The subtitle of this course is a Russian proverb that describes well the prevailing head-in-the-sand attitude that many Russians currently hold, but, of course, our goal in this course will be to learn more about what makes Russia, its political figures and its common people tick. We will discuss political, economic, demographic, social, and cultural developments inside Russia, its role in the international arena, and the Russia-U.S. relations. We will also scrutinize the workings of Putin’s regime and question what holds him in power for longer than any leader since Stalin. We’ll also examine individual attitudes and demographic processes that shape Russian society. With rapidly changing events, the course will be greatly news-oriented.

YOUR INSTRUCTOR: ASYA PERELTSVAIG, PHD

Asya M Pereltsvaig received a PhD in Linguistics from McGill University and has taught at Yale, Cornell, and Stanford, as well as in several other universities. Her expertise is in language and history, and the relationship between them. Her most recent book, Languages of the World: An Introduction, 4th edition (2023) is forthcoming from Cambridge University Press. Asya is a popular instructor for several Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes across the country and was the faculty host for the Osher trip to the Baltic countries and her native city, St. Petersburg Russia in July 2017.

MONDAYS, OCTOBER 30TH THROUGH DECEMBER 4TH

1PM PACIFIC | 2PM MOUNTAIN | 3PM CENTRAL | 4PM EASTERN

- Live Lecture 1, Monday, October 30
- Live Lecture 2, Monday, November 6
- Live Lecture 3, Monday, November 13
- Live Lecture 4, Monday, November 20
- Live Lecture 5, Monday, November 27
- Live Lecture 6, Monday, December 4

For more information:
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