

Overview of Russian Literature (A005450)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 5.0

Study time 150 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2024-2025

A (semester 2)

Dutch

Gent

lecture

seminar

independent work

group work

Lecturers in academic year 2024-2025

Geerardyn, Tilde

LW21

staff member

Dhooge, Ben

LW21

lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2024-2025

crdts

offering

[Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures\(main subject Arabic and Islamic Studies\)](#)

5

A

[Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures\(main subject China \(China Track\)\)](#)

5

A

[Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures\(main subject China \(UGent Track\)\)](#)

5

A

[Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures\(main subject India\)](#)

5

A

[Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures\(main subject Japan\)](#)

5

A

[Bachelor of Arts in African Languages and Cultures](#)

5

A

[Bachelor of Arts in Art History, Musicology and Theatre Studies](#)

5

A

[Bachelor of Arts in East European Languages and Cultures](#)

5

A

[Bachelor of Arts in Moral Sciences](#)

5

A

[Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy](#)

5

A

[Preparatory Course Master of Arts in East European Languages and Cultures](#)

5

A

[Elective Set Languages of Asia, the Middle East and Eastern Europe](#)

5

A

[Elective Set Literature](#)

5

A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Russian literature, Middle Ages – 21st century, historical survey, literary analysis

Position of the course

This introductory course aims to provide insight into the development of Russian literature from the Middle Ages until the 21st century through (fragments of) literary works of the most important Russian writers and poets. The student will also be introduced to fundamental concepts for analyzing poems and narrative prose and will be taught how to apply them on the basis of a selection of text (in Dutch for students who do not know Russian, in Russian or Dutch for students who do know Russian).

Contents

This overview of the development of Russian literature from the Middle Ages until today is illustrated with fragments from novels, short stories, plays and/or poems by canonical writers, from the *Primary Chronicle* via Karamzin and Puškin, Dostoevskij and Tolstoj, Majakovskij and Achmatova to Solženicyn and Sorokin. Particular attention is devoted to the literary and cultural context. Besides, several longer texts or textfragments will be subjected to a more thorough literary analysis.

Initial competences

No specific competencies required apart from the expected average competencies acquired during secondary education.

Final competences

- 1 To have critical insight into the qualities and historical specificities of Russian literature.
- 2 To read and interpret (fragments of) lyrical, prose and / or dramatic texts in the original language or in translation.
- 3 To situate Russian (canonical) literary texts in their literary and social context.
- 4 To analyze Russian literary texts.
- 5 To apply the basic insights and basic terminology of literary analysis.
- 6 To write a short paper on a literary work on the basis of a concrete research assignment (text based).
- 7 To reflect critically and comment in a constructive way on a paper by peers and to formulate one's thoughts in a short report.
- 8 To find information in secondary literature (a.o. textbooks and surveys) and use this information in a paper.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Group work, Seminar, Lecture, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

Historical survey (lectures).

Interactive seminar: students prepare by reading literary texts before each seminar, in which the texts are being analysed.

Independent work: multiple, but short written analyses of a literary text on the basis of concrete questions for analysis; two peer review reports; a reading list.

Study material

None

References**Course content-related study coaching**

The lecturer is available before and after each lecture; contact hours by appointment

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Written assessment open-book

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Written assessment open-book

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Peer and/or self assessment, Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods

Permanent evaluation (30%): papers, peer review reports (participation).

Periodic evaluation (70%): written open book exam (questions on one or more of the texts discussed in class (seminars), about the literary developments (lectures)) and about works from the reading list).

If the student does not pass the non-periodical evaluation, a second chance is offered by means of a compensatory assignment between the first and second exam period.

Calculation of the examination mark

Written exam: 70%

Papers, peer review reports: 30%.

Facilities for Working Students

Attendance is required to successfully complete the course.

Lectures and seminars are not being streamed or recorded, but sufficient online learning material is being provided.

Possibility to take the exam at a different time within the regular exam period.

Possibility of feedback at a different time: please make an appointment.