Optional Module List.

**Polish for Heritage Speakers**
For students with knowledge of Polish, in particular as spoken at home. Discover many hidden aspects of Polish and focus on being able to communicate in a grammatically correct way in all situations. Our innovative materials will ensure you expand your skills in all areas: reading, writing, listening, speaking. (Dagmar Divjak d.divjak@sheffield.ac.uk OR Anna Socha a.socha@sheffield.ac.uk)

**Advanced Russian Through Literary Texts**
Russian short stories by A. Platonov, K. Paustovsky, Ch. Aitmatov, V. Tokareva and other contemporary Russian writers. Content-based comprehension classes, the learning of key vocabulary and phrases, and discussions on the content of the texts will further refine students’ Russian language skills. (Liudmila Nedialkova l.nedialkova@sheffield.ac.uk)

**Applied Russian Language Skills**
Students will develop a high level of language ability through discussion of material that is targeted towards an oral presentation, an essay and other forms of academic writing. The module will build on the critical understanding of Russian culture and society that students have developed during their period of residence in Russia. (Marianna Ivanova m.k.ivanova@sheffield.ac.uk)

**Project in Russian Studies**
Students – under supervision – prepare a dissertation of approximately 8,000 words (or conduct a comparable project) on a topic within the fields of Russian literary, linguistic, cultural or translation studies, chosen in consultation with module tutors. (Evgeny Dobrenko e.dobrenko@sheffield.ac.uk)

**Advanced Translation from Russian into English**
This module addresses issues facing English speakers when translating from Russian, and gives them tools to handle these issues. Working with Russian texts from various genres, student look in-depth at conventions that translators need to be aware of and abide by; and investigate the use of machine translation, corpora and other translation tools. The module is intended for those thinking about translation as a career, as well as for those who may want to use their Russian professionally in another capacity and who need to know how to assess and summarise texts quickly, accurately and fluently. (Neil Bermel n.bermel@sheffield.ac.uk)

**Optional Module List.**

**DEPARTMENT OF RUSSIAN AND SLAVONIC STUDIES**

**OPTIONAL MODULES – 2016 - 17**

**History of East-Central Europe**
Provides a broad knowledge of the history and culture of Central Europe, with particular focus on the Czech Lands and Poland - you select your area of interest. You will prepare presentations, read translations of period texts and participate in class discussions. (Ludek Knittl l.knittl@sheffield.ac.uk)

**Politics and Culture in the USSR 1917-1938**
The focus is on the early USSR as a multinational state and the place of Russia within that society. Topics include class, gender and ethnicity; literacy and educational reform; the politics of language in a multi-national state; nationalism and internationalism; art and religion in society, and different conceptions of cultural revolution. (Craig Brandist c.s.brandist@sheffield.ac.uk)

**The Russian Novel in the 19th Century**
The course traces the development of the 19th-century Russian novel through the shorter prose fiction of Pushkin and Gogol to the formal experimentation of Pushkin’s ‘Eugene Onegin’, Lermontov’s ‘A Hero of Our Time’ and Gogol’s ‘Dead Souls’ - in which the limits of the genre were confronted and tested. We examine the works of those most commonly regarded as Russia’s greatest writers: Turgenev, Dostoevskii and Tolstoi. (Adam Fergus a.fergus@sheffield.ac.uk)

**Learning and Teaching Foreign Languages**
How do we acquire a foreign language? Through readings, discussion and class observations, this module explores issues surrounding language learning and teaching, including how native and foreign language acquisition compare and how the languages influence each other; what methods we use to teach different language skills, and the role that motivation, feedback and technologies play in learning and teaching methodology. (Ludek Knittl l.knittl@sheffield.ac.uk)

**Russian Language and Society**
Through this module you will become aware of the enormous impact the language you speak has on your daily life. We explore this topic by studying key-issues ranging from the way Russian children acquire case and aspect, how Russian influences the way its speakers think and identify as a nation, and how the language has been used to create power structures. This module is research-led and inquiry-based: you will read and discuss core publications in the field and conduct research of your own on a topic that interests you. (Dagmar Divjak d.divjak@sheffield.ac.uk)

**Disclaimer:**

THIS IS AN INDICATIVE LIST OF MODULES. THE UNIVERSITY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO DISCONTINUE MODULES AND TO AMEND OUR PROGRAMME IF NECESSARY. TIMETABLE AND OTHER RESTRICTIONS MAY PREVENT STUDENTS FROM PURSUING A PARTICULAR COMBINATION OF MODULES.
Beginners’ Polish
You’ll discover the ins and outs of Polish grammar, with a focus on communication. We use innovative materials developed here at Sheffield which will boost your listening, reading, speaking and writing skills. After one year you’ll be surprised at how good your Polish is! (Dagmar Divjak d.divjak@sheffield.ac.uk OR Joanna Kowalska j.kowalska@sheffield.ac.uk)

Beginners’ Czech
Students gain a thorough grounding in contemporary standard Czech and develop good productive and receptive skills in speech and writing. This is not a crash-course in phrase-book Czech – you will be able to think on your feet in everyday situations and gain a good insight into the mechanics of this fascinating Slavonic language. (Linda Hanna l.hanna@sheffield.ac.uk OR Luděk Knítt l.knittl@sheffield.ac.uk)

Contemporary Russian Society
This module provides an overview of the historical changes that have affected Russian society since the introduction of the Gorbachev reform programme in 1985. It includes the dramatic economic, political, demographic, institutional and ideological changes that have occurred since then. We will also look at the international context in which these changes have taken place, leading to an analysis of the interaction between domestic and international factors that have shaped and continue to shape Russian society today. (Craig Brandist c.s.brandist@sheffield.ac.uk)

Russian History and Society Through Film
As an introduction to Russian and Soviet cinema, this module sheds light on a vital component of 20th-century Russian culture and on the history of European film. It offers an overview of major historic filmmakers and deals with issues of reception, audience, politics, form, and national and ethnic identities. The module concludes with the work of innovative directors from the late Soviet and post-Soviet period. (Evgenii Dobrenko e.dobrenko@sheffield.ac.uk)

Soviet Culture in the Era of the Great Terror
The era of the Great Terror in Stalinist Russia is examined through its cultural output and contemporary critiques of Soviet ideology. The primary materials are Soviet literature and films of the 1930s and 1940s, as well as fiction, biographies, memoirs and illustrative material on art and architecture. (Evgenii Dobrenko e.dobrenko@sheffield.ac.uk)

Intermediate Translation
This module advances your grasp of grammar, syntax and vocabulary to a level that gives you an awareness of good translation practice. You will also enhance your knowledge of the grammatical and stylistic differences between English and Russian, so that accurate, convincing translation can be achieved. (Linda Hanna l.hanna@sheffield.ac.uk OR Marianna Ivanova m.k.ivanova@sheffield.ac.uk)

Pushkin and Russian Literature
Russians generally regard Pushkin, rather than famous novelists such as Tolstoy and Dostoevsky, as their greatest writer. This module explores the tradition from which Pushkin emerged. A selection of his works, ranging from the witty to the tragic, will then show how his oeuvre combines Enlightenment and Romantic values. We shall then see how his treatment of individual ambition and agency is a vital precursor to the great nineteenth-century tradition. (Adam Fergus a.fergus@sheffield.ac.uk)

The Rise of the Russian Novel
This module explores the origins of Russia’s great novels and shows how ambitions for political and social reform in the mid-nineteenth century were woven into the emerging tradition. Among other things, we shall consider the roles of irony and satire and the connection between personal failure and the failings of wider society. Texts range from Pushkin’s Evgenii Onegin to early works by Tolstoy and Dostoevsky. (Adam Fergus a.fergus@sheffield.ac.uk)

Dostoevsky
The psychological intensity of Dostoevsky’s works is among the most striking of the literary responses to the proto-revolutionary ambitions of the Russian radical intelligentsia of the second half of the nineteenth century. How Dostoevsky and the radical intelligentsia responded to questions such as individual and social justice, freedom of action, human dignity and their visions of the future will be the focus of this module. (Adam Fergus a.fergus@sheffield.ac.uk)

Tolstoy and Chekhov
How do Tolstoy’s and Chekhov’s characters make the choices they do when faced with questions of war, sexual passion, illness, religion, family relations and, in the final analysis, good and evil? A selection of short stories, essays and plays, including Tolstoy’s Anna Karenina and Chekhov’s Cherry Orchard, gives an overview of both authors’ literary development. (Adam Fergus a.fergus@sheffield.ac.uk)

Reading the Revolution
Between the early 1880s and the mid 1930s, Russian society and culture went through changes of astonishing scale and variety. During this period of rapid population expansion, modernization and political upheaval, the literary world’s established role of social commentator was transformed. As with other art forms, it consciously rejected old values and developed radically new forms as it sought new ones to fit its visions of the future. (Adam Fergus a.fergus@sheffield.ac.uk)

The Structures of Russian
This unit examines the structure of contemporary standard Russian vocabulary, morphology, syntax and discourse, and the historical evolution of the present situation. (Neel Bermel n.bermel@sheffield.ac.uk OR Dagmar Divjak d.divjak@sheffield.ac.uk)

Language in Use: An Introduction to Corpus Linguistic Research
The use of large-scale text databases to shed light on regularity and structure in language now occupies a central position in linguistic research that wouldn’t have been thinkable twenty years ago. You will look at the way corpora are used by linguists for a range of tasks and in a range of languages. Students of all modern European languages, including English, can take this course. (Dagmar Divjak d.divjak@sheffield.ac.uk)