

CMPL 650, FLL 639, Engl 655: Bakhtin
Howard Mancing
Spring 2010

The seminar will feature a reading and discussion of all the major works of M. M. Bakhtin and his colleagues of the Bakhtin Circle (see list below). Students will consult regularly with the instructor on individual research projects and write an original paper on a subject of their choosing. Students who can read Bakhtin in Russian, Spanish, French, or any other language will be encouraged to do so (at least in part) in order to compare the tone and feeling of the various versions of his work.

Bakhtin's approaches to the theory and history of the novel (including major work on Cervantes, Rabelais, and Dostoevsky), aesthetics in general, the philosophy of language, moral philosophy, and related subjects will be considered in detail. Emphasis will be placed on such signature concepts as dialogism, heteroglossia, polyglossia, carnival, chronotope, 'outsideness,' speech genres, addressivity, translinguistics, utterance, and context.

Bakhtin, M. M. Art and Answerability: Early Philosophical Essays. Ed. Michael Holquist and Vadim Liapunov. Trans. and notes Vadim Liapunov. Suppl. trans. Kenneth Brostrom. Austin: U of Texas P, 1990.

Bakhtin, M. M. Problems of Dostoevsky's Poetics. Ed. and Trans. Caryl Emerson. Intro. Wayne C. Booth. Minneapolis: U of Minnesota P, 1984.

Bakhtin, M. M. Rabelais and His World. Trans. Hélène Iswolsky. Bloomington: Indiana UP, 1984.

Bakhtin, M. M. Speech Genres and Other Late Essays. Ed. Caryl Emerson and Michael Holquist. Trans. Vern W. McGee. Austin: U of Texas P, 1986.

Bakhtin, M. M. The Dialogic Imagination: Four Essays. Ed. Michael Holquist. Trans. Caryl Emerson and Michael Holquist. Austin: U of Texas P, 1981.

Bakhtin, M. M. Toward a Philosophy of the Act. Ed. Michael Holquist and Vadim Liapunov. Trans. and notes Vadim Liapunov. Austin: U of Texas P, 1993.

Bakhtin, M. M./P. N. Medvedev. The Formal Method in Literary Scholarship A Critical Introduction to Sociological Poetics. Trans. Albert J. Wehrle. Cambridge: Harvard UP, 1985.

Voloshinov, V. N. Freudianism: A Critical Sketch. Ed. I. R. Titunik and Neil R. Bruss. Trans. I. R. Titunik. Bloomington: Indiana UP, 1987.

Voloshinov, V. N. Marxism and the Philosophy of Language. Trans. Ladislav Matejka and I. R. Titunik. Cambridge: Harvard UP, 1986.

(Texts will be available at Von's.)