

RUSS 420/520 C LIT 496A ANTH 469B CHID 498D

DISABILITY IN RUSSIAN LITERATURE & CULTURE



What is “disability”?
What is “health”?
What is “normal”?
What is a “body”?
This course will examine how these questions have historically been answered in Russia and its cultural productions involving disability, focusing on 19th -21st -century literature and art. Among our topics: the grotesque, the “holy fool” and the “cult of suffering.” We conclude with a consideration of the disabled in late/post-Soviet Russia – a (still-ongoing) historical moment in which discourses of disability have reached unprecedented levels – and ponder the future of disability rights in Russia.

JOSÉ ALANIZ, INSTRUCTOR
FALL 2013
T/Th 2:30-4:20
5 Credits VLPA