



# BUILDING KNOWLEDGE & ENRICHING THOUGHT

Winter 2023 Online Course — Registration begins December 1

## RUSSIA'S WAR ON UKRAINE

Thursday 10–11:45 a.m., February 2 – March 9, 2023

Russian scholar Anastasia Edel returns to the Forum this winter to give us an in-depth look into Russia's war on Ukraine. In 2019 she gave us a fascinating and well received course on Russian politics, history and culture. Now, starting on the day when Russian missiles first struck cities across the sovereign nation of Ukraine, she will tackle the key questions: Why did Russia become an aggressor bent on destroying a neighboring nation with whom it shares centuries of common heritage? How did it happen? Why does Putin's regime refuse to call the war "war"? What's behind Ukrainians' resilience and Russians' acquiescence? And how does this all end for Russia, Ukraine, and the world?

Anastasia's course will also examine the heroism of the Ukrainian resistance, the reasons Putin has (or had)

support in Russia, and the potential for revolution in Russia. We will be given a brief overview of Russian/Ukrainian history to help us understand why Ukraine's rebirth is matched by Russia's civilizational and moral collapse. The origins of Russian fascism will be explored.

We will consider how the dark side of Russian culture (chauvinism, cruelty, conformism) masks and justifies the suffering in Ukraine. Anastasia will select works of Russian art that present this "dark side" and will discuss and consider whether they still belong in the world's cultural cannon.

The course uses a multimedia format, where the latest political, economic, and cultural events are illustrated with movie clips, music, art, and literature.

**Anastasia Edel** is an acclaimed Russian-American writer, social historian, and New York Times contributor. She's the author of *Russia: Putin's Playground*, a concise guide to Russian history, politics and culture. Her prose is forthcoming in the *Cream City Review* and *World Literature Today*.



Anastasia, who has mixed Russian and Ukrainian heritage, grew up in a small town in the south of Russia near the Ukrainian border. During the last years of the Soviet Union, she graduated with a degree in English and German studies from Kubansky State University and worked as a fiction translator. A recipient of the British Government

Chevening Award, she moved to England for postgraduate studies, and then to the US, earning her MFA in writing from Pacific University.

Her prose has appeared in the *The New York Times*, *The New York Review of Books*, *Foreign Policy*, *Project Syndicate*, and *World Literature Today*. To read some of her articles go to: <https://www.nybooks.com/contributors/anastasia-edel/>

She is on the Literary Council of the Oakland Book Festival and teaches Russian Culture and history for UC Berkeley Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.

**Registration begins 12/1/2022.** Class will be presented online via Zoom and recorded for later viewing. Enrollment Fee: \$95 for this 6 week course. Fees are nonrefundable.

Presented by Healdsburg American Association of University Women (AAUW). Proceeds support local educational programs and scholarships for women and girls. For more information go to [healdsburg-ca.aauw.net](http://healdsburg-ca.aauw.net).



BUILDING KNOWLEDGE  
& ENRICHING THOUGHT

**Winter Course**

**Six 1¾-Hour Classes per Course**

10AM–11:45AM Classes will be presented online via Zoom. Once registered, each student will be emailed a Zoom link before each class, which will allow them to access the live class and a recording of the live classes.

\$95 for each six-week course, nonrefundable.

Presented by Healdsburg American Association of University Women. Proceeds support educational programs and scholarships for women and girls.

**RUSSIA'S WAR ON UKRAINE**

**Thursday Mornings, Winter 2023:**

**February 2, 9, 16, 23, March 2, 9.**

Starting on the day when Russian missiles first struck cities across the sovereign nation of Ukraine, Anastasia Edel will tackle the key questions: Why did Russia become an aggressor bent on destroying a neighboring nation with whom it shares centuries of common heritage? How did it happen? Why does Putin's regime refuse to call the war "war"? What's behind Ukrainians' resilience and Russians' acquiescence? And how does this all end for Russia, Ukraine, and the world?

**Register online at *healdsburg-ca.aauw.net* or register by mail by returning the form below to **AAUW Forum, PO Box 1603, Healdsburg CA 95448**. If you register by mail, be sure to give us your e-mail address.**

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**AAUW FORUM WINTER 2023 REGISTRATION**

Registrant 1 (First & Last Name)

Registrant 2 (First & Last Name)

Registrant 1 Email

Registrant 2 Email (if different)

Registrant 1 Phone

Registrant 2 Phone (if different)

**COURSE**

Russia's War on Ukraine	\$95	February 2, 9, 16, 23 March 2, 9	Registrant 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	# of Registrants x \$95 = \$	
			Registrant 2 <input type="checkbox"/>		Grand Total

**PAYMENT**

Check made payable to Healdsburg AAUW Fund     Visa     MasterCard     American Express

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**Mail this form with payment to AAUW Forum, PO Box 1603, Healdsburg CA 95448.**

Questions? Email [aauw@so-eventful.com](mailto:aauw@so-eventful.com).