

Spring 2000
Russian G6119y
18th-Century Russian Poetry
Prof. Irina Reyfman

Syllabus and Schedule of Discussions

January 24 Introduction. Course structure and requirements. Political and cultural developments in the eighteenth-century. Eighteenth-century Russian literature and its idiosyncrasies. Its boundaries, chronological and generic. Eighteenth-century literary movements. Normative aesthetics. Why do we read eighteenth-century poetry?

Required Readings:

A. M. Panchenko, "O smene pisatel'skogo tipa v petrovskuiu epokhu," in *XVIII vek*, no. 9, pp. 112-128.

Dmitrij Cizevskij, *History of Russian Literature. From the Eleventh Century to the End of the Baroque* (The Hague: Mouton, 1960), chapter "The Baroque," pp. 320-326, 431-438.

A. M. Panchenko, "Dva etapa russkogo barokko," *TODRL*, no. 32, pp. 100-106.

January 31 Russia and Europe. Imitation and models. Hierarchy of genres. Literary polemics.

Texts:

Vasilii Trediakovskij (1703-1769), "Epistola ot Rossiiskiiia poezii k Apollinu,"

Aleksandr Sumarokov (1717/18-1777), epistles "O russkom iazyke" and "O stikhotvorstve."

Required Readings:

G. A. Gukovskii, "O russkom klassitsizme," *Poetika*, 5 (1929), pp. 21-65.

Irina Reyfman, *Vasilii Trediakovskij: The Fool of the "New" Russian Literature* (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 1990), chapter 3, "Criticism, parody, and Myth," pp. 70-131.

February 7 The emergence of Russian poetry. Systems of versification: syllabics and syllabo-tonics. Reform of versification.

Texts:

Feofan Prokopovich (1681-1736), "Za mogiloiu riaboiu," "O suetnyi cheloveche, rabe nekliuchimyi."

Vasilii Trediakovskii, *Novyi i kratkii sposob k slozheniiu rossiiskikh stikhov*, 1735 and 1752 (excerpts), "Oda torzhestvennaia o sdache goroda Gdanska" (1734 and 1752, excerpts).

Mikhailo Lomonosov, "Pis'mo o pravilakh rossiiskogo stikhotvorstva"

(continued overleaf)

- (February 7, cont.) **Required Readings:**
Mikhail Leont'evich Gasparov, *Ocherk istorii russkogo stikha. Metrika. Ritmika. Strofika* (Moscow: "Nauka," 1984), chapter 1, pp. 33-40.
A. A. Iliushin, "Sillabicheskaia sistema v istorii russkogo stikha," in *Slavianskoe barokko. Istoriko-kul'turnye problemy epokhi* (Moscow: "Nauka," 1979), pp. 316-334.

GENRES

- February 14 Solemn ode

Texts:

Mikhailo Lomonosov, "Oda na vziatie Khotina"
Vasilii Petrov (1736-1799), "Oda na voynu s turkami."
Aleksandr Radishchev, "Vol'nost'" (excerpts).
Gavrila Derzhavin, "Videnie murzy."

Required readings:

Iurii Tynianiv, "Oda kak oratorskii zhanr," in his *Poetika, literatura, kino* (Moscow: "Nauka," 1977), pp. 227-252.

- February 21 Spiritual ode and paraphrases of psalms

Texts:

Feofan Prokopovich, "Vsiak sebe v pomoshch' Vyshniago predavyi" (paraphrase of 90 psalm).
Vasilii Trediakovskii, "Oda XVIII. Parafrazis vtoryia pesni Moiseevy."
Mikhailo Lomonosov, "Oda, vybrannaia iz Iova."
Gavrila Derzhavin, "Vlastiteliam i sudiiam."

Required readings:

Alexander Levitsky, "Early Concepts of the Russian oda dukhovnaia," in A. G. Cross, ed., *Russia and the West in the Eighteenth Century* (Newtonville, MA: Oriental Research Partners, 1983), pp. 185-91.

- February 28 Elegy

Texts:

Vasilii Trediakovskii, "Elegiia I."
Aleksandr Sumarokov, "Uzhe ushli or nas igraniia i smekhi," "Terpi, moia dusha, terpi razlichny muki."
Gavrila Derzhavin, "Na smert' Mashcherskogo."
Aleksandr Radishchev, "Pochto, moi drug, pochto."

Required readings:

G. A. Gukovskii, "Elegiia v XVIII veke," in his *Russkaia poeziia XVIII veka*, pp. 48-102.
L. Frizman, *Zhizn' liricheskogo zhanra. Russkaia elegiia ot Sumarokova do Nekrasova*. Moscow: 1973, pp. 3-36.

March 6 Poslanie

Texts:

Denis Fonvizin, "Poslanie k slugam moim Shumilovu, Van'ke i Petrushke."
Mikhail Murav'ev (1757-1807), "Sel'skaia zhizn'. K Afanasiu Matveevichu Brianchaninovu."
Nikolai Karamzin, "Poslanie k Dmitrievu" (1794).
Gavrila Derzhavin, "Evgeniiu. Zhizn' Zvanskaia."

March 20 Love song, anacreontics, and light poetry

Texts:

Antiokh Kantemir, "O spiashchei svoei poliubovnitse," Iz Anakreonta: "O svoikh gusliakh," "O liubvi."
Vasilii Trediakovskii, "Proshenie liubve," "Pesenka liubovna."
Mikhailo Lomonosov, *Razgovor s Anakreontom*.
Aleksandr Sumarokov, "Oda anakreoticheskaia" ("Pliaskoiu svoei, liubezna"), "My drug druga liubim," "Ne grusti, moi svet."
Gavrila Derzhavin, "Russkie devushki."
Nikolai Karamzin, "Strannost' liubvi."
Mikhail Murav'ev, "Oda iz Anakreonta" ("Na chele moem morshchiny").
Ippolit Bogdanovich (1743-1803), *Dushen'ka* (canto 1)

Required readings:

Grigorii Gukovskii. "Ob anakreoticheskoi ode," in his *Russkaia poeziia XVIII veka*, pp. 103-150.

March 27 Fable

Texts:

Antiokh Kantemir, "Basn' II: Pchel'naia matka i zmeia."
Vasilii Trediakovskii, "Voron i lisitsa."
Aleksandr Sumarokov, "Kolovratnost'," "Vorona i lisa."
Vasilii Maikov, "Roza i zmeia."
Ivan Khemnitser (1745-1784), "Strekoza."
Ivan Dmitriev, "Zmeia i p'iavitsa," "Mukha."
Ivan Krylov, (1769-1844), "Vorona i lisitsa," "Strekoza i muravei," "Slon i mos'ka," "Kvartet," "Volk na psarne."

Required readings:

Lidiia Vindt, "Basnia kak literaturnyi zhanr," *Poetika*, III (1927), pp. 87-101.

AUTHORS

April 3 **Antiokh Kantemir** (1681-1736): "Satira I. Na khuliashchikh uchenie. K umu svoemu," "Satira VI. O istinnom blazhenstve."

April 10 **Vasilii Trediakovskii**: "Stikhi pokhval'nye Rossii," "Stikhi pokhval'nye Parizhu," "Pokhvala Izherskoi zemle."

Mikhailo Lomonosov: "Utrennee razmyshlenie o Bozhiem velichestve," "Vechernee razmyshlenie o Bozhiem velichestve," "Ja znak bessmertiiia sebe vozdvignul."

April 17 **Aleksandr Sumarokov:** "Sonet" ("Ne trat', krasavitsa..."), "Oda na suetu mira," "O blagorodstve."

Sumarokov's disciples:

Mikhail Kheraskov (1733-1807): "Bogatstvo," "Zlato," "Znatnaia poroda."

Aleksei Rzhnevskii (1737-1804): "Stans," "Oda 1," "Oda 2, sobrannaia iz odnoslozhnykh slov," "Sonet, zakliuchaiushchii v sebe tri mysli."

Required readings:

Grigorii Gukovskii, *Russkaia poeziiia XVIII veka* (Leningrad: "Academia," 1927), chapter "Lomonosov, Sumarokov, shkola Sumarokova," pp. 9-47.

April 24 **Gavrila Derzhavin** (1743-1816), "Na rozhdenie v severe porfirorodnogo otroka," "Felitsa," "Bog," "Na smert' Kateriny Iakovlevny," "Pamiatnik," "Snigir'," "Reka vremen v svoem stremlen'i."

May 1 **Nikolai Karamzin** (1766-1826), "Poeziia," "K milosti," "Epitafii," "Nadpisi na statuiu Kupidona," "Ne son li zhizn' i zdeshnii svet?"
Ivan Dmitriev (1760-1837), "Stansy k N. M. Karamzinu," *Modnaia zhena*.

Conclusion

Requirements: Active participation in discussions; one presentation; a term paper or take-home final.