

**R500 Proseminar in Russian Literature**

Fall 2008

W 4-6PM

BH 506

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Shorter essays are included either in David Lodge, *Modern Criticism and Theory. A Reader* (L) or in Matejka and Pomorska, *Readings in Russian Poetics* (R), or in material that I will make available on Oncourse. Other texts should be available at the Main Library or for purchase on line at amazon.com or other booksellers.

Dates of readings and assignments are approximate; modifications will be made depending on student interest/focus.

Week of September 1

Introduction  
Warren and Wellek, *Theory of Literature*.  
Parts I and II

Week of September 8

Warren and Wellek, Part III  
Saussure, Object of Study (L) and Nature of the  
Linguistic Sign (L)  
Matejka and Pomorska, *Readings*, Part I (except Literary  
Environment)  
Shklovskii, Art as Technique (L)

Week of September 15

Matejka and Pomorska, Part II and Part V  
Mukarovsky, Art as Semiotic Fact (M)  
Jakobson, Metaphoric and Metonymic Poles (L)

Week of September 22

Foucault, What is an Author?  
Barthes, The Death of the Author  
Genette, Structuralism and Literary Criticism  
Todorov, Typology of Detective Fiction (ALL L)

Week of September 29

Bakhtin, Discourse in the Novel (in *Dialogic  
Imagination*, ed. and trans. Holquist and Emerson)  
Emerson, Problems in Bakhtin's Poetics  
(*Slavic and East European Journal*, 32,

no. 4)

Week of October 6

Morson and Emerson, *Bakhtin, Creation  
of a Prosaics*  
Read Part I, from other sections as time and interest  
permit  
Any, Boris Eikhenbaum and Opoiuz  
*Slavic Review*, Fall 1990 (optional)  
Maguire, *Gogol from the Twentieth Century*

Week of October	13	Lotman, <i>The Text and the Structure of its Audience</i> NB: on Lotman, see obit. In SEEJ, 38:4 (winter 1994) Culler, <i>Literary Competence</i> (M) Frye, <i>The Archetypes of Literature</i> (M) Bloom, <i>Poetic Origins and Final Plans</i> (L)
Week of October	20	Iser, <i>The Reading Process</i> (L) Fish, <i>Literature in the Reader</i> (M) Interpreting the Variorum (L) <b>First assignment due</b>
Week of October	27	Showalter, <i>A Feminist Criticism in the Wilderness</i> (L) Ginzburg, <i>Problems of the Psychological Novel</i> In <i>On Psychological Prose</i>
Week of	November 3	Warren and Wellek, <i>Mode of Existence</i> Jakobson, <i>Closing Statement</i> (L)
Week of November	10	Unbegaun, <i>Russian Versification</i> (M)
Week of November	17	Lotman, <i>Analysis of the Poetic Text, Part I</i> 3-4 analyses from part II
Week of November	24	Free Class; Thanksgiving
Week of	December 1	<b>Second assignment due</b> ; presentation and discussion
Week of	December 8	Conclusion; free class.

There will be two assignments (brief papers) due during the course of the semester. The first will involve analysis of a short prose work; the second a formal analysis and interpretation of a poetic text. Details will be provided in class.