

**DEPARTMENT OF GERMAN,
RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN STUDIES**

SPRING 2022 Russian Courses in English

RUSS 2745: Radical Art: The Avant-Garde Revolution

Historic avant-garde movements are the epitome of modern art. From Zurich to Moscow, Paris to Berlin, and New York to Rome different schools such as Expressionism, Futurism, Dadaism, Cubism, and Surrealism developed new forms of artistic expression. By using found objects and prefabricated materials they provoked the artistic establishment between 1910 and 1930, while their public performances challenged political, religious, and social norms. Although connected through the desire to revolutionize art, avant-garde movements' intentions varied as much as their methods, artistic output, and political intentions. In this course, we will discuss the origins of avant-garde movements, their rise, inner struggles, gender trouble, media use, and impact across the arts and literature to this day. We will focus on artists and writers of the expressionist, futurist, and Dadaist movements such as Meidner, Marc, Kandinsky, Goncharova, Marinetti, Boccioni, Ball, Schwitters, Taeuber-Arp, Höch, Heartfield, Lissitzky, Malevich, Khlebnikov, Kruchenykh, Burliuk, and Mayakovsky. [3]

TH 02:45 - 04:00 PM | Instructor: Christoph M. Zeller

RUSS 2915: Russia: The U.S.S.R. and Afterward

The Soviet Union shocked the world when it collapsed and thirty years later, we are still grappling with the legacy of this vast empire forged in war and revolution. In this course, we will explore the rise and fall of the USSR over the course of the 20th century to examine the history of this misunderstood place and its diverse peoples. Engaging with historical documents and memoirs, as well as sources from literature, this course will introduce students to a variety of perspectives on the history of the Soviet Union and its successor states, from the revolutionaries who dreamed up the Soviet project, to the activists around the world who were inspired by socialism, to the victims of Soviet violence and terror. [3] (P)

MWF 10:10-11:00 AM | Instructor: Kathryn David

RUSS 3890: Selected Topics - Anton Chekhov: The Stories and Plays

Chekhov is widely believed to be among the greatest short story writers of all time. Along with Ibsen and Strindberg, he is also a seminal figure in the birth of modern drama. By reading Chekhov's most influential stories and plays in the context of Russian history at the turn of the 20th century, this course seeks to understand the relationship between Chekhov-the-prose-writer and Chekhov-the-dramatist. Assignments will combine traditional close reading with more creative interpretations; students will write their own Chekhovian stories and perform a short play. Knowledge of Russian is not required. [3]

MWF 02:30 - 03:20 PM | Instructor: Denis Zhernokleyev