Tulane University Russian 345: Tolstoy and Dostoevsky Fall, 2001

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Texts: Tolstoy Great Short Works, ed. Bayley

Anna Karenina What is Art? Resurrection

Dostoevsky Great Short Works

Crime and Punishment The Brothers Karamazov The Possessed (Demons)

This course is an introduction to the work of the two leading Russian nineteenth-century novelists. The instructor will lecture on historical and literary backgrounds as needed; readings will be analyzed and discussed by all. Most classwork will consist of open and guided discussion. All points of view and approaches to literature are welcome, technical and non-technical. Expertise in literary theory is not required — students are asked only to have a good command of the content of the texts. Use of secondary materials will be minimal. Auditors are welcome (see instructor). No knowledge of Russian is required; various translations are acceptable, please show them to the instructor for approval.

I shall ask students to write two or three short critical papers and make one or two oral presentations in class (2 + 2 or 3 + 1; that is, two papers and two presentations, one for each writer, or three papers and one presentation, one paper for each writer). Attendance is highly recommended. Course grades will be based on papers and presentations (60%), take-home final (30%), recitation and attendance (10%). There will be no midterm. The texts we will read and the schedule of readings below are subject to change.

Schedule of Readings (subject to change — watch website).

Topics for oral presentations and papers will be discussed in advance.

R 30 Aug	Introduction.	1-1
T 4 Sep	Tolstoy: Great Short Works, "Master and Man,"	2-2
	"The Death of Ivan Ilich."	
R 6	Works, "The Devil," "Father Sergius."	2-3
T 11	Last day to register. "Hadji Murad."	3-4
	Oral presentations.	
R 13	Anna Karenina.	3-5
T 18		4-6
R 20		4-7
T 25	Oral presentations: Anna Karenina.	5-8
R 27	Yom Kippur holiday. No class today.	
T 2 Oct	Yesterday was last day to drop without record.	6-9
	Resurrection.	
R 4		6-10
T 9	conclusion of Resurrection or What is Art?	7-11
R 11	Conclusion of Tolstoy.	7-12

	Oral presentations.	
	One short paper due today, topics will be discussed	
	and approved in advance.	
T 16	Midterm grades for freshmen due tomorrow.	8-13
	Dostoevsky: Notes from Underground.	
R 18	Crime and Punishment.	8-14
T 23		9-15
R 25		9-16
T 30	Yesterday was last day to drop.	10-17
1 30	Oral presentations: Dostoevsky.	10-17
R 1 Nov	Demons (or short works, or other).	10-18
Т 6		11-19
R 8		11-20
	Oral presentations.	
T 13	The Brothers Karamazov.	12-21
R 15		12-22
T 20		13-23
R 22	Thanksgiving recess.	
T 27		14-24
R 29		14-25

T 4 Dec	Oral presentations: <i>The Brothers Karamazov</i> .	15-26
R 6	Last day of class. Take-home exam distributed.	15-27