

## Russian Realism

ARUS 546 Fall 2006

MW 1:15-2:35 in HUM 022

## Prof. Hilde Hoogenboom

HUM 212, 518.442.4229

Office Hours: MW4-5, T3-4, and by appt.

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### Course Description

We survey the development, criticism, and competing theories of Russian realist prose in a European context from the 1840s to the 1880s, by writers including Ivan Goncharov, Evgeniia Tur, Ivan Turgenev, Nadezhda Khvoshchinskaia, Lev Tolstoy, Nadezhda Sokhanskaia, Fyodor Dostoevsky, Mikhail Saltykov-Shchedrin, Nikolai Leskov, and Anton Chekhov.

### Requirements

- Weekly one-paragraph response to study questions, typed, due in class. I grade them with a  $\sqrt{-}$ ,  $\sqrt{}$ , or  $\sqrt{+}$ . In Russian or English. (15%)
- A five-page paper that is theoretically informed on a literary work, in Russian or English, due Wed. October 18. (25%)
- A ten-page paper that is theoretically informed on an author, due Wed., November 29. Choose an author by November 1, with a list of 3 works you plan to read by him or her. (40%)
- Final take-home exam on different approaches to Realism based on passages from works in the course, which you must identify. (20%)

### Reserve Books

Margaret Cohen, *The Sentimental Education of the Novel* (Princeton: Princeton UP, 1999). PQ 653 C54 1999

Donald Fanger, *Dostoevsky and Romantic Realism: A Study of Dostoevsky in Relation to Balzac, Dickens, and Gogol* (1965, rep. Evanston, IL: Northwestern UP, 1998). PG 3328 Z6 F25 1998

Jehanne M Gheith, *Finding the Middle Ground: Krestovskii, Tur, and the Power of Ambivalence in Nineteenth-Century Russian Women's Prose* (Evanston, IL: Northwestern UP, 2004). PG 3418 T75 Z67 2004

Lydiia Ginzburg, *On Psychological Prose*, trans. and ed. by Judson Rosengrant (Princeton: Princeton UP, 1991). PN 56 P93 G513 1991

Sona Hoisington, ed., *A Plot of Her Own: The Female Protagonist in Russian Literature*, (Evanston, IL: Northwestern UP, 1995). PG 3096 W6 P57 1995

Deborah A. Martinsen, ed., *Literary Journals in Imperial Russia*, ed. by (New York: Cambridge UP, 1997). PN 5277 L6 L58 1997

Irina Paperno, *Chernyshevsky and the Age of Realism: A Study in the Semiotics of Behavior* (Stanford: Stanford UP, 1988). PG 2947 C3 P3 1988

Naomi Schor, *George Sand and Idealism* (New York: Columbia UP, 1993). PQ 2417 S36 1993

Irmhild Christina Sperrle, *The Organic Worldview of Nikolai Leskov* (Evanston, IL: Northwestern UP, 2002). PG 3337 L5 Z933 2002

### Reference Books

- Erich Auerbach, *Mimesis: The Representation of Reality in Western Literature* (1953, repr. Princeton: Princeton UP, 2003). PN 56 R3 A83 2003
- Neil Cornwell, ed., *Routledge Companion to Russian Literature* (New York: Routledge, 2001).
- , *Reference Guide to Russian Literature* (Chicago: Fitzroy Dearborn, 1998).  
Reference: PG 2940 R44 1998
- Jonathan Culler, *Literary Theory: A Very Short Introduction* (New York: Oxford UP, 1997, 2000). PN 81 C857X 2000
- Marina Ledkovsky, Charlotte Rosenthal, and Mary Zirin, eds., *Dictionary of Russian Women Writers* (Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1994). Reference: PG 2997 D53 1994
- Ralph E. Matlaw, ed., *Belinsky, Chernyshevsky, and Dobrolyubov: Selected Criticism* (Bloomington: Indiana UP, 1976, c1962). PG 3011 M33 1976
- Prince D. S. Mirsky, *A History of Russian Literature: From its Beginnings to 1900* (Evansville: Northwestern UP, 1999). PG 2951 M49 1958
- Christine A. Rydel, ed., *Russian Literature in the Age of Pushkin and Gogol. Prose. Dictionary of Literary Biography*, v. 198 (Detroit: Gale Research, 1999). Reference: PS 129 D53X V.198
- Victor Terras, *Handbook of Russian Literature* (New Haven: Yale UP, 1985). Reference: PG 2940 H29 1985
- Christine Tomei, ed., *Russian Women Writers*, 2 vols. (New York: Garland Publishing, 1999). PG 3203 W64 R868 1999

### Syllabus

#### Week 1 Introduction: Which Realism?

W Sept 6

#### Week 2 Ivan Sergeevich Turgenev (1818-83), *Zapiski okhotnika* (Notes of a Hunter, 1852), *PSSiP*, vol. 3 (Moscow, 1979), 7-18. PG3420 A1 1961A

M Sept 11

- Pavel Annenkov ( Letter to I. S. Turgenev, October 1852)

W Sept 13

- Aristotle's *Poetics*, especially the opening on art as imitation
- Erich Auerbach, *Mimesis* (1953), Epilogue (554-57)
- Mirsky, ch. 6-8, (177-301)
- Terras, "Realism," 363-67.

#### Week 3 Evgeniia Tur [pseudonym for Elisaveta Vasil'evna Salias de Turnemir] (1815-1892), "Dolg" (1851), in *Serditse chutkogo prozren'em: Povesti i rasskazy russkikh pisatel'nits XIX v.*, ed. by N. I. Iakushin (Moscow, 1991), 246-93. PG 3273 S47X 1991

M Sept 18

- Tomei, ed., "Evgeniia Tur," 1: 349-69.

- English Realism: Ian Watt, *The Rise of the Novel* (1957, repr. 2001), Ch. 1, "Realism and the novel form" (9-34), Ch. 10, "Realism and the later tradition," 290-301. PR 851 W38X 2001

W Sept 20

- I. S. Turgenev, Review of *Plemiannitsa* (1851), by Evgeniia Tur, *Polnoe sobranie sochinenii i pisem v tridsati tomakh*, vol. 4 (Moscow, 1980), 473-90.

Week 4 French Sentimentalism, Realism, and Idealism

M Sept 25 French Realism: **Honoré de Balzac** (1799-1850), "Sarrasine" (1831) in

- Roland Barthes, *S/Z*, trans. by Richard Miller (1970), 221-54; XI. The Five Codes (18-20), XIII. Citar (22-26). P 99 B313 1974

W Sept 27 **George Sand** (1804-76), *Lélia* (1833, 1839), trans., with an intro., by Maria Espinosa. (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1978). PQ 2406 A43X

- Nigel Harkness, "Resisting Realist Petrification in George Sand's *Lélia* and Balzac's *Sarrasine*," *French Studies* 59.2 (2005): 159-72.  
<http://fs.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/content/abstract/59/2/159>

Week 5 Feminism and Realism

M Oct 2 No class

W Oct 4 **George Sand**

- Toril Moi, *Sexual/Textual Politics* (London: Methuen, 1985), 1-18, 42-49. PN 98 W64 M65 1985
- Naomi Schor, Ch. 1, "Idealism in the Novel: Recanonizing Sand," *George Sand and Idealism* (New York: Columbia UP, 1993), 23-54. PQ 2417 S36 1993
- Margaret Cohen, Ch. 1, "Conflicting Duties: Sentimental Poetics," *The Sentimental Education of the Novel* (Princeton: Princeton UP, 1999), 26-76. PQ 653 C54 1999

Week 6 Russian Realism in Theory and Practice

M Oct 9 **Ivan Goncharov** (1812-91), *Obyknovennaia istoriia* (A Common Story, 1847), PG 3337 G6 O2 1951

- Margaret Cohen, "Preface: Reconfiguring Realism," *Spectacles of Realism: Gender, Body, Genre*, ed. by Margaret Cohen and Christopher Prendergast (Minneapolis: U of Minnesota P, 1995), vii-xiii.
- Christopher Prendergast, "Introduction: Realism, God's Secret, and the Body," *Spectacles of Realism: Gender, Body, Genre*, ed. by Margaret Cohen and Christopher Prendergast (Minneapolis: U of Minnesota P, 1995), 1-10.
- Lydia Ginzburg, "Introduction," 3-24.

W Oct 11 **Vissarion Belinsky** (1811-48), "Sochineniia Aleksandra Pushkina, Stat'ia piataia," *Polnoe sobranie sochinenii*, vol. 7 (Moscow, 1955), 302-57. PG 2933 B4 1953

- Victor Terras, "Belinsky the Journalist and Russian Literature," *Literary Journals*, 117-28.
- Lydia Ginzburg, "Belinskii and the Emergence of Realism," 58-101.
- Paperno, "Introduction," 1-38.
- Roman Jakobson, "On Realism in Art" (1921), *Readings in Russian Poetics: Formalist and Structuralist Views*, ed. by Ladislav Matejka and Krystyna Pomorska (Cambridge: MIT Press, 1971), 38-46.

Week 7      **Lev Tolstoy** (1828-1910), *Semeinoe schast'e* (Family Happiness, 1859) *PSS*, vol. 5 (M-L, 1931), 67-143. PG 3365 A1 1959

M      Oct 16

- Irina Reyfman, "Female Voice and Male Gaze in *Family Happiness*," *Mapping the Feminine* (Forthcoming).

W      Oct 18

- *Chto takoe iskusstvo?* (What is Art?, 1896), *PSS*, vol. 30, 27-203.

Week 8      **Nadezhda Sokhanskaia** (1823-84), *Posle obeda v gostiakh* (An After-Dinner Visit, 1858), *Povesti* vol. 1 (Moscow, 1863), 1-64.

M      Oct 23

- N. D. Khvoshchinskaia, "Provintsial'nye pis'ma o nashei literature, pis'mo vtoroe," *Otechestvennye zapiski* 140.1 (1862): 364-74.

W      Oct 25

- I. S. Aksakov, letter to N. S. Sokhanskaia, April 7, 1858, "Perepiska Aksakovykh s N. S. Sokhanskoi (Kokhanovskoi)," *Russkoe obozrenie* 43.2 (1897): 572-74.

Week 9      **Fyodor Dostoevsky** (1821-81)

M      Oct 30 "Gospodin B-ov i vopros ob iskusstve" (1861), *Polnoe sobranie sochinenii. v 30-ti t.*, vol. 18 (Moscow, 1982) PG 3325 A1 1972

- Robert L. Belknap, "Survey of Russian Journals, 1840-1880," *Literary Journals*, 91-116.
- Deborah A. Martinsen, "Dostoevsky's *Journal of a Writer*: Journal of the 1870s," *Literary Journals*, 150-68.

W      Nov 1 "Krotkaia" (The Meek One, *Dnevnik pisatel'ia*, Nov-Dec, 1876), *Pss*, 24: 5-35.

- Harriet Murav, "Reading Woman in Dostoevsky," *A Plot of Her Own: The Female Protagonist in Russian Literature*, ed. by Sona Hoisington (Evanston, IL: Northwestern UP, 1995), 44-57. PG 3096 W6 P57 1995

Week 10      **Nadezhda Khvoshchinskaia** (1820-89), "Svidanie" (The Meeting, 1879) in *Serdtshe chutkogo prozren'em: Povesti i rasskazy russkikh pisatel'nits XIX v.*, ed. by N. I. Iakushin (Moscow, 1991), PG 3273 S47X 1991; and in *Svidanie: Proza russkikh pisatel'nits 60-80-kh godov XIX veka*, ed. by V. V. Uchenova (Moscow, 1987). PG 3263 S84X 1987

M Nov 6

W Nov 8

Week 11      **Nikolai Leskov** (1831-95), *Zapechatlennyi angel* (The Sealed Angel, 1873), *Sobranie sochinenii* 11 vols. (Moscow, 1956-58). PG 3337 L5 1956

M Nov 13

- Irmhild Christina Sperrle, "Introduction," *The Organic Worldview of Nikolai Leskov* (Evanston, IL: Northwestern UP, 2002). PG 3337 L5 Z933 2002

W Nov 15

Week 12      **Nikolai Leskov**

M Nov 20

W No class

Week 13      **Mikhail Saltykov-Shchedrin** (1826-89), *Gospoda Golovlovy* (The Golovlyov Family, 1872-76) PG 3361 S3 G6 1959

M Nov 27

W Nov 29

Week 14      **Anton Chekhov** (1860-1904), *V sumerkakh* (At Twilight, 1887), *PSSiP*, Vol. 6, PG 3455 A1 1944

M Dec 4 "Vragi" (Enemies), 6: 30-43.

W Dec 6 "Doma" (At Home), 6: 97-106.

Week 15      **Anton Chekhov**

M Dec 11 "Verochka" (Little Vera), 6: 69-81.

Final: Take home, due Wednesday, Dec 20, 2006.