

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH
Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures

Russian 2473. The Anti-Imperialist Empire: Formations of Second-World Culture
Spring Semester 2004

Nancy Condee
Classroom: CL 1221
Time: Monday 2.30-5.25 pm

Office hours: Tuesday, 2.00-3.45 pm
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course examines texts of the dynastic and socialist empires with particular interest in their engagement with three issues: notions of collectivity and belonging; the repeated collapse of the imperial structure; and the so-called emergence of the nation state.

REQUIRED TEXTS (for purchase)

- Anderson, Benedict. *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*. Revised edition. New York: Verso, 1991. ISBN 0860915468. \$ 20.00
- Gellner, Ernest. *Nations and Nationalism*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1983. ISBN 0801492637. \$ 15.00. JC311 G48 1983. **Also on reserve.**
- Hutchinson, John and Anthony D. Smith, eds. *Nationalism*. Oxford Reader. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1995. ISBN 0192892606. \$ 16.00.
- Jameson, Fredric. *The Political Unconscious*. Reprinted edition. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1982. ISBN 080149222X. \$ 20.00.
- Said, Edward W. *Orientalism*. Second edition. New York: Random House, 1979. ISBN 039474067X. \$ 10.50.
- Suny, Ronald and Terry Martin, eds. *A State of Nations: Empire and Nation Making in the Age of Lenin and Stalin*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001. 67-90. ISBN 0195144236. \$ 21.00. DK 266.S8 2001. **Also on reserve.**

REQUIRED TEXTS (on 3-day reserve)

- Cherniavsky, Michael. *Tsar and People: Studies in Russian Myths*. New York: Random House, 1969. DK 32.C523 1969. Hillman Library 3-day reserve (students should figure out how to share the text).
- Gellner, Ernest. *Nations and Nationalism*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1983. ISBN 0801492637. JC311 G48 1983. **Also in bookstore.**
- . *Thought and Change*. Chicago: University of Chicago, 1965. Chapter Seven ("Nationalism"). BD 373.G319. Photocopy will be provided.
- Layton, Susan. *Russian Literature and Empire: The Conquest of the Caucasus from Pushkin to Tolstoy*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1994. PG 3015.5 C3L39 1994.
- Suny, Ronald and Terry Martin, eds. *A State of Nations: Empire and Nation Making in the Age of Lenin and Stalin*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001. ISBN 0195144236. DK 266.S8 2001. **Also in bookstore.**
- Thompson, Ewa M. *Imperial Knowledge: Russian Literature and Colonialism*. Westport, CN: Greenwood Press, 2000. PG3011.T447 2000.

RECOMMENDED TEXTS

- Bristol, Evelyn. *A History of Russian Poetry*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1991. PG3041 B67 1991.
- Doyle, Michael W. *Empires*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1986. JC 359 D69 1986.
- Eley, Geoff and Ronald Suny, eds. *Becoming National: A Reader*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1996. JC311 B4125 1996.
- Greenleaf, Monika and Stephen Moeller-Sally, eds. *Russian Subjects: Empire, Nation, and the Culture of the Golden Age*. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 1998. PG3011 R74 1998.
- Hosking, Geoffrey Alan. *Empire and Nation in Russian History*. Waco, TX: Baylor University Press, 1993. DK49 H67 1993.

- Martin, Terry. *The Affirmative Action Empire: Nations and Nationalism in the Soviet Union, 1923-1939*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2001. JN6520.M5 M27 2001.
- Pagden, Anthony. *Lords of All the World: Ideologies of Empire in Spain, Britain, and France, c. 1500-c. 1800*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1995. JC359 P278 1995.
- Ram, Harsha. *The Imperial Sublime: A Russian Poetics of Empire*. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2003. PG2987.S78 R36 2003.
- Smith, Anthony D. *Nationalism and Modernism: A Critical Survey of Recent Theories of Nations and Nationalism*. New York: Routledge, 1998. JC311.N53888.1998.
- . *Nationalism: Theory, Ideology, History*. Cambridge: Polity Press, 2001. JC311 S5392 2001.
- Suny, Ronald, ed. *The Structure of Soviet History: Essays and Documents*. New York: Oxford, 2003. DK266 A3 S78 2003.

METHODOLOGY

Class consists of lecture, discussion, one student research presentation, and short, in-class writing assignments. Assigned primary texts consist of prose, poetry, and drama. Time permitting, we will include film, painting, architecture, and poster art. Secondary materials will include Slavist as well as non-Slavist intellectual history and theory texts. **Students are advised to purchase or take out of the library a standard history of Russia and the Soviet Union to consult concerning major dates and events.**

ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to attend all classes. More than one unexcused absence will affect the final grade. More than two will result in failure of the course, regardless of the student's prior standing. Airline reservations and other travel plans do not constitute excused absences. Absent students are responsible for acquiring relevant class notes and handouts from fellow students. Work assigned in a student's absence will not be given a later deadline without prior agreement with the instructor.

WRITTEN WORK AND IN-CLASS PRESENTATIONS

Three assignments in particular will affect the student's standing in the course: a research paper; a student presentation; and an annotated bibliography of supplemental reading. A five-page draft of the research paper will be submitted in class on Monday, 1 March; a final version is due on Monday, 19 April. The research paper and the presentation will address separate topics. The annotated bibliography, which lists and comments on supplementary reading chosen by the student, will be evaluated less on its length than on its thematic coherence and student commentary. Additional information on all three assignments will be provided later in the semester.

EXAMINATIONS AND QUIZZES

No examinations are scheduled for the course. The instructor will give occasional short, in-class writing assignments to assess student preparation for class. These will be graded and will function as quizzes. The number and timing of these in-class assignments will be determined by the pacing of the course as we go along.

DISABILITY POLICY

If a student has a disability that requires special teaching or other classroom modifications, he or she must notify the instructor and the Office of Disabled Student Services no later than Friday, 16 January 2004 (Spring 2004 Add/Drop date). The student may be asked to provide documentation of the disability to determine the appropriateness of accommodations. To notify the Office of Disabled Student Services, call 648-7890 to schedule an appointment. The office is located in 216 William Pitt Union.

EVAULATION

Students will be evaluated on the basis for five areas of work: discussion, research paper, presentation, annotated bibliography, in-class writing.

SCHEDULE (all assignments are due on date indicated)

Students will usually be expected to complete a common reading assignment of approximately 100 pages a week, an amount kept low in order to assure time to a.) take notes in preparation for discussion and b.) do additional reading of their own selection for the annotated bibliography.

A number of texts, potentially central to the concept of the course, have been omitted from the syllabus in order to leave students unassigned material for their own research papers and presentations. A list of potentially productive texts is included at the end of the syllabus; it is meant as an open-ended set of suggestions for further research, not as an additional reading list.

Week 1 (5 January)

Syllabus; research questions: Hutchinson, John and Anthony D. Smith, eds. *Nationalism*.

Week 2 (12 January)

Deutsche, Karl W. "Nationalism and Social Communication." *Nationalism and Social Communication*.
Geertz, Clifford. "Primordial and Civic Ties." From "The Integrative Revolution: Primordial Sentiments and Civil Politics in the New States." *Old Societies and New State: The Quest for Modernity in Asia and Africa*.
Gellner, Ernest. "Nationalism and High Cultures." *Nations and Nationalism*.
----. "Nationalism and Modernization." *Thought and Change*.
Hobsbawm, Eric. "The Nation as Invented Tradition." *The Invention of Tradition*.
Kedourie, Elie. "Nationalism and Self-Determination." *Nationalism*.
Renan, Ernest. "Qu'est-ce qu'une nation?" *Qu'est-ce qu'une nation?*
Seton-Watson, Hugh. "Old and New Nations." *Nations and States*.
Stalin, Joseph. "The Nation." *Marxism and the National Question*.
Weber, Max. "The Nation." *Essays in Sociology*.

•
Late eighteenth century.

Ломоносов, Михаил. «Ода на восшествие на всероссийский престол ея величества Государыни Императрицы Елизаветы Петровны, 1747 года».
----. «Вечернее размышление о Божием величестве при случае великого северного сияния».
Державин, Гаврила. «Фелица»; «Бог». [60]

→19 January: no class.

Week 3 (26 January)

Cherniavsky, Michael. *Tsar and People: Studies in Russian Myths*. Chapters 2-7 and Epilogue. (188)

•
Early nineteenth century.

Пушкин, Александр. *Медный всадник*.
Чаадаев, Петр. *Философские письма* № 1. (19) [207]

Week 4 (2 February)

Said, Edward W. *Orientalism*, 1-49.

•
Early nineteenth century.

Пушкин, Александр. *Цыганы*. (19)
---. «К Чаадаеву».
Лермонтов, Михаил. «Отчизна», «Сон» («В полдневный жар в долине Дагестана...»), «Прощай, немытая Россия...».
Чаадаев, Петр. *Философские письма* № 3. (8) [80]

Week 5 (9 February): students choose tentative research topics for presentation and paper.

Said, Edward W. *Orientalism*. 49-110. (61)

•

Mid-nineteenth century.

Лермонтов, Михаил. *Герой нашего времени*. «Максим Максимыч». (13)

----. «Демон».

Чаадаев, Петр. *Философские письма* № 5, 6, 8. (20) [105]

Week 6 (16 February)

Suny, Ronald. "The Empire Strikes Out! Imperial Russia, 'National' Identity, and Theories of Empire." In Ronald Suny and Terry Martin, eds. *A State of Nations: Empire and Nation-Making in the Age of Lenin and Stalin*. 23-66. (43)

•
Mid-nineteenth century.

Некрасов, Николай. «Еду ли ночью...» (1847), «Влас» (1855).

Тютчев, Федор. «Сон на море», «Цицерон», «Silentium», «О чем ты воешь, ветр ночной?...», «День и ночь», «Эти бедные селенья...», «Певучесть есть в морских волнах...».

Толстой, Лев. «Кавказский пленник.» (33) (Пушкин; Маканин; Бодров). [82]

Week 7 (23 February)

Anderson, Benedict. *Imagined Communities*. 1-46; 83-112; 187-206. (93)

•
Silver Age to 1920s.

Бальмонт, Константин. «Безглагольность».

Блок, Александр. «Скифы», «Двенадцать».

Гумилев, Николай. «Войн Агамемнона».

Ахматова, Анна. «Вечером», «Все расхищено, предано, продано...».

Мандельштам, Осип. «Айя-София», «Бессоница. Гомер. Тугие паруса...», «Tristia», «В Петербурге мы сойдемся снова...», «Век», «Notre Dame».

Цветаева, Марина. «Тоска по родине! Давно...», «Читатели газет».

Маяковский, Владимир. «Разговор с фининспектором о поэзии».

Есенин, Сергей. «Письмо к матери».

Бабель, Исаак. *Одесские рассказы* («Король»; «Как это делолось в Одессе»). (19)

Зощенко, Михаил. «Аристократка». [130]

Week 8 (1 March): draft of paper due in class.

Jameson, Fredric. *The Political Unconscious*. 17-36. (19)

•
Stalinism.

Шварц, Евгений. *Дракон*. (75) [94]

➔8 March: no class.

Week 9 (15 March)

Jameson, Fredric. *The Political Unconscious*. 37-102. (65)

•
Thaw.

Евтушенко, Евгений. *Бабий яр*.

Вознесенский, Андрей. «Гойя».

Ахмадулина, Белла. *Сказка о дожде*. (10)

Окуджава, Булат. «Римская империя времени упадка...». [80]

Week 10 (22 March)

Martin, Terry. "An Affirmative Action Empire: The Soviet Union as the Highest Form of Imperialism." In Ronald Suny and Terry Martin, eds. *A State of Nations: Empire and Nation Making in the Age of Lenin and Stalin*. 67-90 (23).

•
Stagnation.

Терц, Абрам. «Пхенц». (20)

Рейн, Евгений. «Монастырь», «Сосед Григорьев».

Искандер, Фазиль. Из *Сандро из Чегема* («Пиры Валтасара»). (52) [95]

Week 11 (29 March)

Gellner, Ernest. *Thought and Change*. Chicago: University of Chicago, 1965. Photocopy of Chapter Seven: "Nationalism." (32)

•
Perestroika.

Пригов, Дмитрий. «Куликово поле»; Из цикла «Апофеоз Милицанера» («Когда здесь на посту стоит Милицанер...»); из цикла «Образ Рейгана в советской литературе».

Ерофеев, Виктор. «Попугайчик». (18)

Маканин, Владимир. *Кавказский пленный*. (29) [85]

Week 12 (5 April): student presentations I

Gellner, Ernest. *Nations and Nationalism*. (32)

•
Post-communism.

Пелевин, Виктор. *ОМОН РА*. (104) [136]

Week 13 (12 April): student presentations II

Week 14 (19 April): final paper due; annotated bibliography due.

List of potentially relevant primary texts for research papers or presentations (chronological list):

Переписка Андрея Курбского с Иваном Грозным.

Радищев, Александр. *Путешествие из Петербурга в Москву* («Любани», «Пешки», «Спаская полесь»).

Пушкин, Александр. *Кавказский пленник*.

----. *Путешествие в Арзрум*.

Лермонтов, Михаил. *Герой нашего времени*.

Бестужев-Марлинский, А. А.

Толстой; Лев. «Кавказский пленник.» Makanin, Vladimir. *The Loss* (contains *Prisoner*). PG3483.2 K27A25 1998. (Пушкин; Маканин; Бодров).

Бунин, Иван. *Господин из Сан-Франциско*.

Бабель, Исаак. *Конармия* («Переход через Збруч»; «Мой первый гусь»; «Соль»).

Замятин, Евгений. *Мы*.

Терц, Абрам. «Что такое социалистический реализм?»

Шукшин, Василий. «Чудик»; «Верую!».

Распутин, Валентин. *Прощание с Матерой*.

Попов, Евгений. «Веселие Руси»; *Душа патриота*.