

University of Bristol
Department of Russian
First Year Russian Reading List

RUSSIAN LANGUAGE

The following textbooks are used in First Year classes, and no previous knowledge of them is assumed.

For those beginning Russian:

Svetlana Le Fleming and Susan E. Kay, *Colloquial Russian: The Complete Course for Beginners*, 3rd Edition London, New York: Routledge, October 2009. (Buy with CDs if possible.)

For those with A-Level or equivalent in Russian:

Derek Offord, *Modern Russian: An Advanced Grammar Course*, Bristol: Bristol Classical Press, 1997.

Dictionaries:

The best available pocket bilingual dictionary is published by Langenscheidt:
Russian Langenscheidt Pocket Dictionary: Russian-English / English-Russian

Serious concerns have been raised about the quality and accuracy of the new *Oxford Russian Dictionary* (published 2007). Older editions, based on the 1984 or 1993 Oxford Russian bilingual editions, may be available second-hand and are preferable, despite being out-of-date in certain areas of lexis and in their guidance on usage.

You may also find useful:

- Terence Wade, *A Comprehensive Russian Grammar*, London: WileyBlackwell, 2000.
- Terence Wade, *A Russian Grammar Workbook*, London: WileyBlackwell, 1995.
- Terene Wade, *Using Russian Vocabulary*, Cambridge, CUP 2009

CULTURAL UNITS

With the exception of those students taking the Introduction to the Russian Novel unit, who may wish to get ahead in reading the novels for this unit, there is no set reading to be done in advance of your arrival in Bristol. The following are either books used in course units or books that will provide valuable background for your studies in First Year and beyond.

Introduction to Russian History and Culture

The following books provide useful background for this mandatory unit and for work in future years:

- Cracraft, James, *The Revolution of Peter the Great*, Cambridge, MA and London: Harvard University Press, 2003
- Cornwell, Neil (ed.), *The Routledge Companion to Russian Literature*, New York: Routledge, 2001
- Florinsky, Michael T., *Russia: A History and an Interpretation*, 2 vols (New York: Macmillan, 1953).
- Kelly, Catriona, *A Very Short Introduction to Russian Literature*, Oxford : Oxford University Press, 2001.

- Hughes, Lindsey, *Russia in the Age of Peter the Great* (New Haven, CT, and London: Yale University Press, 1998).
- Kochan, Lionel and Richard Abraham, *The Making of Modern Russia: From Kiev Rus' to the Collapse of the Soviet Union*, 3rd edn (London: Penguin, 1997).
- Mirsky, D. S., *A History of Russian Literature* (New York: Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1949).
- Offord, Derek, *Nineteenth-Century Russia: Opposition to Autocracy* (Harlow: Longman, 1999).
- Riasanovsky, N. G., *A History of Russia*, 6th edn (New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000).
- Sumner, B. H., *Peter the Great and the Emergence of Russia* (London: English Universities Press, 1972).
- Sumner, B. H., *Survey of Russian History*, 2nd revised edn (London: Duckworth, 1947)

You are strongly advised to acquire a copy of the books by Cracraft, Kochan and Offord in the above list.

Introduction to the Russian Novel (for Single Honours and post-A-Level Russian students only):

- Alexander Pushkin – *The Captain's Daughter*
- Mikhail Lermontov – *A Hero of Our Time*
- Nikolai Gogol – *Dead Souls*
- Ivan Turgenev – *Fathers and Sons* (A few copies are available in the School Office at £2)
- Fedor Dostoevsky – *Poor Folk*
- Ivan Goncharov – *Oblomov*

Beginners Czech Language (option for post-A-Level Russian students only)

We use the following beginners course-book/workbook, which can be bought from the School Office at the start of term:

Ivana Bednářová and Magdalena Pintarová, *Communicative Czech Elementary*, Prague: Univerzita Karlova, 1998.

Dictionaries may also be bought from the School Office.

You may also find the following useful:

- James Naughton, *Czech: An Essential Grammar*, London, New York: Routledge, 2007.
- Michael Heim, *Contemporary Czech*, Los Angeles: Slavica, 1982.