



BASIC PROGRAM of LIBERAL EDUCATION FOR ADULTS
Summer 2024
Bulgakov's The Master and Margarita

COURSE INFORMATION		
COURSE TITLE <i>Bulgakov's The Master and Margarita</i>	CODE & SECTION BASC70257 24U1	LENGTH OF COURSE 5 WEEKS
COURSE SCHEDULE DAYS: Thursdays, July 11 – August 8 TIMES: 6:00 p.m. – 9:15 p.m.	CLASS LOCATION ONLINE	INSTRUCTOR: Cynthia Rutz EMAIL: clrutz@uchicago.edu

Remote courses require you to login to Canvas to access the Zoom Classroom. You will receive an invitation to join Canvas about a week before your course begins. Please visit <https://grahamschool.uchicago.edu/academic-programs/online/learning-resources/liberal-arts> to find Canvas login instructions, Zoom instructions, and student training sessions.

PREREQUISITES

There is no prerequisite for this course.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Mikhail Bulgakov's savage satire of modern bureaucracy alternates between scenes of Stalinist Russia and ancient Jerusalem. Bulgakov literally unleashes the powers of Hell by having the Devil and his entourage—including a vodka-drinking cat, a poet, and Pontius Pilate--visit contemporary Moscow. The ensuing chaos includes a Satanic ball, vampire attacks, and a revisiting of the trial of Jesus before Pilate. Among the themes Bulgakov touches on are guilt, forgiveness, and to what extent we control our own fate.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Edition: Mikhail Bulgakov, *The Master and Margarita*, Richard Pevear & Larissa Volokhonsky (Translators), Penguin Classics, 2001, ISBN-13: 978-0141180144.

WEEKLY READING SCHEDULE

WEEK	READING ASSIGNMENT
Week 1 July 11	Book One, chs. 1-6
Week 2 July 18	Book One, chapters 7-9
Week 3 July 25	Book One, chapters 10-18
Week 4 August 1	Book Two, chapters 19-26
Week 5 August 8	Book Two, chapters 27-the epilogue

This syllabus is a *summary of course objectives and content*, not a contract. All information in this syllabus is subject to change, with sufficient advance notice provided by the instructor.

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE

As we may be addressing controversial topics in our class discussions, we expect students to be respectful and considerate of others.

DISABILITY INFORMATION

Student Disability Services (SDS) works to provide resources, support and accommodations for all students with disabilities and works to remove physical and attitudinal barriers, which may prevent their full participation in the University community. Students that would like to request accommodations should contact SDS in advance of the first class meeting at 773.702.6000 or disabilities@uchicago.edu.