

Common Pool of Generic Electives (GE) Courses
Offered by
Department of Slavonic & Finno - Ugrian Studies

B.A. (Hons.) Semester- IV

Generic Elective Course-9 : Contemporary Women Writers of Russia

CREDIT DISTRIBUTION, ELIGIBILITY AND PRE-REQUISITES OF THE COURSE

Course Title & Code Credits	Credit Distribution of the Course			Eligibility Criteria	Pre-requisite of the course (if any)	Department offering the course
	Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/Practice			
Contemporary Women Writers of Russia	3	1	-	As per university rules	NA	Department of Slavonic & Finno-Ugrian Studies

Aims and Objectives:

1. To introduce students to the contributions of contemporary Russian women writers.
2. To explore themes such as gender, identity, family, and society in modern Russian literature.
3. To analyze narrative techniques and literary styles unique to contemporary women's writing in Russia.
4. To develop critical thinking and interpretative skills through the study of selected texts.

Unit 1: Introduction to Contemporary Women's Writing in Russia (15 Hours)

- 1.1. Overview of women's literature in Russia from the late Soviet period to the present.
- 1.2. Key themes and characteristics of contemporary women's writing.
- 1.3. Feminist perspectives in Russian literature.
- 1.4. The role of women writers in shaping modern Russian literary discourse.

Unit 2: Post-Soviet Women Writers and New Literary Trends (15 Hours)

- 2.1. Lyudmila Ulitskaya – Sonechka (excerpts)/ or any other story
- 2.2. Tatyana Tolstaya – Kys (excerpts)/ or any other story/work

2.3. Ludmila Petrushevskaya – Selected short stories from There Once Lived a Woman Who Tried to Kill Her Neighbor's Baby.

Unit 3: Themes of Gender, Identity, and Family in Contemporary Women's Fiction

(15 Hours)

3.1. Maria Stepanova – In Memory of Memory (excerpts)/selected stories

3.2. Alisa Ganieva – Bride and Groom (excerpts)/selected stories

3.3. Anna Starobinets – The Living (excerpts).

Unit 4: Experimental and Postmodernist Trends in Women's Writing (15 Hours)

4.1. Polina Dashkova – Madness Treads Lightly (excerpts).

4.2. Elena Chizhova – The Time of Women (excerpts).

4.3. Guzel Yakhina – Zuleikha Opens Her Eyes (excerpts).

Readings:

1. Ulitskaya, Lyudmila. *Sonechka*. Translated by Arch Tait. Schocken Books, 2005.
2. Tolstaya, Tatyana. *Kys*. Translated by Jamey Gambrell. New York Review Books, 2003.
3. Petrushevskaya, Ludmila. *There Once Lived a Woman Who Tried to Kill Her Neighbor's Baby*. Translated by Keith Gessen and Anna Summers. Penguin Books, 2009.
4. Stepanova, Maria. *In Memory of Memory*. Translated by Sasha Dugdale. New Directions, 2021.
5. Ganieva, Alisa. *Bride and Groom*. Translated by Carol Apollonio. Deep Vellum, 2018.
6. Starobinets, Anna. *The Living*. Translated by James Rann. Hesperus Press, 2012.
7. Dashkova, Polina. *Madness Treads Lightly*. Translated by Marian Schwartz. Amazon Crossing, 2018.
8. Chizhova, Elena. *The Time of Women*. Translated by Simon Patterson and Nina Chordas. Glagoslav, 2012.
9. Yakhina, Guzel. *Zuleikha Opens Her Eyes*. Translated by Lisa C. Hayden. Oneworld Publications, 2019.
10. Kelly, Catriona. *A History of Russian Women's Writing 1820-1992*. Oxford University Press, 1994.
11. Goscilo, Helena. *Dehexing Sex: Russian Womanhood During and After Glasnost*. University of Michigan Press, 1996.
12. Marsh, Rosalind. *Gender and Russian Literature: New Perspectives*. Cambridge University Press, 1998.
13. Lipovetsky, Mark. *Postmodern Crises: From Lolita to Pussy Riot*. Academic Studies Press, 2018.