COURSE REQUIREMENTS – DETAILS ON BLACKBOARD (account required):
1. access to course site in Blackboard for all assignments;
2. participation in class discussions;
3. two essays;
4. two examinations: midterm and final.

BOOKS:
Required:
- Lydia Chukovskaya. “Sofia Petrovna”.

Recommended (required reading, but the texts are available on the Internet)
- “Alexander Pushkin” (Everyman’s Poetry), in which we will read. A. Pushkin. “The Bronze Horseman”
- Alexander Pushkin. “The Queen of Spades and the Other Stories” (we will read “The Queen of Spades”)
- Nikolai Gogol. Plays and Petersburg Tales”, in which we will read “The Overcoat” and “Nevsky Prospect”
- Fyodor Dostoevsky. “A Gentle Creature and Other Stories”, in which we will read “White Nights”

Week 1.
Class #1, Tuesday, September 2: Introduction to the course.

Class #2, Thursday, September 4: Russia before St. Petersburg.

Week 2.
Class #3, Tuesday, September 9: Peter the Great: His Reforms and His Personality.

Class #4, Thursday, September 11: Founding and Building of St. Petersburg.
The topic of the first essay is given! The essay is due Tuesday, October 14.

Week 3.
Class #5, Tuesday, September 16: Elizabeth’s Baroque Palaces.

Class #6, Thursday, September 18: Catherine the Great’s St. Petersburg.

Week 4.
Class #7, Tuesday, September 23: St. Petersburg of Alexander Pushkin: “The Bronze Horseman”.

Class # 8, Thursday, September 25: St. Petersburg in “the Queen of Spades” by Alexander Pushkin.

Week 5.
Class #9, Tuesday, September 30: Early 19th century St. Petersburg: the City of Grandeur and Order.

Class # 10, Thursday, October 2: Gogol’s St. Petersburg: “The Overcoat”.

Week 6.
Class #11, Thursday, October 9: Gogol’s Nevsky Prospect – St. Petersburg’s main Street.
**Special reading:** N. Gogol. “The Nevsky Prospect.”

**Week 7:**
Class #12, Tuesday, October 14: Dostoevsky’s “White Nights”.
**Special reading:** F. Dostoevsky. “White Nights.”
**The first ESSAY is due!**

Class #13, Thursday, October 16: The Hundred Years of St. Petersburg in Art.

**Week 8:**
Class #14, Tuesday, October 21: MIDTERM EXAM.

Class #15, Thursday, October 23: The Russian Revolution: Petrograd.

**Week 9:**
Class #16, Tuesday, October 28: St. Petersburg in the film “October” by Sergei Eisenstein.

Class #17, Thursday, October 30: “Leningrad” by Osip Mandelshtam.
**The topic for the second essay is given! The essay is due Tuesday, November 25.**

**Week 10:**
Class #18, Tuesday, November 4: The City of Terror: Chukovskaya’s “Sophia Petrovna”.
**Special reading:** Lydia Chukovskaya. “Sophia Petrovna”. This is about 100 pages of reading: you may want to start reading in advance.

Class #19: Thursday, November 6: The City of Terror: Chukovskaya’s “Sophia Petrovna”. The end of the discussion.

**Week 11:**
Class #20, Tuesday, November 11: The City as Martyr: Akhmatova’s “Requiem”.
**Special reading:** Anna Akhmatova. “Requiem” (text is available on the Internet).

Class #21, Thursday, November 13: Leningrad under the 900-day Siege.

**Week 12:**
Class #22, Tuesday, November 18: Shostakovich’s “Leningrad” Symphony.


**Week 13:**
Class #24, Tuesday, November 25: “The Autumn Marathon”. Part II.
**The second ESSAY is due!**

**Week 14:**
Class #25, Tuesday, December 2: The Leningrad of Yuri Nagibin.
**Special reading:** Yuri Nagibin. “Needed Urgently: Gray Human Hair.”

Class #26, Thursday, December 4: The Collapse of the USSR and the Return of St. Petersburg.

**Week 15:**
Class #27, Tuesday, December 9: St. Petersburg Today: Two poems by J. Brodsky and A. Kushner.

Class #28, Thursday, December 11: Getting ready for the final exam. The review of the course.