound interest in it, mainly because Yugoslav architecture embodied one of the great political experiments of the modern era. Drawing on anthropological theory and ethnography of the city, we consider processes of urban destruction and renewal, practices of branding spaces and identities, urban life as praxis, art and design movements, film, music, food, architectural histories and styles, metropolitan citizenship, and the broader politics of space. The course is complemented by cultural and historical media, guest speakers, and virtual tours. One of them is a tour through the 2018 show at MoMA “Toward a Concrete Utopia: Architecture in Yugoslavia 1948-1980” a project curated with the goal to find a place for Yugoslav Modernism in the architectural canon. Classes are held in English. No knowledge of South Slavic languages is required.
Instructor(s): Nada Petkovic
Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): BCSN 21300, BCSN 31303, REES 31303, ARCH 21300

REES 21302. Advanced Russian through Media I. 100 Units.
This is a three-quarter sequence designed for fourth- and fifth-year students of Russian. It is also suitable for native speakers of Russian. This sequence covers various aspects of advanced Russian stylistics and discourse grammar in context. This sequence emphasizes the four communicative skills of listening, reading, speaking, and writing in a culturally authentic context. It builds transcultural competence by expanding students’ knowledge of the language, culture, history, and daily lives of the Russian-speaking people. Vocabulary building is strongly emphasized. We add to the existing skills and develop our abilities to analyze increasingly complex texts for their meaning; to identify various styles and registers of the Russian language and to provide their neutral equivalents in standard Russian. We also work on developing our abilities to paraphrase, narrate, describe, support opinions, hypothesize, discuss abstract topics, and handle linguistically unfamiliar situations (in spoken and written format). Classes conducted in Russian. Course-specific grammar issues are covered during drill sessions (weekly) and office hours (by appointment). Oral Proficiency Interviews are conducted in the beginning and the end of the course (Autumn and Spring Quarters). Prerequisite(s): Four years of Russian, or equivalent, or consent of instructor.
Instructor(s): Valentina Pichugin
Terms Offered: Autumn
Prerequisite(s): Four years of Russian, or equivalent, or consent of instructor.
Equivalent Course(s): RUSS 21302, REES 30102, RUSS 30102

REES 21400. Advanced BCS: Language through Art and Architecture. 100 Units.
This course foregrounds different periods in Yugoslav and post-Yugoslav art and architecture. Situated between the capitalist West and the socialist East, Yugoslavia’s architects responded to contradictory demands and influences, developing a postwar architecture both in line with and distinct from the design approaches seen elsewhere in Europe and beyond. Drawing on the country’s own idiosyncrasies, diverse heritage and influences, the course surveys examples of architectural styles from classical to Baroque, through Art Nouveau and Modernism, all the way to full-blown Brutalism with its heft and material honesty. Given that Yugoslav architecture also expressed one of the great political experiments of the modern era, the course entertains many questions on related topics. While exploring major cities, their infrastructure, houses, buildings, monuments, churches and more, the course delves into advanced grammatical topics with the goal of increasing proficiency in both aural and reading comprehension, in addition to honing writing and speaking styles. Classes are conducted in the target language and may be taken for pass/fail. The prerequisite is two years of formal study of the target language or the equivalent.
Instructor(s): Nada Petkovic
Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): The course prerequisite is two years of formal study of the target language(s) or the consent of the instructor.
Equivalent Course(s): BCSN 31403, BCSN 21400, REES 31403

REES 21500. Spaces of Hope: The City and Its Immigrants. 100 Units.
The city is the site where people of all origins and classes mingle, however reluctantly and agonistically, to produce a common if perpetually changing and transitory life.” (David Harvey) This course will use the urban studies lens to explore the complex history of immigration to Chicago, with close attention to communities of East European origin. Drawing on anthropological theory and ethnographic materials, we will study the ways in which the city and its new citizens transform one another.
Instructor(s): Nada Petkovic
Terms Offered: Spring. Enrollment is based on acceptance into the Chicago Studies Quarter Program.
Note(s): Enrollment is based on acceptance into the Chicago Studies Quarter Program.
Equivalent Course(s): ENST 27330, PBPL 27330, HIST 27713
REES 21502. Adv Russian Through Media-III. 100 Units.
This course, which is designed for fifth-year students of Russian, covers various aspects of Russian stylistics and discourse grammar in context. It emphasizes the four communicative skills (i.e., reading, writing, listening comprehension, speaking) in culturally authentic context. Clips from Russian/Soviet films and television news reports are shown and discussed in class. Classes conducted in Russian. Conversation practice is held twice a week.
Instructor(s): Valentina Pichugin Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): REES 30302, RUSS 30302, RUSS 21502

REES 22009. Kafka’s The Trial. 100 Units.
This very close reading of Kafka’s arguably most well known unfinished novel means to move away from megalithic glosses of Kafka as a writer of allegory-of bureaucratic oppression, social alienation, and a world abandoned by God, etc.-instead to look deeply at Kafka’s precision, and strategic imprecision, of language, language as trauma, wound, and axe. Knowledge of German is not necessary.
Instructor(s): M. Sternstein Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): FNDL 21650

REES 22010. The Cinema of Miloš Forman. 100 Units.
The films of Miloš Forman (1932-2018) reflect the turbulence of the 1960s, ’70s, ’80s and ’90s, and 2000s by focusing on the underdog, the pariah, the eccentric. The subject matter to which Forman was drawn translated into his cinema with a signature bittersweet tone, emphatic narrative cogency, and lush spontaneity. This course is an intensive study of Forman’s work from his “New Wave” work in Czechoslovakia (Loves of a Blonde, The Fireman’s Ball) to his U.S. studio successes (One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest, Amadeus), to his idiosyncratic and parabolic last films (Man on the Moon, Goya’s Ghosts). Among other topics, the course contemplate the value of a dark sense of humor, cinematic gorgeousness, and artistic dissidence.
Instructor(s): Malynne Sternstein Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 26603, FNDL 22010, REES 32010, CMST 36603

REES 23015. Cinema and Poetry: The Modern City. 100 Units.
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 14502

REES 23108. Contact Linguistics. 100 Units.
Course Description TBD
Instructor(s): Lenore Grenoble Terms Offered: Spring
Prerequisite(s): LING 20001 or consent of instructor
Equivalent Course(s): LING 26310, LING 36310

REES 23115. Old Church Slavonic. 100 Units.
This course is an introduction to the language of the oldest Slavic texts. It begins with a brief historical overview of the relationship of Old Church Slavonic to Common Slavic and the other Slavic languages. This is followed by a short outline of Old Church Slavonic inflectional morphology. The remainder of the course is spent in the reading and grammatical analysis of original texts in Cyrillic or Cyrillic transcription of the original Glagolitic.
Equivalent Course(s): LING 35100, LING 23115, MDVL 25100, REES 33115

REES 23154. XCAP: The Commune: The Making and Breaking of Intentional Communities. 100 Units.
Any class is an intentional community of sorts: people gathered together with a sense of collective purpose. But often the hopes of students are not met by the content or the methods in the classroom. Can we do better by making the process more intentional—clarifying and developing a collective sense of purpose at the outset? We will start by forming a collective plan on topics to be explored—anything from iconic American communities and Russian communes to memoir studies and economics. Possible projects include creating an intentional community in an off-campus location, designing a communal space, rewriting manifestos, or creating a new communal charter. We can cover anything from economics, space, and gender to the problem of leadership and secular belief systems. We may also want to utilize alternative modes of learning, besides reading and discussing texts, such as roleplaying. A few students in the class have some experience in intentional communities, and we will welcome their input and suggestions.
Instructor(s): William Nickell Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): REES 33154, KNOW 29975
REES 23706. The Soviet Union. 100 Units.
This lecture course surveys the making and unmaking of the Soviet Union as a society, culture, economy, superpower, and empire from 1917 to 1991. The Soviet Union began as an unprecedented radical experiment in remaking society and economy, ethnic and gender relations, personal identities, even human nature, but in the course of its history, it came to resemble other (capitalist) societies, sharing, in turn, their violence, welfare provisions, and consumerism. The story of this transformation—from being unique and exhilarating to being much like everyone else, only poorer and more drab—will be at the center of our exploration. The main themes of the course include social and cultural revolutions; ideology and the role of Marxism; political violence from the birth of the socialist state to the end of the Stalin terror; origins, practices, aesthetics, legacies, and critiques of Stalinism; law, dissent, and human rights; nationality policies and the role of ethnic minorities; the economy of shortages and the material culture it created; institutions of daily life (communal apartments, courtyards, peasant markets, dachas, and boiler rooms); socialist realism and the Soviet dream world.
Instructor(s): E. Gilburd Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): History Gateways are introductory courses meant to appeal to 1st- through 3rd-yr students who may not have done previous coursework on the topic of the course; topics cover the globe and span the ages.
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 23706

REES 23708. Soviet History through Literature. 100 Units.
This course considers the main themes of Soviet history through canonical works of fiction, with an occasional addition of excerpts from autobiographies, memories, and police files.
Instructor(s): E. Gilburd Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 23708

REES 23812. Russia and the West, 18th-21st Centuries. 100 Units.
There are few problems as enduring and central to Russian history as the question of the West—Russia's most passionate romance and most bitter letdown. In this course we will read and think about Russia from the eighteenth to the twenty-first centuries through the lens of this obsession. We will study the products of Russian interactions with the West: constitutional projects, paintings, scientific and economic thought, the Westernizer-Slavophile controversy, and revolutions. We will consider the presence of European communities in Russia: German and British migrants who filled important niches in state service, trade, and scholarship; Italian sculptors and architects who designed some of Russia's most famous monuments; French expatriates in the wake of the French Revolution; Communist workers and intellectuals, refugees from Nazi Germany; and Western journalists who, in the late Soviet decades, trafficked illicit ideas, texts, and artworks. In the end, we will follow émigré Russians to Europe and the United States and return to present-day Russia to examine the anti-Western turn in its political and cultural discourse.
Instructor(s): E. Gilburd Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 33812, HIST 23812, REES 33812

REES 24110. The Soviet Empire. 100 Units.
What kind of empire was the Soviet Union? Focusing on the central idea of Eurasia, we will explore how discourses of gender, sexuality and ethnicity operated under the multinational empire. How did communism shape the state's regulation of the bodies of its citizens? How did genres from the realist novel to experimental film challenge a cohesive patriarchal, Russophone vision of Soviet Eurasia? We will examine how writers and filmmakers in the Caucasus and Central Asia answered Soviet Orientalist imaginaries, working through an interdisciplinary archive drawing literature and film from the Soviet colonial “periphery” in the Caucasus and Central Asia as well as writings about the hybrid conception of Eurasia across linguistics, anthropology, and geography.
Instructor(s): Leah Feldman Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): REES 34110, CRES 24111, CMLT 24111, CMLT 34111, CRES 34111, NEHC 24110, NEHC 34110

REES 24411. The Interrupted Word: Photographs in Contemporary Central Europe. 100 Units.
Literature from East-Central Europe in the past 20 years has been largely populated by the genre of “witness literature,” or fictional narratives about factual historical traumas. Given the global popularity of memoirs, why would an author choose to write a fictional account of historical trauma as a way to bear witness? Even more curiously, these novels frequently embed photographs—pictures of real people and places—within their fictional narrative. How do these mixings of media—and of reality and fiction—affect the ways these novels bear witness? In this course, we will focus on the literary legacy of three historical moments of witness—Germany after WWII, Yugoslav Successor States after the Yugoslav Wars of the 1990s, and Post-Soviet Poland—to ground a theoretical analysis of the function of photographs in texts. As the four novels (by W.G. Sebald, Dubravka Ugrešić, Aleksandar Hemon, and Pavel Huelle) that serve as touchstones for our inquiry were all composed after WWII, Yugoslav Successor States after the Yugoslav Wars of the 1990s, and Post-Soviet Poland—to ground a theoretical analysis of the function of photographs in texts. As the four novels (by W.G. Sebald, Dubravka Ugrešić, Aleksandar Hemon, and Pavel Huelle) that serve as touchstones for our inquiry were all composed at both a temporal and spatial remove from their historical referents, we will also engage the discourses of post-memory and exilic literature. Throughout the course, our main goal will be to determine the function of photographs embedded in literary narratives: what kind of truths do they represent? How does a photographic text interact with a narrative one? How can diverse media theory help us understand the relationships between photography, narrative, literature and history?
Instructor(s): Kaitlynn Tucker Sorenson Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): GRMN 24415, ENGL 24421
REES 24417. Where We Come From: Methods & Materials in the Study of Immigration. 100 Units.
This course provides an interactive survey of methodologies that engage the experiences of immigrants in Chicago. Exploring practices ranging from history to fiction, activism to memorialization, this course will introduce students to a variety of the ways that immigrants and scholars have approached the Second City. Instructor(s): William Nickell Terms Offered: Spring. Enrollment is based on acceptance into the Chicago Studies Quarter Program. Note(s): Enrollment is based on acceptance into the Chicago Studies Quarter Program. Equivalent Course(s): PBPL 27210, ENST 27210, HIST 27712

REES 24423. Russian Encounters with Blackness: History, Literature, Politics. 100 Units.
This course provides a historical, literary, and political survey of Russia's encounters with black peoples, from the reign of Peter the Great to the administration of Vladimir Putin. Drawing on a variety of sources, including novels, autobiographies, film, media reports, and contemporary scholarly research, the course explores the concepts of race, belonging, and otherness/duality as they evolved in the varying historical contexts of Russia's encounters with "blackness." Particular attention is paid to comparisons of racialization and racial injustice in America and in Russia, as gleaned from the biographies of black 'Russophiles' such as Frederick Bruce Thomas and Paul Robeson, as well as from the memoirs and writings of figures such as Alexander Pushkin, Langston Hughes, and Yelena Khanga. From classic Russian literature, to Soviet propaganda, to contemporary geopolitics, the course asks: How has "blackness" been historically understood and/or used by Russians, and what cultural and political legacies has that left in Russia's post-imperial and post-Soviet space? Instructor(s): C. Monet Terms Offered: Autumn

REES 25001. Introduction to the Musical Folklore of Central Asia. 100 Units.
This course explores the musical traditions of the peoples of Central Asia, both in terms of historical development and cultural significance. Topics include the music of the epic tradition, the use of music for healing, instrumental genres, and Central Asian folk and classical traditions. Basic field methods for ethnomusicology are also covered. Extensive use is made of recordings of musical performances and of live performances in the area. Instructor(s): Kagan Arik Terms Offered: Spring Equivalent Course(s): MUSI 33503, ANTH 25905, REES 35001, MUSI 23503, NEHC 20765, NEHC 30765

REES 25005. History of International Cinema II: Sound Era to 1960. 100 Units.
The center of this course is film style, from the classical scene breakdown to the introduction of deep focus, stylistic experimentation, and technical innovation (sound, wide screen, location shooting). The development of a film culture is also discussed. Texts include Thompson and Bordwell's Film History: An Introduction; and works by Bazin, Belton, Sitney, and Godard. Screenings include films by Hitchcock, Welles, Rossellini, Bresson, Ozu, Antonioni, and Renoir. Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Winter Prerequisite(s): Prior or concurrent registration in CMST 10100 required. Required of students majoring or minoring in Cinema and Media Studies. Note(s): CMST 28500/48500 strongly recommended Equivalent Course(s): REES 45005, ENGL 29600, CMST 28600, ENGL 48900, CMST 48600, MAAD 18600, ARTH 28600, ARTV 20003, MAPH 33700, ARTH 38600, CMLT 22500, CMLT 32500

REES 25025. Gender and Translation. 100 Units.
The course will consider translation -- both theory and practice -- in relation to queer studies and gender and women's studies. Authors will include Naomi Seidman, Monique Balbuena, Yevgeniy Fiks, Raquel Salas Rivera, Kate Briggs, and others. For the final essay, students may write a research paper or translation project. Instructor(s): Anna Elena Torres Terms Offered: Winter Equivalent Course(s): CMLT 35025, REES 35025, CMLT 25025, GNSE 25025, GNSE 35025

REES 25603. Media and Power in the Age of Putin and Trump. 100 Units.
Over the past 200 years, various political and cultural regimes of Russia have systematically exploited the gap between experience and representation to create their own mediated worlds--from the tight censorship of the imperial and Soviet periods to the propaganda of the Soviet period and the recent use of media simulacra for strategic geopolitical advantage. During this same period state control of media has been used to exclude Russia from the advancement of liberalism, market economics, individual rights, modernist art, Freud, Existentialism, and, more recently, Western discourses of inclusion, sustainability, and identity. Examining this history, it is sometimes difficult to discern whether the architects of Russian culture have been hopelessly backward or shrewd phenomenologists, keenly aware of the relativity of experience and of their ability to shape it. This course will explore the worlds that these practices produce, with an emphasis on Russia's recent confrontations with Western culture and power, and including various practices of subversion of media control, such as illegal printing and circulation. Texts for the course will draw from print, sound, and visual media, and fields of analysis will include aesthetics, cultural history, and media theory. Instructor(s): W. Nickell Terms Offered: Autumn Equivalent Course(s): SIGN 26029, REES 35603
REES 26011-26012-26015. Introduction to Russian Civilization I-II-III.
This three-quarter sequence, which meets the general education requirement in civilization studies, provides an interdisciplinary introduction to Russian civilization. The first quarter covers the ninth century to the 1870s; the second quarter continues on through the post-Soviet period. Working closely with a variety of primary sources—from oral legends to film and music, from political treatises to literary masterpieces—we will track the evolution of Russian civilization over the centuries and through radically different political regimes. Topics to be discussed include the influence of Byzantine, Mongol-Tataric, and Western culture in Russian civilization; forces of change and continuity in political, intellectual and cultural life; the relationship between center and periphery; systems of social and political legitimation; and symbols and practices of collective identity.

REES 26011. Introduction to Russian Civilization I. 100 Units.
The first quarter covers the ninth century to the 1870s; the second quarter continues on through the post-Soviet period. Working closely with a variety of primary sources—from oral legends to film and music, from political treatises to literary masterpieces—we will track the evolution of Russian civilization over the centuries and through radically different political regimes. Topics to be discussed include the influence of Byzantine, Mongol-Tataric, and Western culture in Russian civilization; forces of change and continuity in political, intellectual and cultural life; the relationship between center and periphery; systems of social and political legitimation; and symbols and practices of collective identity.
Instructor(s): E. Gilburd, W. Nickell
Terms Offered: Autumn
Note(s): Taking these courses in sequence is recommended but not required.
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 13900, SOSC 24000

REES 26012. Introduction to Russian Civilization II. 100 Units.
The second quarter continues on through the post-Soviet period. Working closely with a variety of primary sources—from oral legends to film and music, from political treatises to literary masterpieces—we will track the evolution of Russian civilization over the centuries and through radically different political regimes. Topics to be discussed include the influence of Byzantine, Mongol-Tataric, and Western culture in Russian civilization; forces of change and continuity in political, intellectual and cultural life; the relationship between center and periphery; systems of social and political legitimation; and symbols and practices of collective identity.
Instructor(s): E. Gilburd, R. Bird
Terms Offered: Winter
Note(s): Taking these courses in sequence is recommended but not required.
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 14000, SOSC 24100

REES 26015. Introduction to Russian Civilization III. 100 Units.
The third quarter of Russian Civilization is a new (2020) addition to the curriculum. When taken following Introduction to Russian Civilization I and II, Introduction to Russian Civilization III meets the general education requirement in Humanities, Civilization Studies, and the Arts. The course is thematic and will vary from year to year. In spring 2021 this course will explore the nature of state socialism, or "communism"—the political and economic system that governed much of the world’s population during the twentieth century—and the transition from that system to alternative modes of governance. Course material will emphasize the experience of the (former) Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, where communism as a system has disappeared most completely, but many of the lessons of transition apply also to China, Vietnam, North Korea, and Cuba. A nontrivial portion of the course covers the nature of communism, as both the tasks and obstacles of transition are determined in part by the character of the previous system. However, the bulk of the material addresses postcommunist policies, institutions, and outcomes.
Instructor(s): S. Gehlbach
Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): Students who wish to take this course for Civilization Studies Core credit must also take Russ Civ I and II.
Equivalent Course(s): SOSC 24200, HIST 14100

REES 26019. Symbolism and Cinema. 100 Units.
In his 1896 essay on cinema, Russian writer Maxim Gorky described the new medium to "madness or symbolism." The connection between cinema and symbolism was not surprising insofar as symbolism was a dominant aesthetic paradigm throughout Europe at the time. However it does suggest (perhaps surprisingly) that from the very beginning cinema was seen as a means of visualizing the non-rational, uncanny and even invisible. This course examines the relationship between symbolism and cinema with particular attention to French and Russian writings and films. Examining how symbolist aesthetics became applied to the cinematic medium, we will pay particular attention the resources it provided for conceptualizing the uncanny and the mystical. We will question whether there exists a distinct symbolist tradition in film history and how it relates to notions of poetic or experimental cinema. Films will represent a broad cross-section of European (and some American) cinema, from Jean Epstein to Sergei Eisenstein and Alexander Dovzhenko, and from Stan Brakhage to Andrei Tarkovsky.
Instructor(s): R. Bird
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 35514, CMST 25514, REES 36019
REES 26024. Trans-bodies in Horror Cinema. 100 Units.
Films presenting trans bodies or "psyches" have historically often othered these as "monstrous," and compelled a sense of the inevitable tragedy of living in sexual fluidity. To fully contemplate such expressions of horror, tragedy, or pity, the course will screen and discuss films such as Psycho (Alfred Hitchcock, 1960), Dress to Kill (Brian DePalma, 1980), Sleepaway Camp (Robert Hiltzuck, 1983), Silence of the Lambs (Jonathan Demme, 1991), The Skin I Live In (Pedro Almadovar, 2011), Predestination (Michael and Peter Spierig, 2014) but also considers films of the trans body made ostensibly more calculable, at least in terms of moral and ethical stability, such as Robocop, the Alien films of Ridley Scott, Ghost in the Shell (Sanders, 2017), and the online choice map game Detroit Become Human. The course is dedicated foremost to rupturing binary thinking (as a form of nonage) and the critical theory that will ballot our readings includes selections from Haraway, Halberstam, Garber, Benschoff, Reese’s The Fourth Age, Schelde’s Androids, Humanoids, and Other Science Fiction Monsters, and Foucault’s Abnormal.
Instructor(s): Malynne Sternstein Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): This course counts as a ‘Problems’ course for GNSE majors.
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 20703, GNSE 20103

REES 26064. Revolution. 100 Units.
Revolution primarily denotes radical political change, but this definition is both too narrow and too broad. Too broad, because since the late eighteenth century revolution has been associated specifically with an emancipatory politics, from American democracy to Soviet communism. Too narrow, because revolutionary political change is always accompanied by change in other spheres, from philosophy to everyday life. We investigate the history of revolution from 1776 to the present, with a particular focus on the Bolshevik revolution of 1917, in order to ascertain how social revolutions have been constituted, conducted, and enshrined in political and cultural institutions. We also ask what the conditions and prospects of revolution are today. Readings will be drawn from a variety of fields, from philosophy to social history. Most readings will be primary documents, from Rousseau and Marx to Bill Ayers, but will also include major statements in the historiography of revolution.
Instructor(s): Robert Bird Terms Offered: TBD
Equivalent Course(s): REES 36070, HIST 23707, HIST 33707

REES 26068. The Underground: Alienation, Mobilization, Resistance. 100 Units.
The ancient and multivalent image of the underground has crystallized over the last two centuries to denote sites of disaffection from-and strategies of resistance to-dominant social, political and cultural systems. We will trace the development of this metaphor from the Underground Railroad in the mid-1800s and the French Resistance during World War II to the Weather Underground in the 1960s-1970s, while also considering it as a literary and artistic concept, from Fyodor Dostoevsky’s Notes from the Underground and Ellison’s Invisible Man to Chris Marker’s film La Jetée and Andrei Tarkovsky’s Stalker. Alongside with such literary and cinematic tales, drawing theoretical guidance from refuseniks from Henry David Thoreau to Guy Debord, this course investigates how countercultural spaces become-or fail to become-sites of political resistance, and also how dissenting ideologies give rise to countercultural spaces. We ask about the relation between social deviance (the failure to meet social norms, whether willingly or unwittingly) and political resistance, especially in the conditions of late capitalism and neo-colonialism, when countercultural literature, film and music (rock, punk, hip-hop, DIY aesthetics etc.) get absorbed into-and coopted by-the hegemonic socio-economic system. In closing we will also consider contemporary forms of dissidence-from Pussy Riot to Black Lives Matter-that rely both on the vulnerability of individual bodies and global communication networks.
Instructor(s): R. Bird Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 34568, REES 36068, CMST 24568, SIGN 26012

REES 26077. Russian Modernist Theater. 100 Units.
Russian Modernist Theater explores the theory and practice of the new stage forms developed in Russia from 1900 to 1940. The course begins with the Stanislavsky school, and then delves deeply into the more experimental work of Meyerhold and his generation and the first attempts to create a revolutionary Soviet theater in the 1920s. The course will include a production, which will be scaled to the number and ambitions of the enrolled students. Course requirements can be met through the writing of a conventional paper, or through the production, via set and costume design, dramaturgy, performance, or staging. Each of these production assignments will require a write-up relating the work to the course materials and discussions.
Instructor(s): William Nickell Terms Offered: TBD
Equivalent Course(s): REES 36077

REES 26080. Lost Histories of the Left. 100 Units.
When most Americans think about "the left," Marxism, Soviet state socialism, or European social democracy spring to mind. This class will explore alternative—but now largely forgotten—blueprints for revolutionizing the political and social order that emerged in the nineteenth century. We will pay special attention to utopian socialism, early anticollonial movements, the Jewish Labor Bund, and anarchism. Examining the intellectual underpinnings of these movements, their influence on the modern world, and the factors that led to their demise, we will also consider what lessons they can teach to those committed to realizing a better future today.
Instructor(s): F. Hillis Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): JWSC 29626, HIST 29426, HIST 39426, REES 36080
REES 26660. The Rise of the Global New Right. 100 Units.
This course traces the intellectual genealogies of the rise of a Global New Right in relation to the contexts of late capitalist neoliberalism, the fall of the Soviet Union, as well as the rise of social media. The course will explore the intertwining political and intellectual histories of the Russian Eurasianist movement, Hungarian Jobbik, the American Traditional Workers Party, the French GRECE, Greek Golden Dawn, and others through their published essays, blogs, vlogs and social media. Perhaps most importantly, the course asks: can we use f-word (fascism) to describe this problem? In order to pose this question we will explore the aesthetic concerns of the New Right in relation to postmodern theory, and the affective politics of nationalism. This course thus frames the rise of a global new right interdisciplinary and comparatively as a historical, geopolitical and aesthetic problem. Instructor(s): Leah Feldman Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 26660, REES 36661, CRES 36660, CRES 26660, SIGN 26050, ENGL 36661, CMLT 26660, CMLT 36660

REES 27019. Holocaust Object. 100 Units.
In this course, we explore various ontological and representational modes of the Holocaust material object world as it was represented during World War II. Then, we interrogate the post-Holocaust artifacts and material remnants, as they are displayed, curated, controlled, and narrated in the memorial sites and museums of former ghettos and extermination and concentration camps. These sites which-once the locations of genocide-are now places of remembrance, the (post)human, and material remnants also serve educational purposes. Therefore, we study the ways in which this material world, ranging from infrastructure to detritus, has been subjected to two, often conflicting, tasks of representation and preservation, which we view through a prism of authenticity. In order to study representation, we critically engage a textual and visual reading of museum narrations and fiction writings; to tackle the demands of preservation, we apply a neo-materialist approach. Of special interest are survivors’ testimonies as appended to the artifacts they donated. The course will also equip you with salient critical tools for future creative research in Holocaust studies. Instructor(s): Bożena Shallcross Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 23413, ANTH 35035, JWSC 29500, REES 37019, HIST 33413, ANTH 23910

REES 27021. The Rise and Demise of Polish Chicago: Reading Polonia's Material Culture. 100 Units.
Chicago claims to have the largest Polish and Polish-American population in the US and yet the city’s distinctly Polish neighborhoods are now only history as their population has dispersed or moved to the suburbs. This course explores the diminishing presence of Poles against the lasting input of the material culture which they introduced to the urban spaces of Chicago. The course is framed by the fundamentals of thing discourse and employs the mediums of sculpture, fashion, photography, architecture and topography of the Polish community in Chicago through several field trips. The course’s main goal is to map the evolution of the former Polish neighborhoods which often concluded with the erasure of their distinct ethno-space. In order to grasp the status of such changes, students take several field trips to the former Polish neighborhoods and visit their existing architectural landmarks and cultural institutions. Towards the end of the course, students conduct several interviews with Polish Chicagans from the postwar and Solidarity immigrations. The course concludes with a capstone project for which students will make a virtual collection of artifacts designed as a curio cabinet filled with objects they found, created, and purchased during their research and field trips. Instructor(s): Bożena Shallcross Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Students must attend several panels of their choice during the conference entitled, “What They Brought / What They Changed: Material Culture and Polish Chicago,” on December 2-4, 2020. Equivalent Course(s): REES 37021, ARCH 27021

REES 27026. Kieslowski: The Decalogue. 100 Units.
In this class, we study the monumental series “The Decalogue” by one of the most influential filmmakers from Poland, Krzysztof Kieslowski. Without mechanically relating the films to the Ten Commandments, Kieslowski explores the relevance of the biblical moral rules to the state of modern man forced to make ethical choices. Each part of the series contests the absolutism of moral axioms through narrative twists and reversals in a wide, universalized sphere. An analysis of the films will be accompanied by readings from Kieslowski’s own writings and interviews, including criticism by Zizek, Insdorf, and others. Instructor(s): Bozena Shallcross Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 26705, REES 37026, FNDL 24003, CMST 37025

REES 29009. Balkan Folklore. 100 Units.
Vampires, fire-breathing dragons, vengeful mountain nymphs. 7/8 and other uneven dance beats, heart-rending laments, and a living epic tradition. This course is an overview of Balkan folklore from historical, political, and anthropological perspectives. We seek to understand folk tradition as a dynamic process and consider the function of different folklore genres in the imagining and maintenance of community and the socialization of the individual. We also experience this living tradition firsthand through visits of a Chicago-based folk dance ensemble, “Balkan Dance.”
Instructor(s): A. Ilieva Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): REES 39009, ANTH 25908, CMLT 23301, NEHC 30568, NEHC 20568, ANTH 35908, CMLT 33301

REES 33301. Vampires. 100 Units.
This course introduces the archetypal figure of the vampire in literature, film, and popular culture. We explore the vampire from a variety of critical perspectives, including cultural studies, gender studies, and psychoanalysis. Through a close reading of key texts, we examine the vampire’s symbolic function in society and its changing representation over time. Instructor(s): A. Ilieva Terms Offered: Winter
REES 29010. Strangers to Ourselves: Emigre Literature and Film from Russia and Southeast Europe. 100 Units.

Being alienated from myself, as painful as that may be, provides me with that exquisite distance within which perverse pleasure begins, as well as the possibility of my imagining and thinking,” writes Julia Kristeva in “Strangers to Ourselves,” the book from which this course takes its title. The authors whose works we are going to examine often alternate between nostalgia and the exhilaration of being set free into the breathless possibilities of new lives. Leaving home does not simply mean movement in space. Separated from the sensory boundaries that defined their old selves, immigrants inhabit a warped, fragmentary, disjointed time. Immigrant writers struggle for breath-speech, language, voice, the very stuff of their craft resounds somewhere else. Join us as we explore the pain, the struggle, the failure, and the triumph of emigration and exile. Vladimir Nabokov, Joseph Brodsky, Marina Tsvetaeva, Nina Berberova, Julia Kristeva, Alexander Hemon, Dubravka Ugrešić, Norman Manea, Miroslav Penkov, Iljja Trojanow, Tea Obreht.

Instructor(s): A. Ilieva Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): CMLT 36912, REES 39010, CMLT 26912

REES 29013. The Burden of History: The Nation and Its Lost Paradise. 100 Units.

What makes it possible for the imagined communities called nations to command the emotional attachments that they do? This course considers some possible answers to Benedict Anderson's question on the basis of material from the Balkans. We will examine the transformation of the scenario of paradise, loss, and redemption into a template for a national identity narrative through which South East European nations retell their Othoman past. With the help of Žižek's theory of the subject as constituted by trauma and Kant's notion of the sublime, we will contemplate the national fixation on the trauma of loss and the dynamic between victimhood and sublimity.

Instructor(s): A. Ilieva Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): NEHC 30573, HIST 24005, CMLT 23401, REES 39013, CMLT 33401, HIST 34005, NEHC 20573

REES 29018. Imaginary Worlds: The Fantastic and Magic Realism in Russia and Southeastern Europe. 100 Units.

In this course, we will ask what constitutes the fantastic and magic realism as literary genres while reading some of the most interesting writings to have come out of Russia and Southeastern Europe. While considering the stylistic and narrative specificities of this narrative mode, we also think about its political functions—from subversive to escapist, to supportive of a nationalist imaginary—in different contexts and at different historic moments in the two regions.

Instructor(s): Angelina Ilieva Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): CMLT 37701, REES 39018, CMLT 27701

REES 29021. The Shadows of Living Things: The Writings of Mikhail Bulgakov. 100 Units.

What would your good do if evil did not exist, and what would the earth look like if all the shadows disappeared? After all, shadows are cast by things and people…. Do you want to strip the earth of all the trees and living things just because of your fantasy of enjoying naked light?” asks the Devil. Mikhail Bulgakov worked on his novel The Master and Margarita throughout most of his writing career, in Stalin’s Moscow. Bulgakov destroyed his manuscript, re-created it from memory, and reworked it feverishly even as his body was failing him in his battle with death. The result is an intense contemplation on the nature of good and evil, on the role of art and the ethical duty of the artist, but also a dazzling world of magic, witches, and romantic love, and an irresistible seduction into the comedic. Laughter, as shadow and light, as the subversive weapon but also as power’s whip, grounds human relation to both good and evil. Brief excursions to other texts that help us better understand Master and Margarita.

Instructor(s): A. Ilieva Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): REES 39021, FNDL 29020

REES 29023. Returning the Gaze: The West and the Rest. 100 Units.

Aware of being observed. And judged. Inferior... Abject... Angry... Proud... This course provides insight into identity dynamics between the "West," as the center of economic power and self-proclaimed normative humanity, and the "Rest," as the poor, backward, volatile periphery. We investigate the relationship between South East European self-representations and the imagined Western gaze. Inherent in the act of looking at oneself through the eyes of another is the privileging of that other’s standard. We will contemplate the responses to this existential position of identifying symbolically with a normative site outside of oneself-self-consciousness, defiance, arrogance, self-exoticization—and consider how these responses have been incorporated in the texture of the national, gender, and social identities in the region. Orhan Pamuk, Ivo Andrić, Nikos Kazantzakis, Aleko Konstantinov, Emir Kusturica, Milcho Manchevski.

Instructor(s): Angelina Ilieva Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 23609, NEHC 39023, REES 39023, NEHC 29023, HIST 33609, CMLT 39023, CMLT 29023
REES 29024. States of Surveillance. 100 Units.
What does it feel to be watched and listened to all the time? Literary and cinematic works give us a glimpse into the experience of living under surveillance and explore the human effects of surveillance - the fraying of intimacy, fracturing sense of self, testing the limits of what it means to be human. Works from the former Soviet Union (Solzhenitsyn, Abram Tertz, Andrey Zvyagintsev), former Yugoslavia (Ivo Andrić, Danilo Kiš, Dušan Kovačević), Romania (Norman Manea, Cristian Mungiu), Bulgaria (Valeri Petrov), and Albania (Ismail Kadare).
Instructor(s): Angelina Ilieva Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): CMLT 29024, CMLT 39024, REES 39024

REES 29025. Voices of Alterity and the Languages of Immigration. 100 Units.
This course investigates the individual experience of immigration: how do immigrants recreate themselves in this alien world in which they seem to lose part of themselves? How do they find their voice and make a place for themselves in their adoptive homes? If in the new world the immigrant becomes a new person, what meanings are still carried in traditional values and culture? How do they remember their origins and record new experiences?
Instructor(s): Angelina Ilieva Terms Offered: Spring. Enrollment is based on acceptance into the Chicago Studies Quarter Program.
Note(s): Enrollment is based on acceptance into the Chicago Studies Quarter Program.
Equivalent Course(s): PBPL 27125, ENGL 27125, ENST 27125, HIST 27710, CMLT 27125

REES 29700. Reading/Research: Russian and Eastern European Studies. 100 Units.
This is an independent study course which is arranged, planned, and managed by a supervising professor in conjunction with the goals that are proposed by the student, and then refined and approved by the supervising professor. This course involves more student self-discipline and a greater sense of direction than do most courses - the student must be willing to plan and execute his/her activities with much less monitoring and without prompting by fellow classmates. The student and the professor discuss and propose goals, topics, and projects.
Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Autumn Spring Winter
Prerequisite(s): Consent of instructor and Departmental Adviser
Note(s): Students are required to submit the College Reading and Research Course Form.

REES 29701. Reading/Research: Russian and Eastern European Studies II. 100 Units.
This is the second part of an independent study course which is arranged, planned, and managed by a supervising professor in conjunction with the goals that are proposed by the student, and then refined and approved by the supervising professor. This course involves more student self-discipline and a greater sense of direction than do most courses—the student must be willing to plan and execute his/her activities with much less monitoring and without prompting by fellow classmates. The student and the professor discuss and propose goals, topics, and projects.
Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Autumn Spring Winter
Prerequisite(s): Consent of instructor.

REES 29702. Reading/Research: Russian and Eastern European Studies III. 100 Units.
This is the third part of an independent study course which is arranged, planned, and managed by a supervising professor in conjunction with the goals that are proposed by the student, and then refined and approved by the supervising professor. This course involves more student self-discipline and a greater sense of direction than do most courses - the student must be willing to plan and execute his/her activities with much less monitoring and without prompting by fellow classmates. The student and the professor discuss and propose goals, topics, and projects.
Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Autumn Spring Winter
Prerequisite(s): Consent of instructor.

REES 29801. Intercultural Adaptation: Kurosawa and His Russian Sources. 100 Units.
Equivalent Course(s): CMLT 21704

REES 29815. Russian Anarchists, Revolutionary Samurai: Introduction to Russian-Japanese Intellectual Relations. 100 Units.
This course introduces a current of Russian-Japanese exchange and cross-fertilization of ideas running from the late nineteenth century to now. Our focus will be on the historical role that Russia came to play in anarchist movement in Japan. We will read such revolutionary intellectuals as Lev Mechnikov, Peter Kropotkin, and Lev Tolstoy; compare the visions of civilizational progress of the state modernizer Fukuzawa Yukichi and Japanese anarchists Kōtoku Shūsui and Ōsugi Sakae; and study the post-WW II continuation of the anarchist tradition in the films of Kurosawa Akira, music of Takeemitsu Toru, and writings of Ōe Kenzaburō.
Instructor(s): Olga Solovieva Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): EALC 29710, EALC 39710, CMLT 39710, CMLT 29710, REES 39815
REES 29900. BA Paper Workshop. 100 Units.
Students pursuing honors must write an acceptable BA paper in their final year under the supervision of a faculty member in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. At the latest by the Autumn Quarter, students should begin the BA process by consulting with the director of undergraduate studies. Students may register for the BA Paper seminar (REES 29900 BA Paper Workshop) with the approval of the BA supervisor. This course will confer general College elective credit, but it will not count toward the major. If the completed bachelor's paper is judged by the supervisor and a second faculty member to be a distinguished example of original research or criticism, the student is recommended to the College for graduation with honors in Russian and East European Studies. The final decision regarding the granting of any degree with honors rests with the Collegiate divisional master.
Instructor(s): Staff Terms Offered: Autumn Spring Winter

REES 29912. Special Topics in Advanced Russian. 100 Units.
Must complete Advanced Russian through Media or equivalent, or obtain consent of instructor. Class meets for 2 hours each week. We'll work with several topics, all of them are relevant to the general theme of "Geography and Worldview: Russian Perspective". There will be maps, reading materials, several documentaries, clips from TV programs and other media, and feature films. Class meetings will be a combination of group discussions, short presentations, and lectures. Final - one term paper at the end (in English) based on Russian materials.
Instructor(s): Valentina Pichugin Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): RUSS 29912, REES 39912, RUSS 39912

REES 29913. Special Topics in Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian I. 100 Units.
The course is designed to meet the specific needs of advanced learners of Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, including heritage and native speakers, and to foster cross-cultural experiences through interdisciplinary content. The curriculum covers a wide range of topics relative to the students' field of study, research and personal interests. Although grounded in the field of philology, it expands students' knowledge in other disciplines of social and behavioral sciences such as history, anthropology, global studies, economics, political science, sociology, and the like. Attention is given to the ability to paraphrase scholarly arguments, formulate research hypotheses, and present research in the target language. The course delves into advanced grammatical topics with the goal of increasing proficiency in both aural and reading comprehension, in addition to honing writing and speaking styles. Classes are conducted in BCS. The prerequisite is three years of formal study of the target language or the equivalent.
Instructor(s): Nada Petkovic Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): REES 39913, BCSN 39910, BCSN 29910

REES 29914. Special Topics in Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian II. 100 Units.
The course is designed to meet the specific needs of advanced learners of B/C/S, including heritage and native speakers, and to foster cross-cultural experiences through its interdisciplinary content. The curriculum covers a wide range of topics relative to the students' field of study, research and personal interests. Although grounded in the field of philology, it expands students' knowledge in other disciplines of social and behavioral sciences such as history, anthropology, global studies, economics, political science, sociology, and the like. Attention is given to the ability to paraphrase scholarly arguments, formulate research hypotheses, and present one's research in the target language. The course delves into advanced grammatical topics with the goal of increasing proficiency in both aural and reading comprehension, in addition to honing writing and speaking styles. Classes are conducted in B/C/S; the prerequisite is three years of formal study of the target language or the equivalent.
Instructor(s): Nada Petkovic Terms Offered: Winter
Equivalent Course(s): BCSN 39911, BCSN 29911, REES 39914

REES 29915. Special Topics in Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian III. 100 Units.
The course is designed to meet the specific needs of advanced learners of B/C/S, including heritage and native speakers, and to foster cross-cultural experiences through its interdisciplinary content. The curriculum covers a wide range of topics relative to the students' field of study, research and personal interests. Although grounded in the field of philology, it expands students' knowledge in other disciplines of social and behavioral sciences such as history, anthropology, global studies, economics, political science, sociology, and the like. Attention is given to the ability to paraphrase scholarly arguments, formulate research hypotheses, and present one's research in the target language. The course delves into advanced grammatical topics with the goal of increasing proficiency in both aural and reading comprehension, in addition to honing writing and speaking styles. Classes are conducted in B/C/S; the prerequisite is three years of formal study of the target language or the equivalent.
Instructor(s): Nada Petkovic Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): BCSN 39912, BCSN 29912, REES 39915