

Module Title: Postcolonial Perspectives on the Russian Novel

Module Code: COM5056

Credit Value: 15

Level: 5

Pre-requisite modules:

Content Description

This module engages with a canon of Russian prose and minor literature of the 19th century within the broader theoretical perspectives and questions of postcolonialism. Offering comparative case studies of literary and theoretical texts, it traces continuities and discontinuities between the imperialist politics of Russia and the literary themes of centre and periphery, people and power, geography and land, Westernisation and progress, Enlightenment and counter-Enlightenment, tradition and nationalism.

Module Aims

1. To provide a comparative overview of the development of Russian novel and minor literature in the context of postcolonial debates on Russian imperialism.
2. To introduce students to the debates surrounding literary works and to sensitise them to the contributions they made to discussions of the political and social issues of the day.
3. To equip students with key theoretical, critical, and analytical tools to analyse cultural discourses, their forms and functions in social, political and historical contexts.
4. To develop a comparative understanding of literary and theoretical texts.
5. To encourage the development of essay writing skills