Unit I (11th-17th Centuries)

Week 1 (31 Aug-02 Sep) Origins: Slavs/East Slavs/Russians

Required Readings: SS. Cyril and Methodius; East Slav Tribal Unions (maps), Glagolitic and Cyrillic (alphabets), Rus as Land and People (1-13)(O)

Week 2 (07 Sep-09 Sep) Kiev: Christianity and Culture

Required Readings: PVL 1, PVL 2, PVL 3, Boris and Gleb (O)
Optional Reading: Thompson, Chapter 1

Week 3 (13 Sep-16 Sep) From Kiev to Muscovy

Required Readings: The Tale of Igor’s Campaign, Alexander Nevsky (O)
Optional Reading: Thompson, Chapters 2-3

Week 4 (21 Sep-23 Sep) Muscovy: The Realm of Orthodoxy

Required Readings: Peter and Fevronia of Murom, Tale of the White Cowl, Kurbsky-Grozny Correspondence (O)
Optional Reading: Thompson, Chapters 4-5

Week 5 (28 Sep-30 Sep) From Muscovy to Petersburg

Required Reading: The Life of Avvakum (O)

Test on Unit I
Unit II (18th-19th Centuries)

Week 6 (05-07 Oct) Peter and Petersburg/ Gentry and People

Read: Thompson, Chapters 6, 7
Pushkin The Captain’s Daughter
Excerpts from Avrich (on Oncourse)

Week 7 (12-14 Oct) The Empire Comes of Age/The Age of Pushkin

Read: Pushkin, "The Bronze Horseman" (O)
Film: Sokurov: Russian Ark

Week 8 (19-21 Oct) The Nineteenth Century

Gogol, "The Overcoat" (O)
Thompson, Chapters 8, 9

Week 9 (26-28 October) The Age of Realism

Read: "Music" (O)
Turgenev: "Bezhin Meadow" (O)

Week 10 (02-04 Nov) The Intelligentsia and the Folk

Read: Turgenev: Fathers and Sons

Test on Unit II

Unit III (20th-21st Centuries)

Week 11 (09-11 Nov) End of an Era/New Cultural Currents

Read: Thompson, Chapter 10
Chekhov: The Cherry Orchard (in Major Plays)
"Popular Culture"; "Theatre"; (Oncourse)
Video: Rite of Spring

Week 12 (16-18 Nov) Remaking the World

Read: Thompson, Chapters 11, 12
Companion: "Film" (Oncourse)
Film: Eisenstein: Battleship Potemkin
Week 13 (23 Nov) Catch-Up and Review

Week 14 (30 Nov-02 Dec) From Stalin to Medvedev (or is it still Putin?)

Read: Thompson, Chapters 13, 14, 15

Week 15 (07-09 Dec) Review/Conclusion

FINAL EXAMINATION: 2:45-4:45 PM, 16 Dec 2010

Grades will be based on the three tests, weighted equally (50%), and attendance, preparation and in-class participation (50%). Absences in excess of two will lower the final grade.

Students are reminded of university regulations concerning cheating and plagiarism, as discussed in the Student Handbook. Please note that material on the Internet, like material from written sources, must be properly acknowledged if quoted or used as a source.

Some materials will on Oncourse, indicated by (O). Assignments must be read by the date indicated, even if lectures run behind. You will be responsible on tests for materials in the readings and lectures, as well as for materials on Oncourse, including all visual material.

Basic Texts:

A. Chekhov, The Major Plays
A. Pushkin, The Queen of Spades and Other Stories
I. Turgenev, Fathers and Sons