



**Module selection and advance reading for new students of
degrees with Russian**

September 2023 intake

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Russian Language modules –

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Literature and Culture modules – short description

Please also refer to the section *Russian Literature and Culture - recommended advance reading* later in this document.

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Which modules should you choose?

BA Russian Studies

If you are taking the **BA Russian Studies**

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The Making of Modern Russian Culture

We recommend that you should read some of these longer works studied on the module in advance. There is no need to choose a particular edition.

Evgenii Zamiatin (Evgeny Zamyatin), - *We* – this is the Russian *1984* and was written long before Orwell's novel; published in various editions (Penguin Classics, Vintage, Alma), by translators Clarence Brown, Natasha Randall or Hugh Aplin

Mikhail Bulgakov, - *Heart of a Dog* – a surreal comedy of life in post-revolutionary Moscow with a warning against the dangers of uncontrolled scientific experimentation; published in various editions (Vintage, Harvill, Penguin Classics, Alma), translations by Michael Glenny, Andrew Bromfield, Antonina Bouis.

Aleksandr (Alexander) Solzhenitsyn, - *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich* –



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Representations of Russia

You are advised to read in advance the work below, which is the longest single work studied on the module. In addition you will be provided with a number of different texts at the beginning of term.

Lev Tolstoi (Leo Tolstoy), - *Hadji Murad* – an account of Russia and the Caucasus.

There are three good English translations currently in print:

Lev Tolstoy, *Hadji Murat*, Hesperus Press, 2003, translated by Hugh Aplin

Leo Tolstoy, *The Cossacks and Other Stories*, Penguin Classics, 2006, translated by Paul Foote and David McDuff

Leo Tolstoy, *Master and Man and Other Stories*, Penguin Classics, 1977, translated by Paul Foote [NB: the one you need is ISBN: 0140443312].

General

In addition, for all students, there is a wealth of background reading about Russia which you could look at (and may have done so already). We list here a book by Colin Thubron which students often find enjoyable and informative, the most recent all-encompassing history of Russia by Geoffrey Hosking (a SSEES emeritus professor), and finally an introduction to Russian life and culture, with some Russian language too, by Stephen and Tatyana Webber:

Sheila Fitzpatrick, *The Russian Revolution*. Oxford: University Press, 2008.

Geoffrey Hosking, *Russia and the Russians. A History*, Penguin

Colin Thubron, *Among the Russians* and *In Siberia*, Penguin

Stephen and Tatyana Webber, *Russian Language, Life and Culture*, Teach Yourself Books