

Fall 2022 Heyman Center Friends/Carl Hovde Colloquium

Two by Tolstoy: *Anna Karenina* and *Hadji Murat*

Professor Liza Knapp

Course description

We'll read two masterpieces by Tolstoy, *Anna Karenina* (publ. 1875-8) and *Hadji Murat* (composed 1896-1904; published posthumously in 1912). *Anna Karenina* is universally recognized as one of the great novels of all times. It shows Tolstoy using fiction to reveal the mysteries of love and death, while also wrestling with social and political questions, as he follows multiple plotlines to ask about the interconnectedness of human lives. After reading this long novel, we will turn to *Hadji Murat* and find Tolstoy up to much of the same in this much shorter work, which is often regarded as Tolstoy's swan song. As Tolstoy gives a searing look at the human condition and at empire, he also draws the reader's attention to the song of the nightingale.

Class 1: *Anna Karenina*, parts 1 & 2

Class 2: *Anna Karenina*, parts 3 & 4

Class 3: *Anna Karenina*, parts 5 & 6

Class 4: *Anna Karenina*, parts 7 & 8

Class 5: *Hadji Murat*, chapters 1-15

Class 6: *Hadji Murat*, chapters 16-25.

For *Anna Karenina*, recommended is the Pevear/Volokhonsky translation, although you are welcome to read from another translation. For *Hadji Murat*, recommended is the Pevear/Volokhonsky (Vintage) edition.

This class will meet on five Wednesdays online, 6-7.30 p.m., and (on the last day) one Monday, as follows: September 14; September 28; October 12; October 26; November 9; and Monday November 21.