

SPRING 2025 COURSES IN UKRAINIAN STUDIES

FIN DE SIÈCLE UKRAINIAN LITERATURE: BEAUTY, DUTY AND DECADENCE

Slavic

GU4033

Points: 3

Tuesday and Thursdays, 1:10-2:25PM

Instructor: Mark Andryczyk

This course focuses on the onset of modernism in Ukrainian literature in the late 19th century and early 20th century, a period marked by a vigorous, often biting, polemic between the populist Ukrainian literary establishment and young Ukrainian writers who were inspired by their European counterparts. Students will read prose, poetry and drama written by Ivan Franko, Olha Kobylianska, Lesia Ukrainka, Vasyl Stefanyk, Mykhailo Kotsiubynsky, Volodymyr Vynnychenko and the writers of *Ukrainska Khata* and *Moloda Muza*, among others. The course will trace the introduction of feminism, urban motifs and settings, as well as decadence, into Ukrainian literature and will analyze the conflict that ensued among Ukrainian intellectuals as they set out forging the identity of the Ukrainian people. The course will be supplemented by audio and visual materials reflecting this period in Ukrainian culture. Entirely in English with a parallel reading list for those who read Ukrainian.

Mark Andryczyk can be reached at ma2634@columbia.edu

BETWEEN EMPIRE AND NATION: UKRAINE, 1772-1917

History

GR6999

Points: 4

Day/Time: *not yet listed*

Instructor: Serhiy Belinky

The focus of this 3000-level seminar is on the imperial experience of Ukraine and complex relations between tradition and modernity. When the powers of Europe were at their prime, present-day Ukraine was divided between the Austrian and Russian empires. Despite being subjected to different and conflicting power models during this time, Ukraine was not only imagined as a distinct entity with a unique culture and history but was also realized as a set of social and political institutions. In this seminar, we will explore such topics as the imperial expansionism; colonialism; antisemitism; the central role of cities and urbanization; the rise of nationalism; Ukraine's multiethnic society; and why empires fall, among others. Students learn why studying Ukraine is essential for our understanding of the modern world. We will use a variety of sources, including literary and visual. The course is open to both undergraduate and graduate students.

Serhiy Bilenky can be reached at: bilenky@ualberta.ca

WAR AND PEACE: EXPLORING CONTEMPORARY UKRAINE

History

GU4XXX

Points: 4

Day/Time: *not yet listed*

Instructor: Serhiy Bilenky

On 24 February 2022 Russia attacked Ukraine. How did we get there? This course will explore the complex relationship between Ukraine, Russia, and the West on the eve of Russia's war in Ukraine. We will cover Ukraine's pre-Soviet, Soviet, and post-Soviet history, with special attention to the country's current political, social, and cultural issues, including the legacies of the past in post-1991 Ukraine, corruption, the power of oligarchs, the role of mass civic protests such as Euromaidan, Ukraine's new cultural achievements, decommunization, post-Soviet urbanism, and the shaping of an inclusive civic identity and the challenge of radical nationalism in the wake of the Russian invasion. The seminar will also provide students with tools for verifying information in the fast-moving context of war. Finally, students will be asked to think about and develop postwar scenarios.

Serhiy Bilenky can be reached at: bilenky@ualberta.ca

UKRAINE: POWER POLITICS AND DIPLOMACY

Regional Institute

U8755

Points: 3

Wednesdays, 11:00 AM-12:50PM

Instructors: Valerii Kuchynskyi and Alexander J. Motyl

The seminar-like course consists of three parts: Historical Background, Thematic and Political Issues and Conclusions. It provides historical perspectives on the development of today's Ukraine, analyses the evolution of its politics since Independence and its quest for Euroatlantic integration. While providing an assessment of political, social and economic transformations, the course examines major causes of Euromaidan and the Revolution of Dignity. The current political situation in the country and the ongoing Russian aggression are thoroughly investigated. These and other issues, including behind-the-scenes activities, power struggle and diplomatic activities, are dealt with in the newly revised course delivered by a career diplomat. The format of the course will encourage active dialogue and analytical reflection on the part of the students. The professor regularly provides articles and reviews on the latest political developments. During the course each student is to prepare a mid-term and final papers exploring the prospects of Ukraine becoming a free, prosperous, democratic state and a member of European institutions or staying in the zone of Russian influence and the consequences thereof.

Valerii Kuchynskyi can be reached at: vk2187@columbia.edu
Alexander J. Motyl can be reached at: ajmotyl@andromeda.rutgers.edu

ELEMENTARY UKRAINIAN II

Slavic
UN1102
Points: 4
Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursday, 11:40AM-12:55PM
Instructor: Yuri Shevchuk

Designed for students with little or no knowledge of Ukrainian. Basic grammar structures are introduced and reinforced, with equal emphasis on developing oral and written communication skills. Specific attention to acquisition of high-frequency vocabulary and its optimal use in real-life settings.

INTERMEDIATE UKRAINIAN II

Slavic
UN2102
Points: 4
Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursday, 10:10AM-11:25AM
Instructor: Yuri Shevchuk

Prerequisites: UKRN W1102 or the equivalent. Reviews and reinforces the fundamentals of grammar and a core vocabulary from daily life. Principal emphasis is placed on further development of communicative skills (oral and written). Verbal aspect and verbs of motion receive special attention.

ADVANCED UKRAINIAN THROUGH LITERATURE, MEDIA, AND POLITICS II

Slavic
GU4007
Points: 3
Mondays and Wednesdays, 1:10PM-2:25PM
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

Dr. Shevchuk can be reached at: sy2165@columbia.edu

Courses at Columbia are open to students from other universities in the New York metropolitan area seeking credit. Please contact the university at which you enrolled to determine whether it participates in this manner with Columbia University. Some courses are also open to outside individuals interested in non-credit continuing studies. Please visit the Columbia University School of Professional Studies (<https://sps.columbia.edu/academics/auditing-programs>) for more details.

January 21st is the first day of classes. For more information about courses or the Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia University, please contact Dr. Mark Andryczyk at ukrainianstudies@columbia.edu or (212) 854-4697.