

COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
Russian Literature (First Half of the 19th Century): from Romanticism to Naturalism	

Lecturer(s)	Department(s) where the course unit (module) is delivered
Coordinator: Assoc. Prof. Dagnė Beržaitė	Faculty of Philology, Slavonic Department
Other(s):	

Study cycle	Type of the course unit (module)
BA (Central and East European Languages and Cultures, Russian	Compulsory Course
Studies)	

Mode of delivery	Period when the course unit (module) is delivered	Language(s) of instruction
Lectures, Seminars	Autumn semester	English

Requirements for students	
Prerequisites:	Additional requirements (if any):

Course (module) volume in credits	Total student's workload	Contact hours	Self-study hours
5	130	48	82

Purpose of the course unit (module): programme competences to be developed

To develop the competence of students as researchers of literature; to develop competencies as a literary historian and researcher; to foster analytical and critical thinking; to cultivate and enhance students' intercultural and international competencies; and to develop students' independent work skills, as well as to improve their abilities in writing scholarly research and evaluating literature.

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Learning outcomes of the course unit (module)	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods					
Having completed the course, students will:	Lectures; problem-based teaching;	Cumulative assessment.					
have knowledge about the trends of the development of	seminars, test, presentations,						
Russian literature of first half of the 19th century as a	discussions.	Active and productive work during the					
phenomenon in the context of world literature: they will be		semester.					
able to explain the key features of the Russian novel, poetry							
and drama; to define the specificity of Russian literature;							
will also be ready to independently gain further knowledge		Open-ended question during the					
of literary theory: to find, describe, synthesise information on		examination.					
a chosen subject and present it in a oral and written form.							

	Contact hours						Self-study work: time and assignments		
Content: breakdown of the topics	Lectures	Tutorials	Seminars	Exercises	Laboratory work	Internship/work olacement	Contact hours	Self-study hours	Assignments
1.Stages of the development of Russian literature in the first half of the 19th century, its main characteristics; the understanding of classicism, sentimentalism, and romanticism within the tradition of 19th-century Russian	4		2				6	5	Preparation and presentation of reports on literary traditions and groupings in

literature. Literary groups of the early 19th century, their identities and differences. The features of colonial and imperial Russian literature during the reigns of Alexander I								Russian literature during the early decades of the 19th
and Nicholas I.								century.
2.Russian Romanticism in Poetry. The poetry of the "Golden Age" of Russian literature: the tradition of mystical romanticism of V. Zhukovsky, the Epicurean school of poetry of K. Batyushkov, and the lyrical traditions of the Decembrists.	2		2			6	5	Reading and commenting on examples of poem analysis. Independent analysis of a poem based on additional literature.
3.A. Pushkin's works: periods, issues, and current topics. Pushkin's lyric poetry, prose, and dramaturgy in the context of Russian literature of the third and fourth decades.	8		6			12	20	Lyric poetry; fragments from texts "The Gypsies"; "Eugene Onegin"; "Belkin's Tales" (two tales);" Little Tragedies"; fragments from text "The Captain's Daughter" (texts from cyclical works are discussed and agreed upon with the audience during the first lecture and seminar). Reading and commenting on both literary and scholarly texts (specific texts may be selected according to the audience's preferences and capabilities).
4. Russian Romanticism in the works of M. Lermontov: periods and distinctive features. Poetry and prose.	4		5			9	20	Lyric poetry; fragments from text "The Demon"; "A Hero of Our Times". Reading and commenting on texts. Preparation and presentation of a poem analysis.
5.The works of N. V. Gogol: thematic issues and current topics. Cyclicity, romanticism, the influence of Western tradition, and the formation of the St. Petersburg literary school.	4		6			10	20	Three stories ("The Sorochintsy Fair", "Notes of a Madman", "Nevsky Prospect"); fragments from texts "Dead Souls"(first part); "The Inspector". Reading and commenting on literary and scholarly texts.
6. "Natural School." Naturalism and realism: the period, authors, thematic issues, literary journals and principal publications.	2		2			4	5	Preparation and presentation of reports.
7.Written test			1			1		
8.Exam preparation			10			2.1	12	
Total	22	2	10		1	34	82	

Assessment strategy	Weight,%	Deadline	Assessment criteria
Active, productive working on	50%	September-	A student who has missed 30% or more of classes without a valid reason
seminars		December	may not be granted permission to take the exam.
			Report preparation and presentation.
Written Test	50%	January	22 open-ended and closed-ended questions. 20 correct answers to 20
			questions – 10 points; 19-18 questions – 9 points, and so on.

Author	Year of publication	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing place and house or web link
Compulsary reading				

A. Pushkin		Lyric poetry; fragments from texts "The Gypsies"; "Eugene Onegin"; "Belkin Tales" (two tales); "Little Tragedies"; Fragments from text	
M. Lermontov		"The Captain's Daughter". Lyric Poetry, fragments from text "The Demon", "A Hero of our Time".	
N. Gogol		Three stories ("The Sorochintsy Fair", "Notes of a Madman", "Nevsky Prospect"); fragments from texts "Dead Souls" (first part), "The Inspector".	
Optional reading	<u> </u>		·
Emerson, C.	2008	The Cambridge Introduction to Russian Literature	Princeton University Press
Cornwell, N.	1998	Referente Guide to Russian Literature	London-New York
Goldberg, L.	1976	Russian Literature in the 19th Century: Essays	Magnes Press, Hebrew University
Wolff, T.	1998	Pushkin on Literature (Studies in Russian Literature and Theory)	Northwestern University Press

Updated March 23, 2025