SLAV 748-Old Church Slavic (OCS) СЛОВѢНСКИЙ ЯЗЫКЪ

Cross-listed with SLAV 679 (30159) for advanced undergraduates

Fall 2006

Instructor: Marc L. Greenberg
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Office hours: TuTh 9:30 – 10:20 or by appointment
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Course meets: TuTh 8:00 – 9:20 in 4065 Wescoe
Final exam: Monday, 11 December, 7:30AM—10:00AM

Prerequisite
Graduate standing in Slavic and/or at least three years of successful college-level study of Russian or consent of instructor.

Required texts
OCS texts, to be distributed as needed throughout the course.

Recommended reference works

Why Learn OCS?
The knowledge of Old Church Slavic has a number of applications. First, as an early written representative of the Slavic language class, OCS is an important source for the reconstruction of Indo-European. As such it aids us in understanding how Slavic fits in with related languages. Second, the archaic structure of OCS is close to older stages of the other Slavic languages, so that learning OCS helps us to read old Slavic literature in addition to canonical OCS itself. OCS is also useful for students of Russian literature because it aids in the identification of the large Church Slavic component of Russian.
Course content

Old Church Slavic refers to the language of the earliest Slavic texts, first written in the 9th c. AD, and based on the Macedo-Bulgarian dialect of Common Slavic. Canonical OCS texts continue until about the 11th c., when linguistic and political changes in the Slavic world give rise to separate Church Slavic traditions. While varieties of Church Slavic continue today (notably in the Russian, Ukrainian, Bulgarian, Macedonian and Serbian Orthodox Churches), we will be concerned only with the canonical texts (10th-11th cc.) and early recensions. The course will help the student develop reading skills and the necessary philological background to read canonical texts.

Students will be responsible for assimilating the grammar of OCS. By the end of the semester, the student should know thoroughly the phonology, morphology and syntax of OCS, as presented in Schmalstieg’s grammar and the lectures. Exercises will be given to clarify various issues of grammar and philology. Throughout the course, texts of graduated difficulty will be read and explicated with the intention of sharpening philological skills.

As OCS is a primary tool for the historical study of the Slavic languages, comparative material will be introduced where relevant.

Structure of the course

The course will include lectures on the synchronic structure of Old Church Slavic (OCS) with frequent reference to historical and comparative material relevant to the origin of the modern forms. Much of the in-class work is aimed at helping the student assimilate OCS grammar and learn to read OCS texts, but an equally weighted aim is to give the student a solid grounding in historical Slavic grammar.

Written assignments will be given at various times throughout the semester. There will be two midterm exams and one final. The breakdown, for the purpose of grading, is the following:

20% Preparation of texts for in-class analysis
20% Assignments
30% Midterms (2)
30% Final

Note: Any student in this course who has a disability that may prevent him/her from fully demonstrating his/her abilities should contact me personally as soon as possible so we can discuss the appropriate accomodations necessary to complete the course requirements.
# Calendar

Schedule is subject to change. Numbers and Titles refer to Schmalstieg 1983.

* MLG out of town. Assignments TBA.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Readings/Topics</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>Th., 17 Aug</td>
<td>Intro.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>22, 24 Aug</td>
<td>1. General Notions</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>29, 31 Aug</td>
<td>2. Slavic Historical Phonology</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>5, 7 Sept</td>
<td>7. Ablaut</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>12, 14 Sept</td>
<td>4. The Noun</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>19, 21 Sept</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>26, 28 Sept</td>
<td>Review; Midterm 1</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>3, 5 Oct</td>
<td>3. The Adjective and The Pronoun</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>10*, 12* Oct</td>
<td>Fall break. Suggested vacation study tour: Preslav, Tarnovo, Ohrid; alternatively: Salzburg, Freising (optional)</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>17, 19 Oct</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>24, 26 Oct</td>
<td>5. The Verb</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>31 Oct, 2 Nov</td>
<td>6. Further Remarks on the Verb</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>7, 9 Nov</td>
<td>Review, Midterm 2</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>21 Nov</td>
<td>Th, 23 Nov is Thanskgiving Break</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>28, 30 Nov</td>
<td>Readings</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>5, 7 Nov</td>
<td>Readings</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(Stop Day 8 Dec)</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Mon, 11 Dec, 7:30-10:00 AM</td>
<td>Final exam</td>
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Students may wish to consult other sources for background and reference. The following list is highly selective, including some OCS handbooks.

**Articles**


**Books**


Selected Web resources

Ralph Cleminson (University of Portsmouth, England) – mostly about encoding issues
- *Obshtezhitie* – Pages of resources for studying Old Church Slavic manuscripts. 
  [http://www.ceu.hu/medstud/ralph.htm](http://www.ceu.hu/medstud/ralph.htm) and 
  [http://www.ceu.hu/medstud/ralph/obsht.htm](http://www.ceu.hu/medstud/ralph/obsht.htm)

Darko Zubrinic (Zagreb) – excellent site on the history of early Croatian writing
- Croatian Glagolitic Scripts [http://www.hr/darko/etf/et03.html](http://www.hr/darko/etf/et03.html) and 
  [http://www.hr/darko/etf/novi.html](http://www.hr/darko/etf/novi.html)
- Bosančica (Croatian/Bosnian Cyrillic): [http://www.hr/darko/etf/et04.html](http://www.hr/darko/etf/et04.html)

Hilandar Research Library, Ohio State University – various resources, oriented towards Serbian and Bulgarian
- Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies: [http://cmrs.osu.edu/rcmss/](http://cmrs.osu.edu/rcmss/)

The Early Slavic Studies Association – another special-interest society to join
- [http://clover.slavic.pitt.edu/~essa/](http://clover.slavic.pitt.edu/~essa/)

Jouko Lindstedt (University of Helsinki) – Electronic versions of OCS texts
- Corpus Cyrillo-Methodianum Helsingiense (includes links to the Codex Marianus, 
  Codex Suprasliensis, Vita Constantinii and Vita Methodii, Codex Assemanianus, Kiev 
  Folia, Freising Fragments, and Prague Fragments): 