

**ML&L 3343  
The Culture of Russia  
Spring 2012**

**MWF 1:30-2:20pm  
NH 232**

Mrs. Maria Holl  
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Office Hours: MWF 11:30-12:30

**Required Books:**

Ware, Timothy: *The Orthodox Church*. New Edition. Penguin Books, 1997.  
Nabokov, Vladimir, trans. *The Song of Igor's Campaign*. Ardis Publishers, 2003  
Nabokov, Vladimir, trans. *Eugene Onegin*.  
Afanas'ev, Aleksandr. *Russian Fairy Tales*.

**W 1-11 Classes begin/Introduction & admin**

**F 1-13 Week 1 Pre-Christian Russian culture and religion**

Reading: Chronicles pp 49-50 (Handout)

***M 1-16 MLK Holiday – No Classes***

W 1-18 Week 1      Reaction Papers due. Discussion: The Varangian Rus/Rurik/Rurikid Dynasty

**F 1-20 Week 2      The Christianization of Rus/Orthodoxy**

Reading: *The Orthodox Church* pp 298-327

M 1-23 Week 2      Reaction Papers Due.

W 1-25 Week 2      Discussion

**F 1-27 Week 3      Kiev and Novgorod**

Reading: Chronicles (Zenkovsky/handout) pp 77-83

M 1-30 Week 3      Reaction Papers Due.

W 2-1	Week 3	Discussion
F 2-3	Week 4	<b><u>The Song of Igor's Campaign</u></b>
		Reading: the whole tale
M 2-6	Week 4	Reaction Papers Due.
W 2-8	Week 4	Discussion
F 2-10	Week 5	<b>The Transition from Rus' to Russia/Rise of Moscow</b>
		Reading: Hosking pp. (handout)
M 2-13	Week 5	Reaction Papers Due.
W 2-15	Week 5	Discussion
F 2-17	Week 6	<b>Petersburg and Russian Architecture</b>
		Video
M 2-20	Week 6	Reaction Papers Due on video
W 2-22	Week 6	Discussion
F 2-24	Week 7	<b>Catherine the Great and the Fine Arts</b>
		Reading: Letters of Catherine the Great (handout)
M 2-27	Week 7	Reaction Papers Due.
W 2-29	Week 7	Discussion
F 3-2	Week 8	<b>The Genesis of Russian Literature</b>
M 3-5	Week 8	<i>No Reaction Papers (Lecture)</i>
W 3-7	Week 8	<b>MID-TERM</b>
F 3-9	Week 8	(Lecture)

***M 3-12 Spring Break – No Classes***

***W 3-14 Spring Break – No Classes***

***F 3-16 Spring Break – No Classes***

M 3-19 Week 9      **Eugene Onegin**

W 3-21 Week 9      Reaction Papers Due.

F 3-23 Week 9      Discussion

M 3-26 Week 10     **Folklore and Folkways**

Reading: Tales (Afanasiev)

W 3-28 Week 10     Reaction Papers Due.

F 3-30 Week 10     Discussion

M 4-2 Week 11      **Russian Oral Literature and Folk Beliefs**

Reading: Epics (Afanasiev)

W 4-4 Week 11      Reaction Papers Due.

***F 4-6 Week 11      GOOD FRIDAY***

M 4-9 Week 11      Discussion

W 4-11 Week 12     **The National Movement in Russian Music**

F 4-13 Week 12     Listening: Opera: Eugene Onegin, arias

M 4-16 Week 12     Reaction Papers Due. Discussion.

W 4-18 Week 13     **Russia in Paintings**

Video: Face of Russia

F 4-20 Week 13	Reaction Papers Due on Video
M 4-23 Week 13	Discussion
W 4-25 Week 14	<b>The Turn of the Century</b>
F 4-27 Week 14	Conclusion, discussion, questions

M 4-30 Reading Day

## ***FINAL***

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### **Course Procedures**

- *Cultures of Russia* explores the development of the Russian culture from a historical perspective. The course is organized chronologically, but the emphasis is on the cultural shifts and changes, not on the major historical events.
- This course concentrates on European Russia as it grew from the early Slavic settlements into the late Imperial Russian culture.
- The course consists of lectures, multi-media presentations, readings, and discussions.
- This syllabus is subject to changes and revisions. The latest version will always be available to the students.

### **Grading**

- Final Grades will be based on two fifty-minute exams (50%), a paper of 7-10 pages or a project of comparable scope (25%), and the reaction papers + in-class participation (25%).
- Students must take both exams and turn in a paper or project to receive a passing grade in the course.
- The exams must be taken at the scheduled times and the reaction papers and paper/project must be turned in on time.
- The paper or project must deal with some aspect of pre-1917 Russian culture and must be approved by the instructor ahead of time. Projects might include (but are not limited to) web sites, power point presentations, videos or musical recordings with accompanying commentaries. The project must include 7-10 pages of original writing by the student and must conform to all the rules of a traditional term paper with respect to grammar, spelling, punctuation, and citing sources.
- Exams may include short-answer, multiple-choice, and essay questions. The exams will test the student's knowledge of information from class meetings and readings. The second exam will include only material presented after the first exam.
- On the above schedule, lectures and discussions are noted. Each reading should be completed by

the discussion day for a given subject. For example, the reading of *The Song of Igor's Campaign* must be completed by February 8. Please make note of the longer readings and plan your time accordingly. There will be readings on handouts: these are NOT optional any more than those from the required books.

- Students will hand in a reaction paper of no less than ½ and no more than 1 page on the day indicated on the schedule (a minimum of 150 words). Students will receive an A for a reaction paper that is handed in on time and shows that the student has read the book; otherwise there is no credit for the reaction paper.
- Reaction papers will be printed out, not handwritten, in an ordinary 12-point font (Times, Courier, or similar), no more than double-spaced, without extra space between paragraphs and with margins of no more than 1 inch.
- In-class participation grades will be based on the student's attendance, preparedness (i. e., timeliness in reading the works and handing in the reaction papers), and willingness to discuss the readings.

### **Classroom Decorum**

- Please turn off your cell phones before class, do not talk amongst yourselves in class, do buy your books at the beginning of the semester and bring your book to class when we are discussing a book, and do not leave and re-enter the classroom during class except when absolutely necessary.

### **Academic Honor Code<sup>1</sup>**

- All students are covered by the Trinity University Honor Code that prohibits dishonesty in academic work.
- The Code asserts that the academic community is based on honesty and trust, and defines specific violations as well as the procedure to determine if a violation has occurred. The Code also covers the process of hearings for alleged violations and the various sanctions applied for specific violations. The Code also provides for an appeal process.
- The Code is implemented by the Academic Honor Council. Under the Code, a faculty member will (or a student may) report an alleged violation to the Academic Honor Council. It is the task of the Council to collect the pertinent evidence, adjudicate, and assign a sanction within certain guidelines if a violation has been verified.
- Students who are under the Honor Code are required to pledge all written work that is submitted for a grade: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received any unauthorized assistance on this work" and their signature. The pledge may be abbreviated "pledged" with a signature.
- The specifics of the Honor Code, its underlying philosophy, and the norms for sanctioning can all be found on the Academic Honor Council website, accessed through the Trinity Homepage.

### **Plagiarism**

- The following appears in the Student Handbook under the heading Violations: "Presenting words or ideas of another as one's own, which is plagiarism. While it is often appropriate to use others' work in one's paper, it must be credited as such. Quotation marks should be used for exact quotations, and in all cases, whether paraphrasing or using another's exact wording, footnotes or endnotes should clearly indicate the source and the extent of the borrowing of ideas."<sup>2</sup> All cases of plagiarism will be pursued under the Academic Honor Code.

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<sup>1</sup> Trinity University Academic Honor Code.  
[http://www.trinity.edu/departments/academic\\_affairs/honor\\_code/possible\\_syllabus\\_text.htm](http://www.trinity.edu/departments/academic_affairs/honor_code/possible_syllabus_text.htm)

<sup>2</sup> Trinity University Student Handbook. [http://www.trinity.edu/departments/res\\_life/media/Student\\_handbook.pdf](http://www.trinity.edu/departments/res_life/media/Student_handbook.pdf)

**Attendance**

Students are expected to attend every class. The participation grade will be based largely on the student's willingness to show up for class and participate.