Lake Baikal: The Soul of Siberia
Wellesley College
Spring-Summer 2013
http://www.wellesley.edu/Russian/Baikal/baikal.html

Spring semester: Wednesdays 2:15-4:00, Founders 423; after 13 March: Science Center155
Summer fieldwork in Russia: 30 July to 25 August 2013

Instructors:
Marianne Moore, Professor, Department of Biological Sciences (Sci Ctr 394)
     Office hours: Mon 10:00-12:00, & by appointment
     Office telephone: 781-283-3098

Thomas Hodge, Professor, Russian Department (FND 416)
     Office hours: TF 11:00-1:00 & by appointment
     Office telephone: 781-283-3563; home telephone (before 7:00 p.m.): 781-239-1584

Required texts (on sale at College Bookstore and on 3-hour reserve at Clapp Library):

A Lake Baikal Chrestomathy (available as a hard copy and on Google Drive)
Scientific Readings about Baikal (collection of photocopied readings)

Course requirements:
1) Conscientious reading of all assignments, participation in class discussions
2) Daily reading of e-mail and the messages on our ES/RAS 212 Google Group
    (https://groups.google.com/a/wellesley.edu/d/forum/es-212-01-rast-212-01-sp13)
3) Weekly critique: a one- to two-paragraph critical response to some piece of the week's reading. Critiques should be posted to the Google Group (es-212-01-rast-212-01-sp13@wellesley.edu) no later than 8:00 a.m. the day of the class meeting.
4) One 2000-word essay on issues covered before 13 March; due 15 March by 4:00 p.m.
5) One exam on material covering latter half of course
6) Field journal in Russia (due when we depart Bol’shie Koty in August)
7) Field problem write-ups in Russia (due during our stay at Bol’shie Koty in August)

Course grade:
15% class participation (includes weekly critiques for Prof. Hodge), 20% first essay, 15% final exam (end of spring semester), 25% field journal in Russia, 25% group field problems in Russia
SCHEDULE

Readings marked with an asterisk (*) can be found in *A Lake Baikal Chrestomathy* or *Scientific Readings about Baikal*; hyperlinks to the Google Drive archive of these readings are provided.

1. **30 January (Profs. Moore and Hodge): Introduction**
   Orientational slideshow; introduction to the class; Baikal geography, history, architecture, biology; personal equipment needs for summer, 2013.

2. **6 February (Prof. Hodge): Thomson on Baikal; Early Russian Inroads**
   **Readings:**
   - Peter Thomson, *Sacred Sea*, pp. 3-53.

3. **13 February (Dr. Tatiana Nomokonova, Anthropology Department, University of British Columbia): Prehistoric Siberia: People and Animals at Lake Baikal**
   **Reading:**

4. **20 February (Prof. Hodge): Old Believers**
   **Readings:**
   - *Timothy Ware, The Orthodox Church*, pp. 112-25.

   **Buryats**
   - 8:00 p.m. Video conference with Vladimir Munkhanov, Buryat historian and lawyer, live from Irkutsk
   - Prepare and post five questions for Mr. Munkhanov in the Google Group by 8:00 A.M. today.

5. **27 February (Prof. Hodge): Decembrists; Irkutsk; Solzhenitsyn in Siberia**
   **Readings:**
Solzhenitsyn, One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich, pp. 3-139.

6. 6 March (Prof. Hodge): Rasputin’s Farewell  
Readings:  

7. 13 March (Prof. Jane Costlow, Bates College; Peter Thomson): Roundtable discussion of Lake Baikal and its meaning in Russian and world culture  
Readings:  

☼ SPRING BREAK: 18-24 March ☼

8. 27 March (Prof. Marianne Moore): Science in Russia & History of Russia’s Environmental Movement  
Readings:  
   Read: pp. 197-203 (“Conclusions”).  
   Read: Introduction & Chapter 16: Storm over Lake Baikal

9. 3 April (Prof. Moore): Introduction to Limnology and Physico-Chemical Processes in Lakes  
Readings:  
   Read: Chapters 16 & 17 (p. 171-198).

10. 10 April (Prof. Moore): Aquatic Communities & Food Webs in Lakes  
Readings:  

11. 17 April (Prof. Moore & Dr. Ted Ozersky): Baikal’s Biodiversity and Its Origins
Readings:
   d) Lake Baikal Homepage -- View “World beneath Baikal” and “Animals”
   e) Lake Baikal Dimensions of Biodiversity blog -- read “About” tab and scan “People” tab describing biodiversity research and members of USA-Russian team currently working at the lake.

☼ 24 April: No class – RUHLMAN CONFERENCE ☼

12. 1 May: (Dr. Olaf Jensen): Environmental Threats to Lakes and Lake Baikal

GUEST SPEAKER – Dr. Olaf Jensen, Rutgers University
“Climate Change and Threatened Salmonid Fishes within the Mongolian Portion of Lake Baikal’s Watershed”
Readings:
   d) TBA

13. 8 May (Prof. Moore): Environmental Threats to Lake Baikal and its Protection
Readings:
   d) BaikalScience.org -- Read two most recent postings.