

Russian Language and East European Area Studies

Oberlin's Department of Russian Language, Literature, and Culture, which enjoys a national reputation, enables students to attain proficiency in the Russian language as well as an understanding of Russian literature and culture. Two alternative majors and a minor are offered:

- **The Russian Major** is designed for students primarily interested in the study of language and literature.
- **The Russian and East European Studies Major** is designed for students interested in the interrelations among Russian and Eastern European cultures (literature and the fine arts), politics, history, sociology, and economics.
- **The Russian Minor** is offered to students intending to devote at least fifteen credit hours to advanced work in Russian literature and culture.

All three study options can lead to a range of career options, including higher education, the non-profit sector, government, international business, medicine, law, K-12 teaching, or library science. For many years, majors have successfully competed for entrance into the best graduate programs in Russian, area studies, or comparative literature (including Yale, Harvard, Stanford, Cornell, Columbia, University of California at Berkeley, University of Chicago, and University of Michigan). Alumni have gone on to careers in teaching (New York University, University of Kansas), non-profit management (Open Society Institute, Rockefeller Brothers Foundation, Foundation for Russian American Economic Cooperation), international development (United States Energy Association, KPMG), business, and law.

The departmental curriculum includes a variety of courses in Russian language, literature, and culture. Russian literature and culture are taught in the original and in translation. Culture courses treat such topics as Russian film and theater. Other courses in Russian and East European Area Studies are taught by members of the History, Politics, Sociology, and Economics departments. Students who excel in their studies may be invited to participate in the Honors Program in either Literature or in Area Studies. Recent senior honors projects have focused upon Russian Modernism, contemporary women's prose, and recent emigration.

Students are encouraged to apply to Oberlin-sponsored semester programs in St. Petersburg or Krasnodar, a town in southern Russia. Other possible sites include Moscow, Voronezh, Yaroslavl, and Irkutsk. Credits from many of these programs are transferable and financial aid may be applied.

Oberlin is fortunate to have a Russian House dormitory, with a fluent speaker in residence. The house serves as the focal point for our Russian film series, guest lectures, dinners, poetry readings, the annual Maslenitsa masquerade, as well as other Russian-related activities.

Some students choose Russian as a major component of their preparation for graduate studies in comparative literature. Other students have discovered that Russian is a valuable complement to other areas of concentration (art history, music history, film, economics, philosophy, etc.) and pursue a double major with Russian (or a Russian minor). Russian can also be incorporated into pre-professional studies as a major or minor offering a high degree of intellectual challenge and reward.

Oberlin's Center for Russian, East European, and Central Asian Studies provides students with increased educational opportunities through the on-campus presence of visiting scholars and artists-in-residence. Further information on Center initiatives is provided in the section on Russian and East European Studies.

For further information, visit our web-site at <http://www.oberlin.edu/russian/>

Russian and East European Area Studies

The Russian and East European Studies Program at Oberlin College is designed for students interested in exploring the interrelations between Russian and Eastern European culture, politics, history, and sociology. Our curriculum is multidisciplinary, incorporating offerings in Russian history, Russian and East European politics, sociology and economics with Russian language, literature, and culture courses (in the original and in translation). Oberlin's offerings in this field are unique in breadth and depth, with six specialists working on this region. Together, they

comprise the Russian and East European Studies Curricular Committee, which serves as the advisory board for this major.

July 1, 1998 marked the foundation of the Oberlin Center for Russian, East European, and Central Asian Studies. OCREECAS affords students with increased educational opportunities through the on-campus presence of visiting scholars and artists-in-residence. In the spring of 2004, OCREECAS organized a mini-course and public symposium entitled "Soviet Cultural Globalization." The Center also supports summer internships for service in Russia, Eastern Europe, and Central Asia, and investigates new study abroad options in these areas.

At present, students interested in studying in the Czech Republic can participate in semester programs run by the Great Lakes Colleges Association or the Council on International Educational Exchange. GLCA also offers a study program in Poland. Students interested in studying in Russia are encouraged to apply to CIEE's semester programs in St. Petersburg or GLCA's fall semester in Krasnodar. Students also have the opportunity to apply to the ACTR semester and program in Moscow, as well as to new, less traditional programs in the Russian Federation.

Russian Department Faculty

ARLENE FORMAN

Associate Professor of Russian Language, Literature, and Culture

B.A., University of Pennsylvania, 1972

M.A., Ph.D., Brown University, 1974, 1982

Ms. Forman teaches courses in Russian language and literature, with an emphasis on the Soviet and post-Soviet period. Literature courses focus on literature of dissent, the myth of Petersburg and Russian and American cultural perceptions and misperceptions. Her research interests include the legacy of the Leningrad Siege, interactive video, and translation. Her translation of Bella Ulanovskaya's "Albinos" appears in the anthology *Lives in Transit: Recent Russian Women's Writing* (Ardis, 1995). Her translation of Leningrad Blockade memoirs and literature appears

in *Writing the Siege of Leningrad* (University of Pittsburgh, 2003).

ELENA MONASTIREVA-ANSELL

Visiting Assistant Professor of Russian, Mellon Fellow

B.A., Pyatigorsk Institute of Foreign Languages, 1992

M.A., University of Iowa, 1994

M.A., Ph.D., Indiana University, 1998, 2002

Ms. Monastireva-Ansdell teaches courses in Russian language and literature and Russian and Polish film. Her research interests focus on Soviet and contemporary Russian and Polish cinema and literature. Her M.A. thesis examined Georgii Ivanov's memoir 'Petersburg Winters.' Her dissertation is devoted to changing perceptions of the Revolution and the Civil War in Soviet literature, culture, and cinema from the twenties to the post-Stalinist "Thaw."

THOMAS NEWLIN

Associate Professor of Russian Language, Literature, and Culture

B.A., Swarthmore, 1982

M.A., Ph.D., Columbia University, 1986, 1994

Mr. Newlin teaches courses in Russian language and eighteenth- and nineteenth-century Russian literature and intellectual history. Recent courses in translation include Tolstoy and Dostoevsky; Literature and the Woman Question; and Literature and the Land: Writing Nature in Russia and America. His scholarly interests focus on the literature, culture, and intellectual history of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century Russia. He is author of *The Voice in the Garden: Andrei Bolotov and the Anxieties of the Russian Pastoral, 1738-1833* (Northwestern University Press, 2001), and is presently working on a study of nineteenth-century Russian ecological thought.

TIM SCHOLL

Associate Professor of Russian Language, Literature, and Culture

B.A., Vanderbilt University, 1984

Ph.D., Yale University, 1991

Mr. Scholl teaches courses in Russian language, late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century Russian literature and culture. Courses in English focus on the literature of

decadence and revolution, Russian theater, and sexuality. Author of *From Petipa to Balanchine: Classical Revival and the Modernization of Ballet* (Routledge, 1994), his research focuses on dance and Russian cultural history. A contributor to the volumes *Consuming Russia: Popular Culture, Sex and Society Since Gorbachev* and *Petrushka: Sources and Contexts*, his *Sleeping Beauty, a Legend in Progress* was published in the spring of 2004 (Yale University Press).

Russian and East European Studies Curricular Committee

The REES major is administered by a multidisciplinary committee comprised of members of the Russian Department (Forman, Newlin, Scholl) and the following faculty and staff:

STEPHEN CROWLEY

Associate Professor of Politics

B.A., Boston University, 1982

Ph.D., University of Michigan, 1993

Mr. Crowley teaches courses in Soviet and Post-Soviet Politics, and advanced courses on Post-Communist transformations in the former Soviet Union and in Eastern Europe, as well as courses on globalization and revolution. His research focuses on how labor politics has influenced and been affected by the economic and political changes in post-communist societies. He has published *Hot Coal, Cold Steel: Russian and Ukrainian Workers From the End of the Soviet Union to the Post-Communist Transformations* (University of Michigan Press, 1997) and co-edited *Workers after Worker's States: Labor and Politics in Postcommunist Eastern Europe* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2001).

HEATHER HOGAN

Professor of History

B.A., Northwestern University, 1971

M.A., Ph.D., University of Michigan, 1976, 1981

Ms. Hogan teaches a yearlong introductory survey of Russian history from the 10th c. to the present in alternate years. Most recently she has undertaken the study of Central Asian history and will introduce new courses into the curriculum, including an upper level class entitled "Russian in Asia." Her offerings include a colloquium on the history of Russian social thought; intermediate courses in Russia before Peter

the Great and Russia/the Soviet Union since 1941; upper level courses explore Russian and Soviet women's history, the Russian Revolution, and Stalinism. Author of *Forging Revolution: Metalworkers, Managers and the State in St. Petersburg* (Indiana University Press, 1993), her research interests include late imperial labor history and the social history of early modern Russia.

SHULAMIT MAGNUS

Associate Professor of Jewish Studies and History

Director, Program in Jewish Studies

B.A., Barnard College, 1972

M. Phil., Ph.D., Columbia University, 1977, 1988

Ms. Magnus teaches courses on Jewish History, primarily in its European context. Her most recent research centers on Pauline Wengeroff (1833-1916), a Jewish woman writing about the emergence of Jewish modernity in Tsarist Russia. A two-volume annotated translation of Wengeroff's memoirs will be published by the University of California Press. Also forthcoming is a book of essays about the memoirs' significance for an understanding of Jewish modernity, the role of gender in modern Jewish memory, and Jewish women's history.

LÁSZLÓ SCHOLZ

Professor of Hispanic Studies

BA, M.A., Ph.D., Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, 1971, 1973, 1975

A specialist in Latin American Literature (colonial literature, 20th century fiction and short story theory) and literary translation (from English and Spanish into Hungarian), Mr. Scholz has given private readings at Oberlin on contemporary Hungarian culture. Organizer of Winter Term projects in Budapest on contemporary Hungarian culture, he has also worked with many Oberlin students who have spent a semester studying in Hungary.

PAMELA SNYDER

Director of Foundation and Corporate Support

A.B, Bryn Mawr, 1984

M.A., Indiana University, 1986

Before coming to Oberlin in 1996, Ms. Snyder served as Assistant Director for Higher Education at the American

Councils for International Education (formerly the American Council of Teachers of Russian), administering educational programs for graduate students, undergraduates, and scholars from the former Soviet Union and Baltic States.

VELJKO VUJACIC

Associate Professor of Sociology

B.A., Brandeis University, 1985

M.A., Ph.D., UC Berkeley, 1989, 1995

Mr. Vujacic teaches courses in sociological theory, social change in Eastern Europe, social movements, political sociology, and an advanced seminar entitled "The Making and Unmaking of Communist Ideals." His research focuses on political and social change in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe (with a special emphasis on communism and nationalism in the Russian Federation and the former Yugoslavia), as well as on theories of nationalism. His publications have appeared in a variety of journals from *Theory and Society* to *Post-Soviet Affairs* and *Research in Political Sociology*, as well as in *The Encyclopedia of Nationalism*, and *The International Encyclopedia of the Social and Behavioral Sciences*.

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