

**UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS**  
**Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures**  
**MA in Russian Literature**  
**Reading List**

Ratified by SLL Graduate Faculty 6 July 2008

To the MA student: This reading list acquaints you with the principal works of Russian prose, poetry, and drama from the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century on. You will be encountering many of these works in your course work. Please consult the general guidelines and the secondary source list at the end of this reading list for critical approaches that will help you learn this material. Your command of these classical works of Russian literature is a key to your successful completion of the requirements for the Master of Arts Degree in Slavic Languages and Literatures.

Texts of poetic works are available in the on-line *Antologiiia russkoi poezii dlia aspirantov kanzasskogo universiteta/ Kansas Anthology of Russian Poetry*. See Kansas SLL webpage:

<http://www2.ku.edu/~slavic/>

Karamzin, Nikolai Mikhailovich (1766-1826).

“Bednaia Liza.”

Zhukovskii, Vasilii Andreevich (1783-1852).

“Sel'skoe kladbishche.” “Nevyrazimoe.” “Svetlana.”

Batiushkov, Konstantin Nikolaevich (1787-1855).

“Vyzdorovlenie.” “Moi genii.”

Griboedov, Aleksandr Sergeevich (1795-1829).

*Gore ot uma.*

Bestuzhev-Marlinskii, Aleksandr Aleksandrovich (1797-1837).

“Zamok Neigauzen.”

Pushkin, Aleksandr Sergeevich (1799-1837).

*Evgenii Onegin.*

*Povesti Belkina.*

“Pikovaia dama.”

*Malen'kie tragedii.*

*Mednyi vsadnik.*

“Vol'nost' (Oda).” “Poet.” “Poet i tolpa.” “Ia vas liubil.” “Pora, moi drug, pora.”

“Prorok.” “K \*\*\*”

Baratynskii, Evgenii Abramovich (1800-1844).

“Muza.” “Poslednii poet.”

Tiutchev, Fedor Ivanovich (1803-1873).

“Silentium.” “Son na more.” “Umom Rossiiu ne poniat'.” “Ne ver', ne ver' poetu, deva.”

“Dve sily est'.”

Gogol', Nikolai Vasil'evich (1809-1852).

*Mertvye dushi.*

*Revizor.*

“Vii.”  
“Nevskii Prospekt.”  
“Nos.”  
“Shinel'.”

Goncharov, Ivan Aleksandrovich (1812-1891).  
*Oblomov.*

Lermontov, Mikhail Iur'evich (1814-1841).  
*Geroi nashego vremeni.*  
*Demon.*

“Prorok.” “Beleet parus odinokii.” “Vykhozhu odin ia na dorogu.” “Smert' poeta.”  
“V doline Dagestana.”

Turgenev, Ivan Sergeevich (1818-1883).  
*Rudin.*  
*Ottsy i deti.*

Fet, Afanasii Afanas'evich (1820-1892).  
“Muze.” “Maiskaia noch'.” “Shepot, robkoe dykhanie.” “Ia prishel k tebe s privetom.”

Dostoevskii, Fedor Mikhailovich (1821-1881).  
*Zapiski iz podpol'ia.*  
*Prestuplenie i nakazanie.*  
*Brat'ia Karamazovy.*

Nekrasov, Nikolai Alekseevich (1821-1878).  
“Rodina.” “Zabytaia derevnia.” “Poet i grazhdanin.”

Ostrovskii, Aleksandr Nikolaevich (1823-1886).  
*Groza.*

Chernyshevskii, Nikolai Gavriilovich (1828-1889).  
*Chto delat'?*

Tolstoi, Lev Nikolaevich (1828-1910).  
*Voina i mir.*  
*Anna Karenina.*  
*Smert' Ivana Il'icha.*  
*Kreitserova sonata.*

Leskov, Nikolai Semenovich (1831-1895).  
“Levsha.”  
“Ledi Makbet Mtsenskogo uezda.”

Chekhov, Anton Pavlovich (1860-1904).  
*Tri sestry.*  
*Vishnevyyi sad.*  
“Dom s mezoninom.”  
“Chelovek v futliare.”  
“Chernyi monakh.”  
“Kryzhovnik.”  
“O liubvi.”

“Dama s sobachkoi.”

Sologub [Teternikov], Fedor Kuz'mich (1863-1927).

*Melkii bes.*

“Ia szhech' ee khotel, koldun'iu zluuiu.” “Nedotykomka seraia.” “Chertovy kacheli.”

Bal'mont, Konstantin Dmitrievich (1867-1942).

“Ia mechtoiu lovil ukhodiashchie teni.” “Ia—izyskannost' russkoi medlitel'noi rechi.”

Gippius (Hippius), Zinaida Nikolaevna (1869-1945).

“Pauki.” “Peterburg.” “Ona.”

Bunin, Ivan Alekseevich (1870-1953).

“Solnechnyi udar.”

“Antonovskie iabloki.”

Andreev, Leonid Nikolaevich (1871-1919).

One story: “Bol'shoi shlem.”

“Bezdna.”

“Stena.”

Briusov, Valerii Iakovlevich (1873-1924).

“Togda, kogda ia prosnulsia.”

“O, zakroi.” “Ia.” “V restorane.” “Tvorchestvo.”

Blok, Aleksandr Aleksandrovich (1880-1921).

*Dvenadtsat'.*

*Balaganchik.*

“Predchuvstvuiu Tebia.” “Neznakomka.” “V restorane.” “Noch', ulitsa, fonar', apteka.”

Belyi, Andrei [Bugaeu, Boris Nikolaevich] (1880-1934).

*Peterburg.*

Zamiatin, Evgenii Ivanovich (1884-1937).

*My.*

Akhmatova, Anna Andreevna (1889-1966).

*Rekviem.*

*Poema bez geroia* (part 1).

“Pesnia o poslednei vstreche.” “Lotova zhena.” “Muza.”

Pasternak, Boris Leonidovich (1890-1960).

*Doktor Zhivago.*

“Gamlet.” “Zimniaia noch'.”

Bulgakov, Mikhail Afanas'evich (1891-1940).

*Master i Margarita.*

Mandel'shtam, Osip Emil'evich (1891-1938).

“Notre Dame.” “Bessonitsa. Gomer. Tugie parusa.”

Tsvetaeva, Marina Ivanovna (1892-1941).

“Oblaka vokrug.” “Nad gorodom otvergnutym Petrom.” “Imia tvoe—ptitsa v ruke.”

Maiakovskii, Vladimir Vladimirovich (1893-1930).

*Misteriia-buff.*

“Khoroshee otnoshenie k loshadiam.” “Bruklinskii most.” “A vy mogli by?” “Vse-taki.”  
“Posledniaia peterburgskaia skazka.” “Nash marsh.”

Babel', Isaak Emmanuilovich (1894-1941).

*Konarmii.*

Pil'niak, Boris [Boris Andreevich Vogau] (1894-1937).

“Krasnoe derevo.”

Esenin, Sergei Aleksandrovich (1895-1925).

“Ia poslednii poet derevni.” “Razbudi menia zavtra rano.”

Zoshchenko, Mikhail Mikhailovich (1895-1958).

“Bania.”

“Aristokratka.”

“Nervnye liudi.”

“Priklucheniia obez'iany.”

Il'f, Il'ia [Il'ia Arnol'dovich Fainzil'berg] (1897-1937) and Evgenii Petrov [Evgenii Petrovich Kataev] (1903-1942).

*Dvenadtsat' stol'ev.*

Nabokov, Vladimir Vladimirovich [pseud. Sirin] (1899-1951).

*Priglasenie na kazn'.*

Olesha, Iurii Karlovich (1899-1960).

*Zavist'.*

Platonov [Klimentov], Andrei Platonovich (1899-1951).

*Kotlovan.*

Kharms, Daniil [Daniil Ivanovich Iuvachev] (1905-1942).

“Kasirsha.”

“Sluchai na zheleznoi doroge.” “Fadeev, Kaldeev i Pepermaldeev.”

Gor'kii, Maksim [Alekssei Maksimovich Peshkov] (1868-1936).

*Mat'.*

*Na dne.*

“Chelkash.”

“Pesnia o burevestnike.”

Gladkov, Fedor Vasil'evich (1883-1958).

*Tsement.*

Furmanov, Dmitrii (1891-1926).

*Chapaev*

Fadeev, Aleksandr Aleksandrovich (1901-1956).

*Razgrom.*

Sholokhov, Mikhail Aleksandrovich (1905-1984).

*Tikhii Don* (book 1).

Official Soviet poetry (1918 until the Thaw Period): please consult the on-line anthology.

- Solzhenitsyn, Aleksandr Isaevich (1918- ).  
*Odin den' Ivana Denisovicha.*  
 "Matrenin dvor."
- Okudzhava, Bulat (1924-1997).  
 "Polnochnyi trolleibus." "Pesen'ka ob Arbate." "Goluboi sharik."
- Trifonov, Iurii Valentinovich (1925-1981).  
*Dom na naberezhnoi.*
- Evtushenko, Evgenii Aleksandrovich (1933- ).  
 "Khotiat li russkie voynu?" "Babii iar." "Nasledniki Stalina."
- Rasputin, Valentin Grigor'evich (1937- ).  
*Proshchanie s Materoi.*
- Erofeev, Venedikt (1938-1990).  
*Moskva-Petushki.*
- Petrushevskaiia, Liudmila Stefanovna (1938- ).  
 "Svoi krug."  
 "Novye Robinzony: Khronika kontsa XX veka."  
 "Bog Poseidon."  
 "Novyi Gulliver."
- Brodskii, Iosef (1940-1996).  
 "Evreiskoe kladbishche." "A. A. Akhmatovoi." "Ia pamiatnik sebe vozdvig inoi."
- Prigov, Dmitrii (1940-2007).  
 "V bufete Doma Literatorov." "Kogda zdes' na postu stoit Militsaner." "Prekrasnaia moia drevniaia Moskva." "A vot Moskva epokhi moei zhizni."
- Ulitskaia, Liudmila Evgen'evna (1943- ).  
 "Moskva-Podrezkovo. 1992." or "Vtorogo marta togo zhe goda."
- Tolstaia, Tat'iana Nikitichna (1951- ).  
 "Reka Okkervil'."
- Pelevin, Viktor Olegovich (1962- ).  
*Chapaev i Pustota.*  
 "Deviatyi son Very Pavlovny."

### Recommended Secondary Sources for MA Candidates

- Billington, James. *The Icon and the Axe*. 1966.
- Brown, Deming. *Soviet Russian Literature since Stalin*. 1978.
- Brown, Deming. *The Last Years of Soviet Russian Literature: Prose Fiction, 1975-1991*. 1993.
- Cornwell, Neil. *Reference Guide to Russian Literature*. Routledge Companions, 1998.
- Evtuhov, Catherine, David Goldfrank, Lindsey Hughes and Richard Stites. *A History of Russia: Peoples, Legends, Events, Forces*. 2004.
- Lincoln, W. Bruce. *Between Heaven and Hell: A Thousand Years of Russian Culture*. 1999.

- Literaturnyi èncyklopedicheskii slovar'*. Moscow: 1987.
- Moser, Charles. *The Cambridge History of Russian Literature*. 1992.
- Struve, Gleb. *Russian Literature under Lenin and Stalin, 1917-1953*. 1971.
- Terras, Victor, ed. *Handbook of Russian Literature*. 1985.
- Wachtel, Michael. *Cambridge Introduction to Russian Poetry*. 2004.
- Wellek, Rene. *History of Modern Criticism*, vols. 3-4. 1983.

## GENERAL GUIDELINES:

### Narrative and drama:

- Be able to describe main character(s), key plot events, setting, time.
- Be able to define and discuss dominant themes.

### Poetry:

- Know how to scan and identify the five chief binary and ternary meters.
- Be able to identify dominant tropes and figures.

### Literary Movements:

- Define the following movements:
  - 1) Sentimentalism
  - 2) Romanticism
  - 3) Natural School
  - 4) Realism
  - 5) Decadence
  - 6) Symbolism
  - 7) Modernism
  - 8) Avant-garde
  - 9) Socialist Realism
  - 10) Postmodernism
- For each movement:
  - Know 2-3 chief writers and their canonical works, starting and ending dates, key places associated with each movement.
  - Be able to describe the world view and role of art.
  - Be able to define major themes and character types.
  - Be able to describe the distinctive style for each major movement.

Note: You are expected to read short prose, drama, and poetry in Russian. Parts of novels should be read in Russian.

Texts of poetic works are available on the on-line *Antologiiia russkoi poezii dlia aspirantov kanzasskogo universiteta/ Kansas University Anthology of Russian Poetry*. See KU SLL webpage: <http://www2.ku.edu/~slavic/>

Many Russian prose works are available at: <http://lib.ru/>

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