

Harriman Institute/East Central European Center Graduate Course Listing Fall 2023

The following courses fulfill the regional course requirements for the Harriman Institute/East Central European Certificate, the MA in Regional Studies: Russia, Eurasia, and Eastern Europe (MARS-REERS), and the SIPA Regional Specialization. Further course details may be found by visiting the appropriate department's website.

Please Note: Any course marked with an asterisk (***) must be approved for regional credit by a Harriman advisor prior to enrollment. For Harriman approval of courses not listed which you believe may fulfill regional requirements, please contact [Rebecca Dalton](#) or [Elise Giuliano](#).

Regional Languages: The following languages satisfy the Harriman Certificate & MARS-REERS language requirements and are currently being offered: Armenian, Czech, Hungarian, ***Persian, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Serbo-Croatian-Bosnian, ***Turkish, Ukrainian, and Yiddish. Please consult the Directory of Classes for language times and sections.

Room assignments and class schedules are subject to change. Please consult the Columbia Directory of Classes on-line at www.columbia.edu/cu/bulletin/uwb for final confirmation.

Bosnian-Croatian-Serbian

ADVANCED BOSNIAN-CROATIAN-SERBIAN

Bosnian-Croatian Serbian GU4331 Call Number: 10371 **Points:** 3 [View in Vergil](#)

Day/Time: TR 1:10am-2:25pm **Location:** To be announced

Instructor: Aleksandar Boskovic

Prerequisites: BCRS UN2102 Further develops skills in speaking, reading, and writing, using essays, short stories, films, and fragments of larger works. Reinforces basic grammar and introduces more complete structures.

Comparative Literature: Russian

DOSTOEVSKY, TOLSTOY & ENGLISH NOVEL

Comparative Literature: Russian GU4011 Call Number: 10076 **Points:** 3 [View in Vergil](#)

Day/Time: MW 10:10AM-11:25AM **Location:** To be announced

Instructor: Liza Knapp

A close reading of works by Dostoevsky (*Netochka Nezvanova*; *The Idiot*; "A Gentle Creature") and Tolstoy (*Childhood*, *Boyhood*, *Youth*; "Family Happiness"; *Anna Karenina*; "The Kreutzer Sonata") in conjunction with related English novels (Bronte's *Jane Eyre*, Eliot's *Middlemarch*, Woolf's *Mrs. Dalloway*). No knowledge of Russian is required.

POETS, REBELS, EXILES: 100 YEARS OF RUSSIANS AND RUSSIAN JEWS IN AMERICA

Comparative Literature: Russian GU4037 Call Number: 12481 **Points:** 3 [View in Vergil](#)

Day/Time: M 4:10-6:00PM **Location:** 1201 International Affairs Building

Instructor: Anna Katsnelson

Poets, Rebels, Exiles examines the successive generations of the most provocative and influential Russian and Russian Jewish writers and artists who brought the cataclysm of the Soviet and post-Soviet century to North America. From Joseph Brodsky—the bad boy bard of Soviet Russia and a protégé of Anna Akhmatova, who served 18 months of hard labor near the North Pole for social parasitism before being exiled—to the most recent artistic descendants, this course will interrogate diaspora, memory, and nostalgia in the cultural production of immigrants and exiles.

Comparative Literature: Slavic

HOLOCAUST LITERATURE: Critical Thinking

Comparative Literature: Slavic GU4012 Call Number: 14134 **Points:** 3 [View in Vergil](#)

Day/Time: W 4:10PM-6:00PM **Location:** To be announced

Instructor: Offer Dynes

How do you write literature in the midst of catastrophe? To whom do you write if you don't know whether your readership will survive? Or that you yourself will survive? How do you theorize society when the social fabric is tearing apart? How do you develop a concept of human rights at a time when mass extermination is deemed legal? How do you write Jewish history when Jewish future seems uncertain?

This course offers a survey of the literature and intellectual history written during World War II (1939-1945) both in Nazi occupied Europe and in the free world, written primarily, but not exclusively, by Jews. We will read novels, poems, science fiction, historical fiction, legal theory and social theory and explore how intellectuals around the world responded to the extermination of European Jewry as it happened and how they changed their understanding of what it means to be a public intellectual, what it means to be Jewish, and what it means to be human.

The aim of the course is threefold. First, it offers a survey of the Jewish experience during WWII, in France, Russia, Poland, Latvia, Romania, Greece, Palestine, Morocco, Iraq, the USSR, Argentina, and the United States. Second, it introduces some of the major contemporary debates in holocaust studies. Finally, it provides a space for a methodological reflection on how literary analysis, cultural studies, and historical research intersect.

SOCIALIST WORLD LITERATURE

Comparative Literature: Slavic GU4016 Call Number: 16233 **Points:** 3 [View in Vergil](#)

Day/Time: T 4:10PM-6:00PM **Location:** To be announced

Instructor: Daniel Pratt

This course researches the potentiality and development of a Socialist World Literature. Students will learn about the more contemporary constructions of World Literature in the West, and then look at how the Soviet Union and its satellites potentially crafted an alternative to the contemporary construction. The class will then examine whether the Soviet version addressed some of the criticism of the contemporary definitions of World Literature, particularly through addressing the colonialism and nationalism.

Students will learn about the complex history of World Literature and its definitions, reading the

major theorists of the concept as well as the major critics. They will also create their own arguments about World Literature in a highly-scaffolded major project due at the end of the term. All readings will be provided online.

THE CENTRAL EUROPEAN GROTESQUE

Comparative Literature: Slavic GU4017 Call Number: 16234 Points: 3 [View in Vergil](#)

Day/Time: MW 2:40PM-3:55PM **Location:** To be announced

Instructor: Daniel Pratt

Central Europe is home to large number of authors, artists, and directors who made use of the critical power of the grotesque. Beginning from the fin-de-siecle and moving to the contemporary moment, students will get to know a wide range of grotesque art from Central Europe as well as several of the critical approaches to the subject. The course should be of interest to anyone studying Central European culture, as well as students interested in cultural studies more generally.

Students will learn to identify and analyze examples of the grotesque through a variety of theoretical lenses. They will also enrich their knowledge of Central European literature and culture.

UKRAINE. LITERATURE AND POLITICS

Comparative Literature: Slavic GUXXXX Call Number: Not yet Listed Points: 1

Day/Time: TBD **Location:** TBD

Notes: R credit or P/F only

Instructor: Andriy Kurkov

The course will consider the relationship between politics and literature in Ukraine, focusing on the late Soviet period up to the present, but also covering the tragic pages of the history of Ukrainian literature in the 1920s-1930s, when Ukrainian creatives loyal to the Soviet regime were seemingly granted freedom of expression only to be brutally suppressed.

We will trace the emergence of new post-Soviet literature and consider texts which were written in reaction to “dead Soviet literature”. We will analyze why the first post-soviet generation of young Ukrainian authors was consciously apolitical and how this generation matured, experienced some dramatic events in Ukrainian politics and society, and formed their own political views. We will analyze how these views are reflected in the writer’s texts.

We will consider the extent to which literature influenced Ukrainian society immediately after 1991, in the late 1990s, and up to the present day. What has been the role of the writer in Ukrainian society through this 30-year period?

Separately, we will consider and try to model the near future of Russian-language and Crimean-Tatar literature in the context of Ukrainian literature and politics.

POST COLONIAL/POST SOVIET CINEMA

Comparative Literature: Slavic GU4075 Call Number: 10290 Points: 3 [View in Vergil](#)

Day/Time: T 6:10PM-10:00PM **Location:** To be announced

Instructor: Yuri Shevchuk

The course will discuss how filmmaking has been used as an instrument of power and imperial domination in the Soviet Union as well as on post-Soviet space since 1991. A body of selected films by Soviet and post-Soviet directors which exemplify the function of filmmaking as a tool of appropriation of the colonized, their cultural and political subordination by the Soviet center will be

examined in terms of postcolonial theories. The course will focus both on Russian cinema and often overlooked work of Ukrainian, Georgian, Belarusian, Armenian, etc. national film schools and how they participated in the communist project of fostering a «new historic community of the Soviet people as well as resisted it by generating, in hidden and, since 1991, overt and increasingly assertive ways their own counter-narratives. Close attention will be paid to the new Russian film as it re-invents itself within the post-Soviet imperial momentum projected on the former Soviet colonies.

Czech

READINGS IN CZECH LITERATURE I

Czech GU4333 Call Number: 10365 **Points:** 3 [View in Vergil](#)

Day/Time: TR 4:10PM-5:25PM **Location:** to be announced

Instructor: Christopher W Harwood

Prerequisites: two years of college Czech or the equivalent. A close study in the original of representative works of Czech literature. Discussion and writing assignments in Czech aimed at developing advanced language proficiency.

History

THE BLACK SEA IN HISTORY

History GU4218 Call Number: 10383 **Points:** 4 [View in Vergil](#)

Day/Time: M 2:10pm-4:00pm **Location:** To be announced

Instructor: Catherine Evtuhov

We are used to thinking of history in national terms, or at least in reference to major civilizations (“Western civilization,” “Near Eastern civilization,” etc.). In “real life,” however, interactions among people, linguistic communities, and cultures frequently cut across political divisions. Water - rivers, streams, seas - is often an invitation to settlement, commerce, and conquest. This course offers a look (inspired in part by Fernand Braudel's Mediterranean) at a body of water - the Black Sea - and the lands around it, in sweeping historical perspective. Focus is on those moments when the various civilizations and empires that originated and flourished around the Black Sea met and intersected in friendship or in enmity. We will look at ancient civilizations, Greek colonization, Byzantine-Slav interactions, the period of Ottoman dominance, Russian-Turkish rivalry, and decolonization and wars in the 19th and 20th centuries. We hope that we will be able to pay particular attention to questions of ecology, language, religion, and cultural interaction throughout.

HISTORY OF THE ARCTIC AND ITS CLIMATE

History GU4940 Call Number: 13395 **Points:** 4 [View in Vergil](#)

Day/Time: R 4:10pm-6:00pm **Location:** To be announced

Instructor: Julia Lajus

The Arctic currently is in the middle of scientific inquiry and international politics. This fuels the interest in the history of this internationally constructed region. The Arctic is important not just because it is home to the iconic polar animals and four million people, but also because the presence of sea ice is crucial for the planet's climate in the age of the Anthropocene. How do we write the history of the Arctic? This course surveys the transformations of this space over the last millennium, paying special attention to the driving roles played by climate and by human

interventions. Controversies around the medieval warm period, the Little Ice Age, the “warming of the Arctic” of the 1930s, as well as Global Warming, are discussed in connection with human exploration, exploitation, and scientific study. The course will introduce students to approaches in climate and environmental history, the history of the use of biological and mineral resources, animal history, and the history of transnational connections in the Arctic, especially during the Cold War, including the history of Arctic science and technology. It also touches upon such significant subjects as race and gender in polar exploration and reflections on Arctic ice in media and culture, including in Indigenous cultures. The course in a form of a seminar provides an interdisciplinary milieu for students with different backgrounds: science, especially climate science and sustainable development, history, political science, international relations, and others.

GRADUATE SEMINAR: UKRAINE IN WORLD WAR II

History GR6999 sec. XX Call Number: Not yet listed **Points:** 4

Day/Time: TBD **Location:** TBD

Instructor: Myroslav Shkandrij

The current Russo-Ukrainian war has focused renewed attention on Ukraine’s experience during WW2. This course examines several topics that have remained controversial: the political situation on the eve of war, German and Soviet policies toward Ukraine, life under German and Soviet occupations, the ideology and actions of the Ukrainian nationalist movement, the role of the ‘Galicia’ Division, the Holocaust in Ukraine, and the Polish-Ukrainian conflict. Students are introduced to approaches by different scholars, to current debates in memory politics, and to representations of the war in literature and film.

GRADUATE SEMINAR: UKRAINE AND EMPIRE

History GR6999 sec. XX Call Number: Not yet listed **Points:** 4

Day/Time: TBD **Location:** TBD

Instructor: Myroslav Shkandrij

Ukraine and Russia have been profoundly marked by the imperial experience, which has involved state expansion, cultural appropriation and assimilation. For three centuries leading cultural and political figures in Russia expressed attitudes toward Ukraine that today contribute to a “colonizing” mentality. This course looks at classic expressions of the imperial attitude, how it was challenged in Ukraine, and how it has resurfaced in the present war. Readings from historians are supplemented with source materials from creative literature, art, film, political propaganda and journalism.

Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies

*****WAR GENOCIDE AND AFTERMATH**

Middle East GU4357 Call Number:10903 **Points:** 4 [View in Vergil](#)

Day/Time: M 4:10-6:00 PM **Location:** To be announced

Instructor: Khatchig Mouradian

This 4000-level course examines how societies grapple with the legacy of mass violence, through an exploration of historical texts, memoirs, textbooks, litigation, and media reports and debates on confronting the past. Focusing on case studies of the Herero Genocide, the Armenian genocide during WWI, and the Holocaust and the Comfort Women during WWII, students investigate the crime and its sequelae, looking at how societies deal with skeletons in their closets (engaging in

silence, trivialization, rationalization, and denial to acknowledgment, apology, and repair); surveying responses of survivors and their descendants (with particular attention to intergenerational transmission of trauma, forgiveness, resentment, and the pursuit of redress); and dissecting public debates on modern day issues that harken back to past atrocities.

Polish

ADVANCED POLISH

Polish GU4101 Call Number: 10285 **Points:** 3 [View in Vergil](#)

Day/Time: TR 11:40am-12:55pm **Location:** To be announced

Instructor: Christopher Caes

Prerequisites: two years of college Polish or the instructor's permission. Extensive readings from 19th- and 20th-century texts in the original. Both fiction and nonfiction, with emphasis depending on the interests and needs of individual students.

Political Science

RUSSIAN POLITICS: HOW AUTOCRACY WORKS

Political Science GU4455 Call Number: 15675 **Points:** 3 [View in Vergil](#)

Day/Time: TR 2:40AM-3:55AM **Location:** To be announced

Instructor: Timothy Frye

This course is designed to give students the tools to understand the politics of post-Soviet Russia through the lens of theories of modern autocracy and by putting Russian in comparative perspective. Among other topics, we will explore: Why did the Soviet Union collapse? Why was economic reform in Russian in the 1990s so difficult? How does autocracy influence economic development? How does Russia's autocracy work? Why has Russia become increasingly repressive in the Putin era? Why did Russia invade Ukraine in 2022? What are the prospects for political change? How does economic inequality influence a country's form of government? In addition to answering these questions, we will also examine the many difficult challenges in identifying the causes and consequences of studying autocracy. The course not only hopes to use modern theories of autocracy to understand Russia, but also to use the Russian case to build theories of modern autocracy. This course will help students keep up with rapidly unfolding events but is designed primarily to help them develop tools for interpreting and understanding the politics of autocratic Russia.

***GLOBAL ENERGY: SECURITY/GEOPOLITICS

Political Science GU4814 Call Number: 13529 **Points:** 3 [View in Vergil](#)

Day/Time: MW 10:10AM-12:00PM **Location:** To be announced

Instructor: Albert Bininachvili

The course focuses on the nexus between energy and security as it reveals in the policies and interaction of leading energy producers and consumers. Topics include: Hydrocarbons and search for stability and security in the Persian Gulf, Caspian basin, Eurasia, Africa and Latin America; Russia as a global energy player; Analysis of the impact of Russia's invasion of Ukraine on energy markets, global security, and the future of the energy transition; Role of natural gas in the world energy balance and European energy security; Transformation of the global energy governance structure; Role and evolution of the OPEC; Introduction into energy economics; Dynamics and

fundamentals of the global energy markets; IOCs vs NOCs; Resource nationalism, cartels, sanctions and embargoes; Asia's growing energy needs and its geo-economic and strategic implications; Nuclear energy and challenges to non-proliferation regime; Alternative and renewable sources of energy; Climate change as one of the central challenges of the 21st century; Analysis of the policies, technologies, financial systems and markets needed to achieve climate goals. Climate change and attempts of environmental regulation; Decarbonization trends, international carbon regimes and search for optimal models of sustainable development. Special focus on implications of the shale revolution and technological innovations on U.S. energy security.

Regional Institute

RUSSIA AND THE EUROPEAN UNION

Regional Institute U6515 Call Number: 17280 **Points:** 3 [View in Vergil](#)

Day/Time: W 2:10pm-4:00pm **Location:** 1219 International Affairs Building

Instructor: Irina Busygina

This course delves to an important, complex, and unique subsystem of international relations: relationship between Russia and the European Union. These are relations between the union of democratic states and major consolidated autocracy that are in close proximity to each other and have a shared neighborhood. The study of complex interactions between polities of a different nature requires various theoretical explanations regarding the types of power in international relations (and their constraints and possibilities), interdependencies and their implications, as well as the role of institutions. The course covers all major dimensions of relations between Russia and the European Union – political, economic, and cultural, as well as paying attention to the countries “in between”. The war unleashed by Russia in Ukraine and its current and long-term implications for the European continent will also be the subject of close attention during the course.

WRITING ON EURASIA

Regional Institute U6522 Call Number: 16834 **Points:** 1.5 [View in Vergil](#)

Day/Time: Th 2:10pm-4:00pm **Location:** 1201 International Affairs Building

Notes: Course Dates Oct 20 to Dec 12

Instructor: Justin Burke

This course is designed to help MA-level students improve their researching and writing skills, and become adept at distilling acquired knowledge into straightforward prose. The aim is to assist students in being more effective communicators regardless of whether they pursue careers in academia, journalism, government service, private enterprise or the non-governmental sector. The course will also promote better understanding of how to get work published by mass media outlets. The course places particular emphasis on practical work, including the preparation of commentaries and book reviews concerning current affairs in Eurasia. Lectures examine the basic elements of editing, interviewing and concise writing. Other lectures focus on how to maintain personal and digital security while living and researching/working in Eurasia, and discuss best practices on harnessing social media for career advancement. Guest speakers will provide additional perspectives on ways to make writing on academic topics more accessible to the general reading public, and how to leverage expertise in Eurasian-area affairs in ways that can jump-start careers.

SYSTEMIC CORRUPTION IN EURASIA: COMPETITION, CONFLICT, AND WAR

Regional Institute U6534 Call Number: 16546 **Points:** 3 [View in Vergil](#)

Day/Time: M 2:10pm-4:00pm **Location:** 1219 International Affairs Building

Instructor: Matthew H Murray

In Russia, Ukraine, Moldova, Belarus, and other countries of the Eurasia region, corruption is systemic. Corruption, defined as the abuse of public trust and power for private gain, is institutionalized in government at the national, regional, and local levels. Formal government decision-making processes have been captured by informal networks of political and business elites who exert significant control over the allocation of public resources. They utilize this control to make illegal financial gains with the support of government authorities and protection of the law.

When President Putin began Russia's expanded military invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022, the imprisoned Russian anticorruption activist and political opposition leader Alexey Navalny was on trial once again over fabricated charges of embezzlement. Though Mr. Navalny faced another 15 years in a penal colony, he seized the opportunity during his February 24 hearing to publicly state his opposition to Russia's war on Ukraine. "This war between Russia and Ukraine was unleashed to cover up the theft from Russian citizens and divert their attention from problems that exist inside the country," he said.

This seminar examines the role that Russia's systemic corruption played as a cause of Russia's war against Ukraine. Is the war an extension, and drastic escalation, of the Putin regime's campaign against both his own citizens and the citizens of post-Maidan Ukraine? We will consider how the Kremlin's strategic use of corruption is threatening the sovereignty of other nations in Eurasia.

This seminar analyzes the political economy, power relationships, historical and cultural factors that have engendered systemic corruption in Eurasian countries. We identify different types of corrupt systems that have emerged in the regions. We will also examine how systemic corruption causes conflict and war, and poses a threat to the global economy and democracy. Finally, we analyze various anti-corruption reforms to understand why some failed while others succeeded.

The seminar will benefit SIPA and Harriman Institute students who specialize in regional studies of countries of the Eurasia. It will also benefit SIPA and other graduate students who specialize in international security, economics, finance, energy, law, development, conflict resolution, and journalism. To achieve a deep understanding of Eurasia corruption, we will examine causes and impacts from an interdisciplinary perspective.

HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE WESTERN BALKANS

Regional Institute U6545 Call Number: 16664 **Points:** 1.5 [View in Vergil](#)

Day/Time: T 6:10pm-8:00pm **Location:** 1201 International Affairs Building

Notes: Course Dates Oct 17 - Dec 5

Instructor: Tanya L Domi

This Human Rights practicum course focuses on the Western Balkans of the Former Yugoslavia in a contemporary context. The course focuses on war crimes and their respective consequences that have occurred during the most recent Balkan Wars 1991-1999 in the Former Yugoslav states and will include a detailed review and examination of human rights policies and practices carried out by international, regional and national bodies, laws, organizations, frameworks of transitional justice and

evaluative tools employed in an effort to stabilize a post-war, post-Communist, post-conflict scenario. The course will present and examine in detail policies and practices deployed by international and national state structures to address the legacies of war crimes and the emergence of new human rights issues that are currently present in the Former Yugoslav space. The course will require students to prepare a 10-page paper on a human rights issue in the region, analyze the issues, review implementation to date and recommend policy initiatives that will address the problem (75 percent of the grade). Students are expected to read weekly assignments and regularly participate and attend the class, which will constitute 25 percent of their final grade. Failure to attend class without a justifiable explanation will be penalized by a reduction of one grade letter.

CENTRAL ASIAN POLITICS AND SECURITY

Regional Institute U6652 Call Number: 16658 **Points:** 3 [View in Vergil](#)
Day/Time: T 4:10pm-6:00pm **Location:** 1219 International Affairs Building
Instructor: Lawrence Markowitz

This course surveys the politics and history of the five countries of contemporary Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan). In addition to imparting a substantive understanding of these countries, the course explores several conceptual lenses through which the region can be analyzed both over time and in comparison with other parts of the world. The first half of the course examines the political history of the region, with particular reference to how policies and practices of the Soviet state shaped the former republics of Soviet Central Asia. The second half turns to special topics at the center of the region's political and social life today. Coverage of these topics—which include democratization, Islam and the politics of counter-insurgency, women and definitions of the public sphere, the politics of nation-building, and international security—will involve light reading from other regions to provide comparative perspective.

NEWS & DISINFORMATION: PROPAGANDA, RUSSIA, & THE GEOPOLITICS OF INFORMATION

Regional Institute U8753 Call Number: 16548 **Points:** 3 [View in Vergil](#)
Day/Time: M 11:00am-12:50pm **Location:** 1201 International Affairs Building
Instructor: Thomas Kent

News and Disinformation is a highly current guide to the world news and information environment, the geopolitical effects of information, and the workings of propaganda and disinformation. The course teaches best practices for collecting and distributing reliable information, the geopolitical power of information, and the most effective ways to counter propaganda and disinformation. It includes a strong focus on information operations by Russia and the Soviet Union aimed at both internal and international audiences. It also asks if there is more than one truth and the degree to which Western countries do and should conduct their own propaganda. The course aims at students building skills in geopolitical analysis or Russian affairs or who expect to collect and convey actionable information for governments, militaries, news organizations, NGOs, or businesses. No special background in Russia is required.

UKRAINIAN FOREIGN POLICY: RUSSIA, EUROPE,

Regional Institute U8757 Call Number: 16654 **Points:** 3 [View in Vergil](#)
Day/Time: T 2:10pm-4:00pm **Location:** 1219 International Affairs Building
Instructor: Valerii Kuchynskyi

The newly revised 3 point seminar-like course deals with the performance of independent Ukraine on the international arena, its relationship with major powers: Russia, Europe and the US and the trajectory of its foreign policy. Having illegally annexed Crimea and conducting a proxy war in Eastern Ukraine, Russia has challenged the basic principles of international law, numerous bilateral agreements and threatening global peace and security. What is to be done to rebuff the aggressor? Can diplomacy still play a role? These and other issues are dealt with in this course. Special emphasis is made on the assessment of current conflict with Moscow and on the new trends in foreign policy doctrine. The issues of national security and current political situation are dealt with extensively. The course delivers first-hand insights by a career diplomat, who has been actively involved in the implementation of Ukrainian foreign policy for over three decades. The format of the course will encourage active dialogue and analytical reflection on the part of the students. The course is aimed at attracting both graduate and advanced undergraduate students.

FRAGMENTATION OF THE WORLD: UKRAINE AND TAIWAN AS CASES

Regional Institute U8760 Call Number: 17341 **Points:** 1.5 [View in Vergil](#)

Day/Time: M 4:10pm-6:00pm **Location:** 1219 International Affairs Building

Notes: Oct 23, 2023- Dec 11, 2023

Instructor: Klaus Segbers

After the collapse of the USSR in 1991 and the (at least economic) opening-up of China in 1992, it seemed safe to assume that ‘Western’ values, institutions, and habits were converging toward some general denominator, like liberalism and rule-based societies and states. Well-established theories like democratic peace, modernization theory, and institutionalism were widely discussed and also taught in countries undergoing serious transformations. Today, 30 years later, and especially in the last 12 months, it became clear that these assumptions had a limited expiration date. The most apparent problems (from a Western perspective) are generated by China and Russia, joined by Iran, Myanmar, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and others. In official discourses and personal encounters, one gets the clear message that ‘Western’ values are not only explicitly not shared, but often addressed in negative and contemptuous ways. Democracy, secularism, multipolarity, rule-based governance, individualism, and pluralism are criticized and replaced by more collective orientations, a strong belief in ‘sovereignty,’ or dominance of traditional social (family) values and religious norms. The number of countries representing democracy, liberalism, and rule orientation is shrinking. While we cannot focus on all of these trends and issues, it may be possible to look at a few selected cases, which are different but also show some similarities. All these cases are involved (to various degrees) in current conflicts, including a war. This seminar will address the role of interests and values of six actors involved in two cases: the war between Russia and Ukraine, the role of the E.U. as an external stakeholder, and the other increasingly shrill conflict about Taiwan between the P.R. of China, Taiwan, and the U.S.A. The core question is - regarding all six actors - a) what are the assumed interests for each group of actors, and b) what are the plausible guiding values we can identify? The findings may be more precise for some actors than others, but that is how things are. A special space will be reserved for the role of increasing uncertainties, unclear aims, or ‘survival’ as the dominant interest.

Russian/Eurasian/Eastern European Regional Studies

M.A. THESIS I

Russian, Eurasian, E. Europe Regional GR6998 Call Number: 10001 Points: 1

Day/Time: F 12:10pm-2:00pm **Location:** 1201 International Affairs Building

Instructor: Elise Giuliano

M.A. THESIS II

Russian, Eurasian, E. Europe Regional GR6999 Call Number: 10003 Points: 2

Instructor: Elise Giuliano

LEGACIES OF THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE AND THE SOVIET UNION

Russian, Eurasian, E. Europe Regional GR8445 Call Number: 18502 Points: 4 [View in Vergil](#)

Day/Time: W 4:10PM-6:00PM **Location:** 1219 International Affairs Building

Notes: Instructor permission required for non-MARS-REERS students

Instructor: Elise Giuliano

This intensive course offers an introduction to multiple disciplinary and cross-disciplinary approaches to the major issues defining the emergence, persistence, and transformation of the countries that once comprised the Soviet bloc. The course explores the history, politics, economies, societies, and political cultures of Russia, the non-Russian republics of the former USSR, and East Central Europe, focusing on the conceptual, methodological, and theoretical developments employed by Soviet studies in North America and related disciplines. It also critically interrogates the enduring relevance and problems posed by the widespread use of the term “Soviet legacy” in reference to contemporary features and challenges faced by the region.

The intensive nature of this course is reflected in two ways- preparation and focus. First, the course carries a substantial reading load designed to inform and prepare students for the course sessions. These assignments will mostly be academic readings, but may also include short videos, news articles, and digital archival materials. In order to use our time together productively, the lectures and discussion will build upon, not review, the assignments for the session. Each session typically will be split into 2 segments, roughly of 55-60 minutes each. Many of these segments will be taught by guest lecturers who will give 30 mins presentations on their topic and then field questions. During our limited time for Q&A students should ask single, concise questions.

Russian

FOURTH-YEAR RUSSIAN I

Russian GU4342 Call Number: 12330 Points: 4 [View in Vergil](#)

Day/Time: MWF 2:40PM-3:55PM **Location:** 709 Hamilton Hall

Notes: UN 3101 and UN3102, or placement test

Instructor: Tatiana Mikhailova

Systematic study of problems in Russian syntax; written exercises, translations into Russian, and compositions. Conducted entirely in Russian.

LITERARY TRANSLATION

Russian GU4910 Call Number: 10405 **Points:** 4 [View in Vergil](#)

Day/Time: T 4:10pm-6:00pm **Location:** To be announced

Instructor: Ronald Meyer

Prerequisites: four years of college Russian or the equivalent. Workshop in literary translation from Russian into English focusing on the practical problems of the craft. Each student submits a translation of a literary text for group study and criticism. The aim is to produce translations of publishable quality.

18th CENTURY RUSSIAN LITERATURE

Russian GR6040 Call Number: 10051 **Points:** 4 [View in Vergil](#)

Day/Time: M 4:10PM-6:00PM **Location:** To be announced

Instructor: Irina Reyfman

A survey of eighteenth century Russian poetry, prose, and drama in the original. The reading list includes Feofan Prokopovich, Vasily Trediakovsky, Mikhailo Lomonosov, Aleksandr Sumarokov, Aleksandr Radishchev, Gavrila Derzhavin, and Nikolai Karamzin

ACMEISM

Russian GR6501 Call Number: 10094 **Points:** 4 [View in Vergil](#)

Day/Time: W 4:10PM-6:00PM **Location:** 709 Hamilton Hall

Instructor: Valentina Izmirlieva

Sociology

UKRAINIAN ACTIVISM AND PROTEST SINCE 1990

Sociology GU4004 Call Number: 15313 **Points:** 4 [View in Vergil](#)

Day/Time: W 6:10pm-8:00pm **Location:** 1201 International Affairs Building

Instructor: Emma Mateo

Ukrainians' response to Russia's full-scale invasion of the country in February 2022 has attracted global attention. Ukraine is also known to many for mass protests in Kyiv 2004 and 2013-14. However, fewer people know that Ukraine has a rich history of activism and protest throughout the country, going back decades. This course is designed to help students cultivate a deeper understanding of Ukraine's nationwide history of activism, from the late Soviet period to present-day. This knowledge will also help us better contextualize and analyze key episodes of resistance, protest and revolution in Ukraine, including the current war. Moreover, via the lens of activism and protest, this course intends to provide students with a more nuanced understanding of regional variation in Ukraine, empowering them to question simplistic narratives about Ukraine as a divided county. The multidisciplinary nature of this course also aims to encourage students to engage with Ukrainian art and cultural objects that relate to social and political themes.

Sustainable Development

SPECIAL TOPICS IN SDEV & CLIMATE: COLD WAR CLIMATE ENCOUNTERS

Sustainable Development GU4600 Call Number: 14132 **Points:** 3 [View in Vergil](#)

Day/Time: W 2:10pm-4:00pm **Location:** To be announced

Instructor: Julia Lajus

A novel course on the history of understanding of global climate crisis during the Cold War period and a role of science in the agenda of global climate change aims to demonstrate the connections of present state of knowledge and policy with the trajectory of the past. How much this past (s) could and should be useful is the focus of the discussions in the class. The discussions are based on historical narratives, including the history of institutional landscape of science, impacts of individual scientists, imaginaries of the future in the past. All narratives are imbedded in a larger socio-economic and political context. The unique dimension of the course is the inclusion of Soviet climate science which is considered as a global force with a significant knowledge circulations and participation in international organizations. The course is useful for climate students as well as for history and political science students.

Ukrainian

ADVANCED UKRAINIAN THROUGH LITERATURE, MEDIA, AND POLITICS

Ukrainian GU4006 Call Number: 10376 **Points:** 3 [View in Vergil](#)

Day/Time: MW 1:10PM-2:25PM **Location:** To be announced

Instructor: Yuri Shevchuk

This course is organized around a number of thematic centers or modules. Each is focused on stylistic peculiarities typical of a given functional style of the Ukrainian language. Each is designed to assist the student in acquiring an active command of lexical, grammatical, discourse, and stylistic traits that distinguish one style from the others and actively using them in real-life communicative settings in contemporary Ukraine. The styles include literary fiction, scholarly prose, and journalism, both printed and broadcast.