

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 19<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup> -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**