An aerial photograph of a dense forest of evergreen trees covered in a thick layer of snow. The trees are scattered across a light-colored, snow-covered ground, creating a textured, monochromatic landscape. The perspective is from directly above, looking down on the forest canopy.

# Mapping Imagined Geographies of Revolutionary Russia Lesson Plan

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# The Course: Slavic Studies

Type: Area Studies/Interdisciplinary  
Next Offered: Spring 2022  
Geographical Scope: All Slavs, 50% Russia  
Chronological Scope: 1914-present

## SEES/HIS 2381: Slavic Studies II, 1914-2021



Detail from "First Harvest after the War" by Jakub Rozalski, 2019

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Office Hours: Virtual meetings only; see Canvas front page

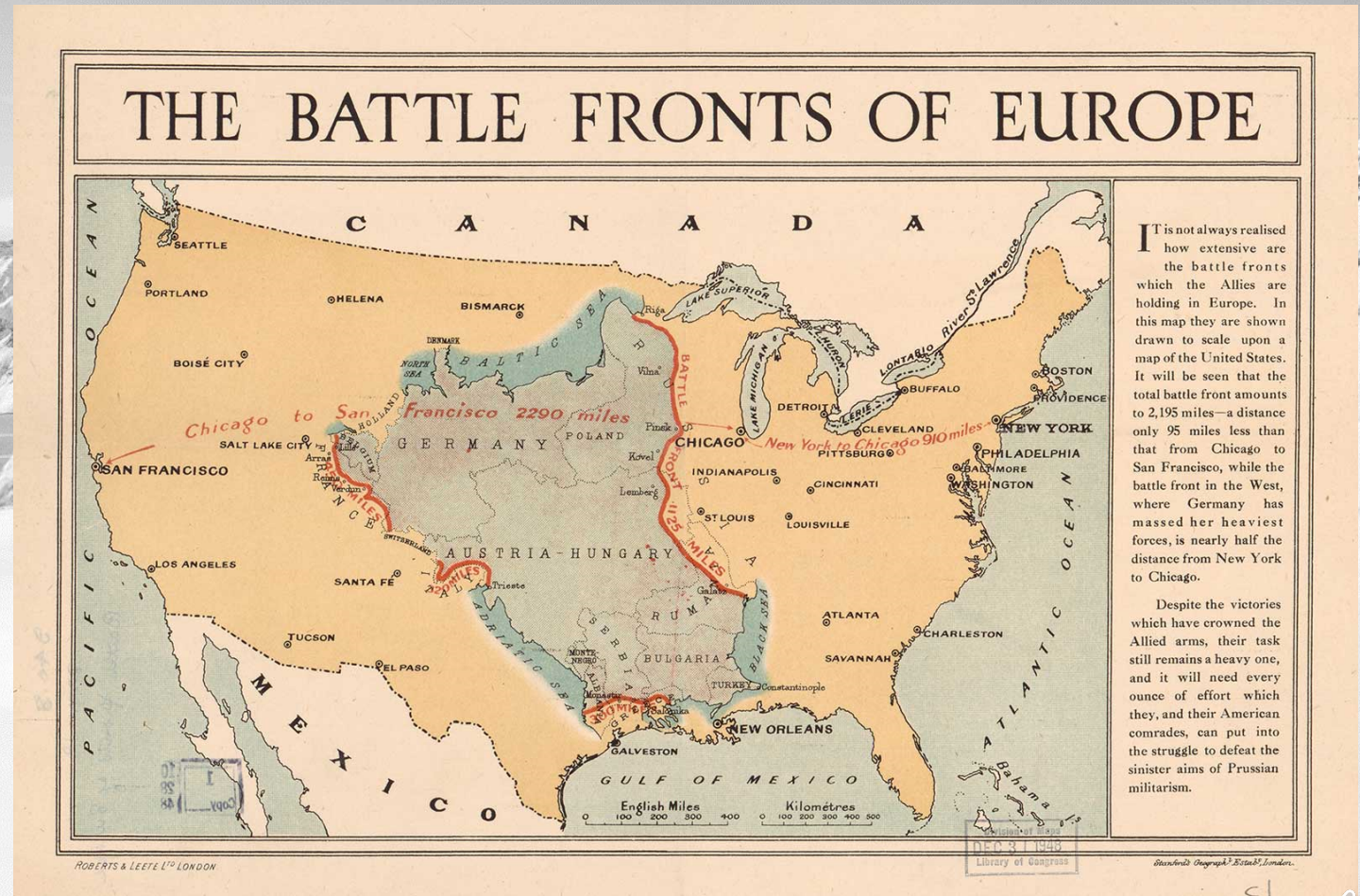
**What is Slavic Studies?** Built on an interdisciplinary framework, Slavic and East European Studies engages a vast cultural, religious, and geographic crossroads intersecting Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. The program guides students to examine the distinct societies of the region through the fields of history, foreign language, political science, economics, sociology, gender studies, security studies, and religion. Courses in the program enable students to cultivate second language proficiency in Russian, the most widely spoken language of the region, and develop insight into current political, security, and development challenges. Above all, the program aims to provide students with the skills and knowledge about a region driving global change to pursue careers in government service, business and nonprofit sectors, or missionary work.

**Course Description:** Slavic Studies II aims to provide students with a rigorous introduction to the recent history, modern culture, and contemporary developments of the peoples of Eastern Europe and their interaction with non-Slavic neighbors and non-European peoples of Eurasia. The second part of a sequence, this course provides a focused examination of the past century and cultivates analytical reading and writing skills through engagement with primary sources and recent scholarly writing. As a cross-listed course in history and area studies, Slavic II examines the region as site of the major military, ideological, and social conflicts of the global 20<sup>th</sup> century, the legacies of which persist to the present day. Countries of the region remain models and pariahs in Europe's 21<sup>st</sup> century efforts to seek institutional integration, complete economic modernization, foster security, and uphold human rights.



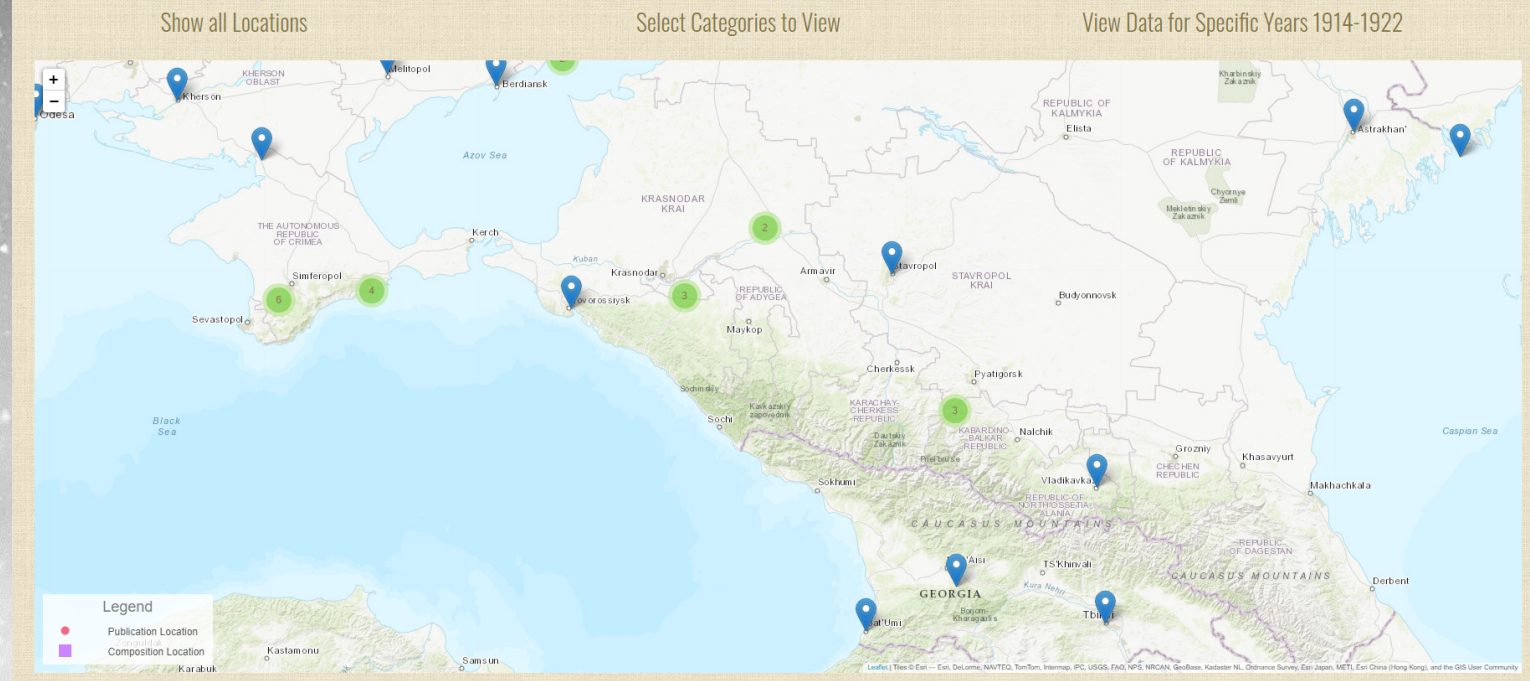
# MAPRR in sequence

Sequence in course: entire third week  
Preceded by a week on Eurasia 1910-1914  
and a week on the First World War  
Assignment: due Monday of following week,  
which focuses on “revolutionary states”



# Lesson Aims:

- Challenge students to think about regions beyond front and capitals
- Engage literary sources beyond political texts and soldiers' letters
- Familiarize students with MAPRR for use in future Russian courses (<http://maprr.iath.virginia.edu/>)



# Lesson Process:

0. Mon: website intro and prompt posting
1. October Revolution lecture for 12-15
2. Intro discussion of regional perception
3. MAPRR in class to look at Place Based Concepts (PBCs): [http://maprr.iath.virginia.edu/place\\_based\\_concepts](http://maprr.iath.virginia.edu/place_based_concepts)
4. Location map use: <http://maprr.iath.virginia.edu/locations>
5. Choice of short text and discussion

The screenshot displays a web application interface. On the left, a map shows the Ural Mountains region with various locations marked by blue pins. A legend at the bottom left identifies 'Publication Location' with a red dot and 'Composition Location' with a purple square. The URL 'herokuapp.com/locations/216' is visible at the bottom left of the map. On the right, a white pop-up window titled 'Ural Mountains' is open, listing literary works and locations. The window has a close button in the top right corner and a 'View Full Location Details' button at the bottom right.

Ural Mountains

Works Where Ural Mountains Acts as a Setting

- Erkin, Rossia
- Esenin, Otchar'
- Esenin, Za temnoi priad'iu pereselits...
- Eshchin, izhevtsy otkhodiat
- Gerasimov, Krasnaia zvezda
- Obradovich, I Kitaets k plecham Uraia...
- Pasternak, Ural vpenyie
- Tret'akov, 7. Ural (Trip: Chita-Moskva, 1921)

Works Where Ural Mountains Is Mentioned

- Blok, Skify
- Khudiakov, Sibir'

Multivalent Markers Associated With the Location Ural Mountains

- Ypan (Ural Mountains)

View Full Location Details Close



# Follow-up Assignment

- Canvas (blog-style) post with screen shot of region chosen;
- 3-page paper in which students explain how the Russian poetic work of their choice corroborates, complicates, or challenges the lecture narrative from a regional perspective
- In-class discussion of regions chosen, common PBCs, and support or opposition sentiments in sources

## Mapping Imagined Geographies of Revolutionary Russia 1914-1922

Home Agents Authors Place-Based Concepts PBC Components Works Locations Multivalent Markers Analysis

View Information About This Work Display Textual Elements ▾

### PBC 60: EMPOWERMENT

- Невы до Байкала [mm56]
- Сибири [mm226]
- Красной России [337]

### PBC 241: PRIDE IN PLACE

- Байкала [mm209]
- Сибири [mm226]

### PBC 102: JOY AT NEW ORDER

- Новей [mm385]

### PBC 43: JOY AT COMING ORDER

- грани [mm360]

### PBC 36: ARROGANT CONFIDENCE

- путь

### PBC 40: BELLIGERENCE

- Восток [mm366]

Александр Ярославский  
Наш путь

Судьба слепая устала  
Грозить, притупившимся жалом  
—Прошли от Невы до Байкала  
Войска под знаменем, алым!

Небес голубая икона  
Подернулась светом восхода,  
Когда рабочий знамена  
Развезал во время похода.

И вот теперь победитель  
В широких равнинах Сибири,  
Грядущих Новей Строитель  
В безмерном творческом пире.

И вот мы стоим у грани  
Во мгле предрассветной и зыбкой  
И в розово-алом тумане  
Я вижу веков улыбку.

Раздвинься скорее завеса! —  
Раздернись сильнее и шире!  
Вот наша рабочая месса  
В равнинах холодной Сибири!

Нам кинуто алое слово  
Из пламени Красной России  
И мы не желаем другого —  
Оно святей Литургии!

