

Russian Fairy Tales

Russian 0090

<http://clover.slavic.pitt.edu/~tales/>

Outline

- What, Who, and Where?
- Course Description
- Easy Questions
- *Ever After: A Cinderella Story*
- Grimm and Afanas'ev
- The Authorship of Fairy Tales
- The Authorship and Transmission of Folklore
- Homework for Wednesday, January 7

What?

- Russian Fairy Tales
- Russian 0090

Who?

- David J. Birnbaum
- Dana Aravich
- Nomin Buuch
- Lauren Carpenter
- Jay Deocampo
- Felicia French
- Carrie Marquette
- Abigail Snyder

Where: Instructors' Offices?

- Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures
- 1417 Cathedral of Learning
- Contacting instructors
 - Regular office hours are listed on the course web site
 - All instructors are available by appointment
 - All instructors are available by email
 - You may visit any instructor during office hours (not just your own recitation instructor)

Where: Class Meetings?

- Lecture
 - David Lawrence 121
- Recitation
 - Locations (all in the Cathedral of Learning) are available on the Course Description at course web site (see next slide)

Where: Web Site?

- <http://clover.slavic.pitt.edu/~tales/>
 - This web site is *not* part of the University's general CourseWeb (Blackboard) service
- What's on the web site?
 - Course Description
 - Syllabus
 - PowerPoint slides for lecture
 - Other goodies
- What's on CourseWeb (Blackboard)?
 - Copyrighted readings that are available only to enrolled students

How to Use the Web Site

- Print out and retain:
 - Course Description
 - Syllabus (includes assignments, exam dates, etc.)
- Before each lecture:
 - PowerPoint slides are posted the night before the lecture
 - Print them out, bring them to the lecture, and take notes directly on the slides
- Consult additional documents as needed

The Role of Recitation

- Recitation is *new material*; it is not a review of lecture
- Recitation has its own *reading assignments* (see the on-line syllabus)
- You need to participate in recitation in order to receive *participation points*
- Participating actively in recitation will *improve your grade*, and will also help you learn more and find class more interesting and more satisfying in general.

Course Materials

- Two required books
 - Ivanits, *Russian Folk Belief*
 - Afanas'ev, *Russian Fairy Tales*
- Course Pack?
 - No more Course Pack
 - Readings previously included in the Course Pack are now on CourseWeb (Blackboard)
- On-line texts (see Course Description and Syllabus)
 - Copyrighted readings are on CourseWeb (Blackboard)
 - Other materials are on the regular course web site, <http://clover.slavic.pitt.edu/~tales/>

How to Succeed in this Course

1. Attend all lecture and recitation meetings.
2. Take the three scheduled examinations (collectively approximately 2/3 of the course grade).
3. Take at least four of the unannounced quizzes (collectively 1/6 of the course grade).
4. Participate actively and intelligently in recitation (1/6 of the course grade).
5. (Complete as many of the optional extra-credit assignments as you can.)

What Students Say About the Course

- Most common positive comment
 - Students learn more about fairy tales (and not just Russian fairy tales) than they ever expected
- Most common negative comment
 - Too much reading

**What Students Say
About the Instructor**

- Most common positive comment
 - Extremely well organized and helpful
- Most common negative comment
 - Talks too fast

Easy Questions

- What color was George Washington’s white horse?
- Who lies buried in Grant’s tomb?
- Who wrote Grimm’s fairy tales?

Ever After: A Cinderella Story

- Andy Tennant, 1998
- Drew Barrymore
 - Danielle de Barbarac
- Anjelica Huston
 - Baroness Rodmilla de Ghent
- Jeanne Moreau
 - Grande Dame
 - Danielle’s Great Great Granddaughter
- Brothers Grimm (Charles Perrault)
- (Leonardo da Vinci)

Grimm and Afanas'ev

- *Kinder- und Hausmärchen (Children's and Household Tales)*, 1812–22
 - Jakob Ludwig Grimm (1785–1863)
 - Wilhelm Karl Grimm (1786–1859)
- *Narodnye russkie skazki (Russian Folk Tales)*, 1855–64
 - Aleksandr Afanas'ev (1826–71)

The Authorship of Fairy Tales

- Fairy tales, unlike most literature, do not have identifiable authors, and are part of the culture of a community ...
- ... but communities do not sit down in town meetings to create them.
- How are fairy tales (and folk texts in general) established?

Step on a crack and you ...

- When? Where? How?
- Communal authorship
- Transmission

Homework for Wednesday

- Quiz on Course Description and Syllabus
 - Available on course web site from link at:
<http://clover.slavic.pitt.edu/~tales/>
- Read Ivanits 3–18, 51–63, 169–77
