

## Term Information

Effective Term Autumn 2018

## 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 5630  
Course Title Russian Translation: Theory, Practice, and the Profession  
Transcript Abbreviation Rus Translation  
Course Description Theory and practice of translating Russian literary, cultural, political, scientific, and business texts into English. Prerequisite: Russian 3102 or higher.  
Semester Credit Hours/Units Fixed: 3

## 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 Russian 3102/3122  
Exclusions  
Electronically Enforced No

## Cross-Listings

Cross-Listings

## Subject/CIP Code

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

## 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

- Understanding the translator's role in shaping, transmitting, and interpreting literature
- Understanding the importance of translation in understanding Russian current events
- The course will also introduce students to professional opportunities and techniques for Russian translation

### Content Topic List

- Origin of translation studies and current translation terminology
- Translation in Russia and Translation of English Literature
- Translation of Pushkin, Dostoevsky, and Tolstoy
- Translations of Twentieth-Century Russian Literature into English
- Literary Criticism on Translation
- Russian Translation: Current Events

### Sought Concurrence

No

## Attachments

- Translation Studies Proposal[1].docx  
*(Syllabus. Owner: Peterson,Derek)*
- Curriculum Maps Russian Major July 26.docx: Curriculum Map  
*(Other Supporting Documentation. Owner: Peterson,Derek)*

## Comments

- Cleared up confusion surrounding Russian Translation: Current Events *(by Peterson,Derek on 07/31/2017 02:44 PM)*
- Last course details suggests concurrence from Engineering, Fisher and all STEM units; *(by Heysel,Garett Robert on 07/26/2017 09:19 PM)*

## Workflow Information

Status	User(s)	Date/Time	Step
Submitted	Peterson,Derek	07/26/2017 03:14 PM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Suchland,Jennifer Anne	07/26/2017 05:59 PM	Unit Approval
Revision Requested	Heysel,Garett Robert	07/26/2017 09:19 PM	College Approval
Submitted	Peterson,Derek	07/31/2017 02:48 PM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Peterson,Derek	07/31/2017 02:59 PM	Unit Approval
Approved	Heysel,Garett Robert	07/31/2017 03:09 PM	College Approval
Pending Approval	Nolen,Dawn Vankeerbergen,Bernadette Chantal Oldroyd,Shelby Quinn Hanlin,Deborah Kay Jenkins,Mary Ellen Bigler	07/31/2017 03:09 PM	ASCCAO Approval

**Proposed Course: Russian 5630**  
**Russian Translation: Theory, Practice, and the Profession**  
**3 cr/hr, Lecture**

Prof. Alexander Burry  
345 Hagerty Hall  
[burry.7@osu.edu](mailto:burry.7@osu.edu)

Office hours: TBD

**Course Description**

Translation is an essential part of human culture, and meeting the challenges it poses is crucial to understanding literature, politics, and many other fields of thought. In this course, we will focus on two areas of Russian-English and English-Russian translation: the translator's role in shaping, transmitting, and interpreting literature, and the importance of translation in understanding Russian current events. By exploring both translations of classic literary works and translation theory and terminology, we will open up opportunities for understanding and working in different areas of translation by reading news articles selected from current Russian newspapers and journals. In addition to exploring the theory and practice of translation, the course will introduce students to professional opportunities and techniques for Russian translation.

**Prerequisites**

Third-year Russian or higher. Russian 2250 is recommended.

**Materials to Purchase**

Edna Andrews and Elena Maksimova, *Russian Translation: Theory and Practice* (SBX)  
Course packet: fictional, critical excerpts (Foreign Language Publications, 198 Hagerty)  
Current events articles in Russian will be accessible online

**Grading**

The final course grade will be based on the following:

Attendance	10%
Participation	10%
Oral Presentation (15-20 minutes)	10%
Midterm Paper (7-8 pages)	30%
Final Project (translation and paper)	40%

The final courses grade will be calculated using the following scale:

A (93-100), A- (90-92), B+ (88-89), B (83-87), B- (80-82), C+ (78-79),  
C (73-77), C- (70-72), D (60-69), E (below 60)

## Readings

### Primary Readings and Translations

- William Shakespeare, Sonnets 135 and 136 (1609)  
Thomas Gray, "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard" (1751)  
Vasily Zhukovsky, "Сельское кладбище" ("A Country Cemetery") (1802)  
Alexander Pushkin, *Eugene Onegin* (1831) (excerpts)  
Nikolai Chernyshevsky, *What is To Be Done?* (1863) (excerpts)  
Fyodor Dostoevsky, *Notes from Underground* (1864) (excerpts)  
Lev Tolstoy, *Anna Karenina* (1878) (excerpts)  
Andrei Platonov, *The Foundation Pit* (1830) (excerpts)  
Viktor Pelevin, "Vera Pavlovna's Ninth Dream" (1991)

### Theoretical and Critical Readings

- Jerome, Letter LVII: To Pammachius on the Best Method of Translating (395 C.E.)  
John Dryden, From the Preface to *Ovid's Epistles* (1680)  
Friedrich Schleiermacher, "On the Different Methods of Translating" (1813)  
Walter Benjamin, "The Task of the Translator" (1923)  
Vladimir Nabokov, "The Art of Translation" (1941)  
Roman Jakobson, "On Linguistic Aspects of Translation" (1959)  
Efim Etkind, *Поэзия и перевод (Poetry and Translation)* (1963) (excerpts)  
Douglas Hofstadter, "What's Gained in Translation" (1996)  
George Steiner, *After Babel: Aspects of Language and Translation* (1998) (excerpts)  
Lawrence Venuti, *The Translator's Invisibility: A History of Translation* (2008)(excerpts)  
Lynne Bowker, "Terminology," in *Routledge Encyclopedia of Translation Studies* (2009)  
Vilen Komissarov, "Russian tradition," *Routledge Encyclopedia of Translation Studies*  
Edith Grossman, *Why Translation Matters* (2010) (excerpts)  
Natalia Olshanskaya, "De-coding intertextuality in classic and postmodern Russian narratives" (2011)  
Ian Singleton, "Of Translation and Politics in Russian Literature" (2016)

### Professional Translation

- Edna Andrews and Elena Maksimova, *Russian Translation: Theory and Practice* (2010),  
Ch. 9-14  
Kyle Conway, "What is the role of culture in news translation? A materialist approach,"  
*Studies in Translation Theory and Practice* 23:4 (2015)  
María José Hernández Guerrero, "Translation in new independent online media: the case  
of Mediapart," *Studies in Translation Theory and Practice* 25:2 (2017)  
Joshua Price, "Translation in the Human Sciences," *Teaching Translation: Programs,  
Courses, Pedagogy*, ed. Lawrence Venuti (2016)  
Selected Current Events Articles from Russian Newspapers and Journals

## **Course Requirements and Assignments**

### **Class Structure**

The course will consist mostly of class discussion, with brief periods of lecture. You must attend regularly, do the required readings and viewings, and contribute to all discussions.

### **Attendance**

You must attend all classes, barring serious illness, family emergencies, or religious holidays. Documentation must be provided in all of these cases. Job interviews, personal trips, non-emergency doctor's appointments, and advisor meetings must be scheduled around class time; they are not valid excuses for missing class. Bring the required texts to class, and be prepared to take notes on the lectures and discussions.

### **Participation**

You are expected to participate actively, enthusiastically, and in a collegial manner in all classes. This involves reading all materials by the date indicated and preparing thoughtful responses to the readings ahead of time. The following criteria will be used to determine participation grades:

- A (9-10/10 points): clear evidence of preparation, frequent voluntary participation, and significant contributions to all class discussions.
- B (8/10): clear evidence of preparation, participation in most of the classes.
- C (7/10): evidence of preparation, but inconsistent participation.
- D (6/10): inconsistent preparation, rare contributions to the class discussions.
- E (1-5/10): little evidence of preparation, no contributions to the discussions.

### **Oral Presentation**

Each student will prepare a 15-20-minute presentation on one of the translations or readings in translation theory covered in the course. This presentation will consist of 5-10 minutes of lecture on the topic, and 5-10 minutes leading a class discussion. All presentations will take place during Weeks 3-8 of the course.

### **Midterm Paper**

Students are responsible for a 7-8-page midterm paper, due in Week 9, on a translation of their choice. This can be a translation covered in class, or another translation from Russian to English or English to Russian.

### **Final Project**

The final project consists of two parts. Students will prepare a translation of Russian fiction, poetry, or current events articles. The length should be 500 words for prose translation, or 250 words for poetry. The second part of the assignment is a 5-page discussion of the challenges posed by the particular translation, and the approach taken to meet these challenges. Students should make use of at least 2-3 relevant theoretical or critical works in the paper. The project will be given a separate grade for each category (accuracy/quality of the translation and quality of the paper), which will be averaged out for the total grade. During the last week, students will present their findings to the class in a symposium, in order to share ideas and get feedback before submitting the final project.

## **Disabilities**

The University strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. You are also welcome to register with Student Life Disability Services to establish reasonable accommodations. After registration, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion. SLDS contact information: [slds@osu.edu](mailto:slds@osu.edu); [614-292-3307](tel:614-292-3307); [slds.osu.edu](http://slds.osu.edu); 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12th Avenue.

## **Academic Misconduct**

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 more information, see the Code of Student Conduct: <http://studentlife.osu.edu/csc/>.

## **Diversity**

The Ohio State University affirms the importance and value of diversity in the student body. Our programs and curricula reflect our multicultural society and global economy and seek to provide opportunities for students to learn more about persons who are different from them. We are committed to maintaining a community that recognizes and values the inherent worth and dignity of every person; fosters sensitivity, understanding, and mutual respect among each member of our community; and encourages each individual to strive to reach his or her own potential. Discrimination against any individual based upon protected status, which is defined as age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status, is prohibited.

## **Sexual Misconduct/Relationship Violence**

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories (e.g., race). If you or someone you know has been sexually harassed or assaulted, you may find the appropriate resources at <http://titleix.osu.edu> or by contacting the Ohio State Title IX Coordinator, Kellie Brennan, at [titleix@osu.edu](mailto:titleix@osu.edu)

## Schedule of Classes, Assignments

### **Week 1: Introduction: The Origins of Translation Studies**

Readings:

Jerome, Letter LVII: To Pammachius on the Best Method of Translating

John Dryden, From the Preface to *Ovid's Epistles*

Friedrich Schleiermacher, "On the Different Methods of Translating"

### **Week 2: The Purpose of Translation; Current Translation Terminology**

Readings:

Walter Benjamin, "The Task of the Translator"

Vladimir Nabokov, "The Art of Translation"

Roman Jakobson, "On Linguistic Aspects of Translation"

Lynne Bowker, "Terminology," in *Routledge Encyclopedia of Translation Studies*

George Steiner, *After Babel: Aspects of Language and Translation* (rev. 1998) (excerpts)

### **Week 3: Literary Translation in Russia**

Readings:

Lawrence Venuti, *The Translator's Invisibility: A History of Translation* (2008)(excerpts)

Edith Grossman, *Why Translation Matters* (2010) (excerpts)

Efim Etkind, *Поэзия и перевод (Poetry and Translation)* (excerpts)

Vilen Komissarov, "Russian tradition," *Routledge Encyclopedia of Translation Studies*

### **Week 4: Russian Translation of English Literature**

Readings:

William Shakespeare, Sonnets 135 and 136

Thomas Gray, "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard"

Vasily Zhukovsky, "Сельское кладбище" ("A Country Cemetery")

Boris Pasternak, Translations of Shakespeare Sonnets 135 and 136

### **Week 5: Translation of Russian Literature into English: Pushkin**

Readings:

Alexander Pushkin, *Eugene Onegin* (excerpts)

Excerpts from selected translations of *Eugene Onegin*

Vladimir Nabokov, Commentaries to *Eugene Onegin* (selections)

Douglas Hofstadter, "What's Gained in Translation"

### **Week 6: Translation of Russian Literature into English: Dostoevsky**

Readings:

Nikolai Chernyshevsky, *What is To Be Done?* (excerpts)

Fyodor Dostoevsky, *Notes from Underground* (excerpts)

Excerpts from selected translations of *Notes from Underground*

### **Week 7: Translation of Russian Literature into English: Tolstoy**

Readings:

Lev Tolstoy, *Anna Karenina* (1878) (excerpts)

Excerpts from selected translations of *Anna Karenina*

Masha Gessen, “New Translations of Tolstoy’s *Anna Karenina*”

### **Week 8: Translations of Twentieth-Century Russian Literature into English**

Readings:

Andrei Platonov, *The Foundation Pit* (1830) (excerpts)

Excerpts from selected translations of *The Foundation Pit*

Viktor Pelevin, “Vera Pavlovna’s Ninth Dream” (1991)

### **Week 9: Literary Criticism on Translation**

Readings:

Natalia Olshanskaya, “De-coding intertextuality in classic and postmodern Russian narratives” (2010)

Ian Singleton, “Of Translation and Politics in Russian Literature” (2016)

### **Midterm paper Due**

### **Week 9: Russian Translation: Reading the News**

Readings:

Andrews/Maksimova, Ch. 13: “The language of computers and the internet”

María José Hernández Guerrero, “Translation in new independent online media: the case of Mediapart”

Kyle Conway, “What is the role of culture in news translation? A materialist approach”

### **Week 10: The Translation Profession; Practical Considerations in Translation**

Andrews/Maksimova, Ch. 8: “Literal and figurative meanings and translation”;

Ch. 9: “Discourse, register, and translation issues”

Selected current articles and websites on professional translation opportunities

### **Week 11: Russian Translation: Business and Law**

Readings:

Andrews/Maksimova, Ch. 10: “Legal Documents”

Selected current articles in Russian on business and law

### **Week 12: Russian Translation: Science and Technology**

Readings:

Andrews/Maksimova, Ch. 11: “Scientific and academic texts”; Ch. 14 “Health and medical texts”

Joshua Price, “Translation in the Human Sciences”

Selected current articles in Russian on science and technology



**Week 13: Russian Translation: Government and Society**

Readings:

Andrews/Maksimova, Ch. 12: "Documents of everyday life"

Selected current articles articles in Russian on government and society

**Week 14: Symposium; Final Discussion**

**Final Project Due in Finals Week**

## Curriculum Map for Russian Major

	Program Goals		
	Goal 1 Lang. Proficiency	Goal 2 Analytic Skills	Goal 3 Cult. Appreciation
<b>Prerequisites</b>			
Russian 1101	Novice Low/Mid	NA	Novice Low
Russian 1102	Novice Mid/High	NA	Novice Mid
Russian 1103	Novice High	NA	Novice High
Russian 1133	Intermediate Low	NA	Intermediate Low
<b>Required Courses</b>			
Russian 2104	Novice High/ Intermediate Low	NA	Novice High/Intermediate Low
Russian 2144	Intermediate Low/Mid	NA	Intermediate Mid
Russian 3101	Intermediate Low	NA	Intermediate Low
Russian 3102	Intermediate Mid	NA	Intermediate Med
Russian 4575	Intermediate High	Advanced	Advanced
<b>Language Elective Courses</b>			
Russian 3121/3122	Intermediate Low	NA	Intermediate High
Russian 4101/4102	Intermediate Low/Mid	NA	Advanced
Russian 4135	Novice/Intermediate	Intermediate	Novice
Russian 4136	Intermediate/Advanced	Advanced	Intermediate/Advanced
Russian 5101/5102	Intermediate High/Advanced Low	Advanced	Advanced
<b>Literature, Culture, Linguistics Elective Courses</b>			
Medren 2513	NA	Novice	Novice
Russian 2250	NA	Novice	Novice
Russian 2335	NA	Novice	Novice
Russian 2345	NA	Novice	Novice
Russian 3460	NA	Intermediate	Intermediate
Russian 3350	NA	Intermediate	Intermediate
Russian 3470	NA	Intermediate	Intermediate
Russian 4220/4221	NA	Advanced	Advanced
Russian 4600	Novice	Advanced	Advanced
Russian 5225	NA	Advanced	Advanced
Russian 5250	NA	Advanced	Advanced

-(including all decimal suffixes)

Russian 5530	Intermediate	Advanced		Advanced	
Russian 5601	Advanced	Advanced		Advanced	
Russian 5630	Intermediate/Advanced		Advanced		Advanced
Russian 5701	Advanced	Advanced		Advanced	
Slavic 2330	NA	Novice		Novice	
Slavic 3360	NA	Intermediate		Intermediate	
Slavic 3310	NA	Intermediate		Intermediate	
Slavic 3333	NA	Intermediate		Intermediate	
Slavic 3800	NA	Intermediate		Intermediate	
Slavic 4520H	NA	Advanced		Advanced	
Slavic 4560H	NA	Advanced		Advanced	
Slavic 4260H	NA	Advanced		Advanced	
Slavic 4597	NA	Advanced		Advanced	
Slavic 5450	NA	Advanced		Advanced	