

Mikhail Bulgakov's "Heart of a Dog": Book and Film

Start date	8 th April 2017	End date	8 th APRIL 2017
Venue	Madingley Hall Madingley Cambridge		
Tutor	Vera Tsareva-Brauner	Course code	1617NDX050

Director of Programmes

Emma Jennings

**For further information on this
course, please contact**Public Programme Coordinator, Clare Kerr
clare.kerr@ice.cam.ac.uk or 01223 746237**To book**See: www.ice.cam.ac.uk or telephone 01223 746262

Tutor biography

Vera Tsareva-Brauner is a Coordinator of Cambridge University Russian Language Programmes (CULP) where she teaches a variety of Russian language courses from Ab Initio to Advanced and Russian Through Film and Culture to Cambridge undergraduates, post-graduates and post-doctoral students.

Vera is also an Affiliated Lecturer at the Department of Slavonic Studies, Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages where she teaches and examines a number of language papers. She is also an external examiner for Russian at Keele University, UCL and Eton.

Vera graduated from St Petersburg University with BA (Hons) and MA, and later did her post-graduate degree at Manchester University.

Course programme

09:30	Terrace bar open for pre-course tea/coffee
10:00 – 11:15	Mikhail Bulgakov: ‘internal émigré’ in Stalin’s USSR.
11:15	Coffee
11:45 – 13:00 .	Heart of a Dog: the Book and the Film.
13:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:15	Watching the film with commentary.
15:15	Coffee
15:30 - 16:45 .	Concluding discussion and summary.

Course syllabus

Aims:

- To learn more about Mikhail Bulgakov, his life and works;
- To explore 'Heart of a Dog', one of the writer's most significant works, in the context of history and culture of Stalinist USSR;
- To have an opportunity to compare the book with the film and discuss its main themes, variations and interpretations;

Content:

This one-day course gives a rare opportunity to explore a short story by Mikhail Bulgakov, *Heart of a Dog*, and then see its brilliant screen adaptation which is believed to be one of the best works of Russian cinema. We will study the main themes and characters, as well as historical and cultural background of the story, read some abstracts, watch the film and discuss how a short story written in 1925 was interpreted in more contemporary Russia.

The course will be conducted mostly in English, with some commentary on the Russian language. Some knowledge of Russian would be beneficial.

Presentation of the course:

The course will be offered in a seminar format with a combination of presentations, videos and film, as well as group discussions.

As a result of the course, within the constraints of the time available, students should be able to:

- Get a better understanding of the main themes, historical and cultural context of Bulgakov's *Heart Of A Dog*.
- Have an opportunity to compare the text with its screen adaptation and have an opportunity to discuss the film and the book.
- Get an insight into how the ideas expressed in a 1925 novel are being interpreted in a contemporary Russian film culture and society.

Reading and resources list

Listed below are a number of texts that might be of interest for future reference, but do not need to be bought (or consulted) for the course.

Mikhail Bulgakov: Life and Times by Marietta Chudakova, Gladpslav Publishers, 2017

Mikhail Bulgakov Heart Of A Dog (enclosed as pdf file):

<http://www.masterandmargarita.eu/archieven/tekstenbulgakov/heartdog.pdf>

Website addresses:

Mikhail Bulgakov's The Heart of a Dog still bites, The Guardian, 7 January 2017:

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/booksblog/2017/jan/04/mikhail-bulgakovs-the-heart-of-a-dog-still-bites>

The Hound of Hell:

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2007/aug/18/featuresreviews.guardianreview19>

Additional information

Venue

Details of how to find Madingley Hall can be found on our website:

<http://www.ice.cam.ac.uk/who-we-are/how-to-find-the-institute>

Refreshments

Tea and coffee and lunch will be provided. If you have any specific dietary requirements or allergies and have not already advised us, please inform our Admissions Team on ice.admissions@ice.cam.ac.uk or +44 (0)1223 746262.

Note Students of the Institute of Continuing Education are entitled to 20% discount on books published by Cambridge University Press (CUP) which are purchased at the Press bookshop, 1 Trinity Street, Cambridge (Mon-Sat 9am – 5:30pm, Sun 11am – 5pm). A letter or email confirming acceptance on to a current Institute course should be taken as evidence of enrolment.

Information correct as of: 03 March 2017