

## Term Information

Effective Term Spring 2016

## General Information

Course Bulletin Listing/Subject Area Russian  
Fiscal Unit/Academic Org Slavic/East European Lang&Cul - D0593  
College/Academic Group Arts and Sciences  
Level/Career Graduate, Undergraduate  
Course Number/Catalog 5250.02  
Course Title The Russian Writer - Dostoevsky  
Transcript Abbreviation Russ Writ Dostoev  
Course Description Close Analysis of the major works of Fyodor Dostoevsky  
Semester Credit Hours/Units Variable: Min 3 Max 4

## Offering Information

Length Of Course 14 Week  
Flexibly Scheduled Course Never  
Does any section of this course have a distance education component? No  
Grading Basis Letter Grade  
Repeatable No  
Course Components Lecture  
Grade Roster Component Lecture  
Credit Available by Exam No  
Admission Condition Course No  
Off Campus Never  
Campus of Offering Columbus

## Prerequisites and Exclusions

Prerequisites/Corequisites  
Exclusions

## Cross-Listings

Cross-Listings

## Subject/CIP Code

Subject/CIP Code 16.0402  
Subsidy Level Doctoral Course  
Intended Rank Junior, Senior, Masters

## Requirement/Elective Designation

The course is an elective (for this or other units) or is a service course for other units

## Course Details

### Course goals or learning objectives/outcomes

- Develop a stronger understanding of Dostoevsky's major works and their social, political, philosophical, and aesthetic contexts.
- Trace the influences of Russian and Western writers such as Alexander Pushkin, Nikolai Gogol, Friedrich Schiller, and Victor Hugo on Dostoevsky's work.
- Explore Dostoevsky's polemics with radical thinkers such as Vissarion Belinsky and Nikolai Chernyshevsky.

### Content Topic List

- 19th Century Russian Literature
- Russian Novels
- Russian short stories
- Russian literature and its relations to other cultural phenomena

## Attachments

- Russian 5250.02 Appeal.docx: Appeal  
*(Appeal. Owner: Peterson,Derek)*
- Credit hour rationale.pdf: Additional Credit Hour Rationale  
*(Statement of Qualitative Difference. Owner: Peterson,Derek)*
- Russian 5250.02 Syllabus.docx  
*(Syllabus. Owner: Peterson,Derek)*
- R5250.02\_justification.docx  
*(Other Supporting Documentation. Owner: Peterson,Derek)*

## Comments

## Workflow Information

Status	User(s)	Date/Time	Step
Submitted	Peterson,Derek	09/01/2015 03:48 PM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Brintlinger,Angela Kay	09/02/2015 12:32 PM	Unit Approval
Approved	Heysel,Garett Robert	09/22/2015 10:26 PM	College Approval
Pending Approval	Nolen,Dawn Vankeerbergen,Bernadette Chantal Hanlin,Deborah Kay Jenkins,Mary Ellen Bigler Hogle,Danielle Nicole	09/22/2015 10:26 PM	ASCCAO Approval

**Spring 2016**  
**Russian 5250.02 (3-4 cr.)**  
**The Russian Writer: Fyodor Dostoevsky**  
**TuTh TBD**  
**Classroom TBD**

**Instructor: Prof. Alexander Burry**

**Email: burry.7@osu.edu**

**Office: 345 Hagerty Hall (center of building, across from classroom 351)**

**Office hours: TBD**

**Description**

This course will cover several of Fyodor Dostoevsky's major works from different periods: *The Double*, *Notes from Underground*, *The Idiot*, and *The Brothers Karamazov*. We will read the texts closely, considering their social, political, philosophical, and aesthetic contexts. In the course of doing so, we will trace the influences of Russian and Western writers such as Alexander Pushkin, Nikolai Gogol, Friedrich Schiller, and Victor Hugo on Dostoevsky's work, and explore his polemics with radical thinkers such as Vissarion Belinsky and Nikolai Chernyshevsky. Readings will also include critical articles and excerpts on Dostoevsky's novels.

**Class Structure**

Class sessions will consist of a combination of lecture and discussion. Generally, the first half of the class will be lecture, followed by class discussion after a short break. All readings and assignments must be done on time, and students should be prepared to contribute actively to all discussions. All readings are in English; graduate students specializing in Russian literature should read the primary texts in the original. You will usually have 150-200 pages of reading per week.

**Readings**

Fyodor Dostoevsky, *Notes from Underground* and *The Double* (SBX)

-- *The Idiot* (SBX)

-- *The Brothers Karamazov* (SBX)

Other readings are available on Carmen.

**Grading**

Attendance	10%
Participation	10%
Reading Quizzes	20%
Midterm Paper	20%
Final Paper	40%

**Grading Scale**

A 93 +; A- 90-92; B+ 87-89; B 83-86; B- 80-82; C+ 77-79; C 73-76; C- 70-72;  
D 60-69; F 59-

## **Grading Criteria**

### **Attendance**

You must attend every session of the course, barring serious illness, family emergencies, or religious holidays. Documentation must be provided in all of these cases. The 10 points of the grade will be calculated based on the percentage of days attended: 27 out of 30 days attended, for instance, would yield 90% attendance, or 9 out of 10 points. Work, job interviews, personal trips, non-emergency doctors' visits, and meetings with advisors must be scheduled around the class time; they are *not* valid excuses for missing class.

### **Participation**

You are required to participate actively, enthusiastically, and in a collegial manner in all sessions. This involves reading all materials by the date indicated and preparing thoughtful responses based on the texts and themes of the course ahead of time. The following criteria will be used to establish participation grades:

A (10/10 points): clear evidence of preparation, frequent voluntary participation, and significant contribution to all class discussions.

B (8/10): clear evidence of preparation, participation in most of the classes.

C (6/10): evidence of preparation, but inconsistent participation.

D (5/10): inconsistent preparation, rare contributions to the class discussions.

E (1-4/10): attendance, but no evidence of preparation; no contribution to the discussions.

### **Reading Quizzes**

There will be quizzes at the beginning of each class to make sure that you are keeping up with the reading. These quizzes will usually require very brief factual information about plot, characters, etc. The lowest 3 quiz grades (including missed quizzes) will be dropped.

### **Extra Sessions**

Each student must attend hour-long extra sessions every two weeks, in which we discuss additional aspects of Dostoevsky's works. The instructor will offer Russian language readings and discussions of selections from Dostoevsky for Russian literature graduate students, native speakers of Russian, and advanced-level students of Russian. There will also be extra sessions on criticism of Dostoevsky (accessible in English). Students should choose which of these two sessions to attend every two weeks, and may earn 1-3 points of extra credit toward their total course grade by attending both. Times and locations will be arranged during the first week of class.

### **Midterm Paper**

The midterm paper should be a close reading of any of the works we cover through *The Idiot*. It should be 7-8 typed, double-spaced pages in length, and must be submitted electronically on Friday, Mar. 4 (Carmen Dropbox). Reference to critical or other outside sources is optional.

### **Final Paper**

The final paper should combine close analysis of *The Brothers Karamazov* with substantial research into your chosen topic. Include at least 5-7 critical sources, including both journal articles and monographs on Dostoevsky. The paper should be 10-12 typed, double-spaced pages in length, and must be submitted electronically on Thursday, Apr. 28. To get full credit for the final paper, you must also submit a 100-200-word synopsis of your idea and a bibliography by Sunday, Apr. 17, and bring a rough draft to class on Thurs., Apr. 21. These rough drafts will be exchanged with classmates for further feedback. You will receive 5 points for the synopsis, 5 for the rough draft, and a maximum of 30 points for the final version of the paper.

### **Academic Integrity**

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term "academic misconduct" includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct ([http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/info\\_for\\_students/csc.asp](http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/info_for_students/csc.asp)).

### **Students with Disabilities**

Any student who feels that he or she may need an accommodation due to a disability should contact me privately to discuss his or her specific needs. Students with documented disabilities may contact the Office for Disability Services at 614-292-3307 in 150 Pomerene Hall to coordinate reasonable accommodations. More information is available at the internet address of this office (<http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu>).

## Schedule of Readings and Assignments (subject to change)

### Week 1

Jan. 12 Introduction to Dostoevsky, the Russian Novel  
Reading for Jan. 14: *The Double*, Ch. 1-5 (pp. 121-167)

Jan. 14 *The Double*

Reading for Jan. 19: *The Double*, Ch. 6-13 (pp. 167-282)

### Week 2

Jan. 19 *The Double*

Reading for Jan. 21: Excerpts from *Notes from the House of the Dead*;  
Excerpts from Chernyshevsky, *What is To Be Done?*

Jan. 21 *Notes from the House of the Dead*; Chernyshevsky

Reading for Jan. 26: *Notes from the Underground*, Parts I, II

### Week 3

Jan. 26 *Notes from Underground*

Reading for Jan. 28: Excerpts from Bakhtin, *Problems of Dostoevsky's Poetics*

Jan. 28 *Notes from Underground*; Bakhtin

Reading for Feb. 2: *The Idiot*, Part I, Ch. 1-10 (pp. 5-118)

### Week 4

Feb. 2 *The Idiot*

Reading for Feb. 4: *The Idiot*, Part I, Ch. 11-16 (pp. 118-175)

Feb. 4 *The Idiot*

Reading for Feb. 9: *The Idiot*, Part II, Ch. 1-7 (pp. 179-259)

### Week 5

Feb. 9 *The Idiot*

Reading for Feb. 11: *The Idiot*, Part II, Ch. 8-12 (pp. 259-321)

Feb. 11 *The Idiot*

Reading for Feb. 16: *The Idiot*, Part III, Ch. 1-7 (pp. 325-424)

### Week 6

Feb. 16 *The Idiot*

Reading for Feb. 18: *The Idiot*, Part III, Ch. 8-10 (pp. 424-457)

Feb. 18 *The Idiot*

Reading for Feb. 23: *The Idiot*, Part IV, Ch. 1-8 (pp. 461-572)

**Week 7**

Feb. 23 *The Idiot*

Reading for Feb. 25: *The Idiot*, Part IV, Ch. 9-12 (pp. 572-615)

Feb. 25 *The Idiot*

Reading for Mar. 1: *The Idiot*, Critical Excerpts

**Week 8**

Mar. 1 *The Idiot*

Reading for Mar. 3: Excerpts from Dostoevsky, *A Writer's Diary*

**Midterm Paper due Friday, Mar. 4 (Carmen Dropbox)**

Mar. 3 *A Writer's Diary*

Reading for Mar. 8: *The Brothers Karamazov*, Book 1-2 (pp. 7-84)

**Week 9**

Mar. 8 *The Brothers Karamazov*

Reading for Mar. 10: *The Brothers Karamazov*, Book 3 (pp. 85-141)

Mar. 10 *The Brothers Karamazov*

Reading for Mar. 22: *The Brothers Karamazov*, Books 4-5 (pp. 145-243)

**Spring Break, Mar. 14-18****Week 10**

Mar. 22 *The Brothers Karamazov*

Reading for Mar. 24: *The Brothers Karamazov*, Book 6 (pp. 245-280)

Mar. 24 *The Brothers Karamazov*

Reading for Mar. 29: *The Brothers Karamazov*, Books 7-8 (pp. 283-378)

**Week 11**

Mar. 29 *The Brothers Karamazov*

Reading for Mar. 31: *The Brothers Karamazov*, Book 9 (pp. 379-432)

Mar. 31 *The Brothers Karamazov*

Reading for Apr. 5: *The Brothers Karamazov*, Book 10 (pp. 435-474)

**Week 12**

Apr. 5 *The Brothers Karamazov*

Reading for Apr. 7: *The Brothers Karamazov*, Book 11 (pp. 475-551)

Apr. 7 *The Brothers Karamazov*

Reading for Apr. 12: *The Brothers Karamazov*, Book 12 (pp. 553-630)

**Week 13**

Apr. 12 *The Brothers Karamazov*

Reading for Apr. 14: Epilogue (pp. 631-646), Criticism (Vetlovskaya, Volgin)

Apr. 14 *The Brothers Karamazov*

Reading for Apr. 19: Criticism (Morson, McReynolds, Golstein)

**Synopsis of Final Paper Due Sunday, Apr. 17 (Carmen Dropbox)**

**Week 14**

Apr. 19 Criticism of *The Brothers Karamazov*

**Rough Draft of Final Paper Due in Class Apr. 21**

Apr. 21 Final Dostoevsky Discussion; Rough Drafts of Papers Due

**Final Papers Due Thursday, Apr. 28 (Carmen Dropbox)**



## Heysel, Garrett

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**Subject:** Re: Russian 5250

**Date:** Monday, December 1, 2014 9:56:54 AM Eastern Standard Time

**From:** Peterson, Derek

**To:** Heysel, Garrett

Good Morning Garrett,

Here is the response from Dr. Burry:

"Russian 5250.01 requires all students to meet for an additional hour per week beyond the regular class time. For students learning Russian language at an advanced level, this extra meeting involves reading and discussing passages of the novel in Russian. For students not studying Russian (or not studying it at an advanced level), it consists of discussion of additional criticism and/or primary works relating to the material discussed in class. The amount of reading has also increased."

Please let me know if you need any additional details.

Best,

Derek

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**From:** <Heysel>, Garrett <[heysel.1@osu.edu](mailto:heysel.1@osu.edu)>

**Date:** Monday, December 1, 2014 7:40 AM

**To:** Derek Peterson <[peterston.636@osu.edu](mailto:peterston.636@osu.edu)>

**Cc:** "Vankeerbergen, Bernadette" <[vankeerbergen.1@osu.edu](mailto:vankeerbergen.1@osu.edu)>

**Subject:** RE: Russian 5250

Hello Derek,

I was reviewing the course and I noticed that you also want to increase the credit hours from 3 to 4. That is possible but I see no justification or rationale why the course is now worth 4 credit hours. In the instructional manual there is a section on how to calculate credit hours with contact time, etc. Is there a difference in the amount of time the instructor meets with the students from the previous version?

Can you look into that and let me know?

Thanks,

Garrett

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**From:** Peterson, Derek

**Sent:** Wednesday, November 26, 2014 12:30 PM

**To:** Heysel, Garrett

**Subject:** Russian 5250

Hi Garrett,

I just wanted to let you know that we don't want to get rid of Russian 5250, but just add additional offerings with .01, .02 etc. for specific authors. We would not want to put too specific restraints on the content by giving every course a suffix, but just the few that our committee decided on. Please let me know if I need to clarify this a bit more.

Thanks and happy Thanksgiving!

Derek



August 25, 2015

Dear curriculum approval committee,

We propose to offer our Russian 5250 – The Russian Writer course with a new numbering system. Going forward, we will add the suffix .01, .02 etc. for each author that the course will examine. For example, Russian 5250.02 will focus on the works of Fyodor Dostoevsky, and 5250.03 will cover Anton Chekhov. 5250.01 will remain as a general course that does not focus on a particular writer in case our some of our faculty want to offer a course on an author without their own suffix. This will make it easier for our students to easily differentiate between the course offerings and ensure that they will be exposed to new material if they wish to repeat the course. There will be no change in how we assess the course, but to ensure that the course will provide the greatest possible benefit to students, we request that these revised Russian 5250 offerings be changed to three to four credit hours from the current three credit hour value. Please see the email correspondence between Garrett Heysel and myself for the rational behind this proposed change in credit hours.

Sincerely,

Alexander Burry  
Associate Professor and Graduate Studies Chair  
Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures



Dear curriculum approval committee,

I am writing to request expedited processing for Russian 5250.02 (The Russian Writer: Dostoevsky), which I am hoping to teach this coming spring. As 5250, it is a 3-credit course, and we would like to add individual numbers for each author, and make the course 4 credits. We only decided on this at the end of the 2015 spring term, and at that point, the curriculum committee was not meeting again until the fall. If you could expedite the approval process, so that I could teach it as 5250.02 in the spring, I would greatly appreciate it.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Alexander Burry