

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, September 2

What?

- Russian Fairy Tales
- Russian 0090

Who?

- David J. Birnbaum
- Dana Aravich
- Lauren Carpenter
- Felicia French
- Sarah Jones
- Gabrielle (Gabi) Kirilloff
- Urie Kline
- Rheanna Macias
- Molly Sauter
- Abigail (Abby) Snyder
- (Carrie Marquette)

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
 - Clapp L9
- Recitation
 - Locations (all in the Cathedral of Learning) are available on the Course Description at course web site (see next slide)
- If you want to add this course
 - Seats still available in all Friday recitations (9, 10, 11, 12)

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)?
 - Announcements
 - Grades

How to Use the Web Site

- Read carefully:
 - 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
 - Sample quiz and exam questions
 - Guide to preparing extra-credit assignments

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

- Three required books (in Book Center)
 - Ivanits, *Russian Folk Belief*
 - Afanas'ev, *Russian Fairy Tales*
 - *Course Pack*
- Several recommended books (in Book Center)
- On-line texts (see Course Description and Syllabus)
 - <http://clover.slavic.pitt.edu/tales/>
- Books will be on reserve in Hillman by the end of this week

How to Succeed in this Course

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

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
