Digitized Sets of Monographic & Serial Titles

Obviously, using important serial and monographic titles has become much easier in the digital age. Columbia offers access to several of the most important paid subscription products available to researchers in East European studies today.

I. EastView Universal Databases

http://www.columbia.edu/cgi-bin/cul/resolve?clio4320231

Based in Minneapolis (and founded by a SIPA graduate, Kent Lee!), EastView pioneered the same-day digital delivery of current Russian newspapers and serials. Their database offerings are of two types: Aggregated (meaning, you get the text of individual articles, but not an actual image of the pages), and Digital (you see the article as it appeared on the printed page).

Here is your initial screen for the aggregated databases:
Now, you could put in search terms here (in either Cyrillic, using the pop-up keyboard, or Library of Congress transliteration by ticking the box)—but I wouldn’t recommend it! It will take quite a while to process, and you will get a lot of irrelevant stuff…

Instead, try clicking on an Aggregated category that most fits your research interest. For example, “Russian Social Sciences & Humanities”:

You will notice at this point the MANY serial titles listed under this broad category. Some are active, some are dead; some have really deep backfiles online, others less so. You COULD use the search box at this point, but it may be worth your while to use the “Select” feature to choose just a selection of those titles that look most relevant to your topic.

Here is an example of a search of an entire category of materials—in this case, “Russian Military & Security Periodicals,” for the terms “Putin” and “MiG”: 
Notice that there is an asterisk after the word. This is to capture results for all the various endings that might be attached to a root word.
If we click on the first article, here is what we see:

When you are looking at an entire category of aggregated serials (or newspapers), you have the option (fastest) of searching just individual titles.

If you click on any of the individual titles, you get a screen with a brief description of the title, and the option to search JUST within that title (and even individual years).

For example, on the next page is a simple search of all years (selected, at left) of the journal *Iskusstvo kino*, for the name “Nevskii”:
..and here, the result:

If you click any one of blue highlighted titles on the left, you will get the corresponding article:
EastView Digital Serials

EastView’s Digital Serials are a mix of current titles with deep, historical backfiles (e.g., *Voprosy literatury*, *Literaturnaiia gazeta*, *Pravda*, etc.), and ceased titles of some importance (e.g., *Lef*, *Niva*, *Sovetskaiia kul’tura*, etc.)
Click on any one; in this case, for *Lef* (and *Novyi Lef*):

I’ve selected to search *Novyi Lef*, for the term *maiakovsk*
The result screen looks like that for the Aggregated databases; however, you have the option of either looking at the “Article Text” as with the aggregated, OR “Full View,” which takes you to a page capture of the original. Examples are shown below:
East View Ephemera Collections

One interesting series of collections assembled and digitized by EastView contain election ephemera of various parliamentary and presidential elections (as below). They are excellent resources for students of party politics in the FSU.
II. Central & East European Online Library (CEEOL)

http://www.columbia.edu/cgi-bin/cul/resolve?clio5887498

CEEOL is in part a less-comprehensive analogue to EastView, as it includes full-text coverage of many serials—1720 titles at last count—in the humanities and social sciences from Eastern and Central Europe, but no extensive newspaper coverage. Below is a random capture of their journal list…

Keywords are in English, as are Summary/Abstracts (see below). Articles (in the original language) are downloadable as PDFs. Below is an example of an article abstract, in this case from a Bosnian title.
Televizijski narativi – pričam ti priču

Author(s): Viktorija Car, Leali Osmančević
Language: Croatian
Subject(s): Media studies, Social Theory, Studies in violence and power
Issue: 1/2016
Page Range: 7-27
No. of Pages: 21

Keywords: television; analysis of narrative; television constructed reality; television news; beauty; violence;

Summary/Abstract: Television, the dominant media outlet of the 20th century, retains its power also in the 21st century. It creates realities, systems of values and acceptable behaviors, and also offers assurances to the mass audience of "our" or "their" realities while telling stories about people, events and phenomena. In the introduction of the paper the authors provide an overview of the theoretical framework underlying the scientific study of television narratives. The first part of the article is devoted to the narrative of TV news, the elements that are used in television narratives and the arguments about television news are not...
III. EBSCO Central & Eastern European Academic Source (CEEAS)

http://www.columbia.edu/cgi-bin/cul/resolve?clio10258768

EBSCO’s CEEAS is:

“… a multidisciplinary, multilingual database providing full-text coverage pertaining to all facets of central and eastern European countries. The collection contains hundreds of full-text publications covering many academic areas including business and economics, medical sciences, political science, law, library and information sciences, literature, linguistics, history, and sociology relating to this geographic region.”

Indeed, the coverage of journals is most impressive.

Here is an example of a search for the keywords “Piłsudski” and “Lithuania”:
IV. Collections of Older Digitized Titles

Hathi Trust  [http://www.columbia.edu/cgi-bin/cul/resolve?clio8498670](http://www.columbia.edu/cgi-bin/cul/resolve?clio8498670)

Hathi Trust is a partnership of some 120 research libraries who have contributed content for digitization. Today, Hathi includes over 15,823,011 total volumes, of which 7,771,328 are book titles, and 429,522 are serial titles collectively amounting to some 5,538,053,850 pages!

Titles produced prior to 1923 are available for full-viewing by anyone. You can search within titles, and even download selections or entire volumes. For those of you who have used print versions of 19th and early 20th century serials—most especially Russian “Thick Journals”—can appreciate how handy Hathi can be!

Here is a sample Hathi search for the journal *Russkoe bogatstvo*. Notice the importance of the “scoping” options in the left-hand column in drilling down for your search…

Abstracts are in English, with options to either download a PDF, or go via e-link to the journal itself.
Beginning in the 1960s, European companies such as InterDocumentation Company (IDC) created large microfiche files of Russian and early Soviet materials. For the Russian Imperial period, these were often based on the rich holdings of the former Imperial depository library in Helsinki, and specifically its Slavonic Library:

https://www.kansalliskirjasto.fi/en/collections/the-slavonic-library

Following the end of World War II, with the establishment of new Russian-studies programs at universities and colleges, these materials were in high demand, and many institutions purchased microfiche sets for their growing library collections and thereby providing opportunities for more in-depth research in original sources.

With the advent of digitization, IDC (now owned by Brill) hit upon the idea of digitizing their microfiche sets, and packaging them by broad subject areas.

Columbia owns a number of these IDC/Brill digitized sets:

**History of Modern Russian and Ukrainian Art.**

http://www.columbia.edu/cgi-bin/cul/resolve?clio9492422

215 titles.

“The collection documents the history of modern Russian and Ukrainian art. It encompasses critical literature, illustrated books, and art periodicals. The collection contains texts by such artists as Wassily Kandinsky, Pavel Filonov, Kazimir Malevich and Anatolii Petrytskyi; publications of art groups such as the Jack of Diamonds (Bubnovyi valet) and Màkovets; theoretical tracts by Nikolai Tarabukin and Boris Kushner; and books by well-known critics such as IAkov Tugendkhol'd, Erikh Gollerbakh, and Nikolai Punin. The collection also offers a selection of early 20th century art-related serials. These historical sources of pre- and post-revolutionary art reflect the diversity of artistic thought in the first thirty years of the 20th century, the intense discussions about the nature of the new art, its form, and its aims.”

**Soviet Cinema.**

1) Archival Documents from RGALI, 1923-1935.

Collection of archival documents from the Rossiiskii gosudarstvennyi arkhiv literatury i iskusstva.

http://www.columbia.edu/cgi-bin/cul/resolve?clio7475377
“The archive contains materials providing information on the activities of the Soviet film company Sovkino and its relations with various other companies in the film industry, both in the Soviet Union and abroad, between 1923 and 1935.”

2) Soviet Film Periodicals & Newspapers, 1918-1942

“The collection includes Soviet film magazines and newspapers from the 1920s and 1930s, reflecting an interesting and fertile period in the history of Russian film. Film publications were revived in the early 1920s after being interrupted in 1918 by Bolshevik censorship. In the beginning, the film press offered detailed coverage of the industry, both in the USSR and abroad, in addition to advertising western films playing on Soviet screens. By the end of the 1920s, a partial and eventually complete ban on imported films was introduced, marking the beginning of a campaign to "proletarize" Soviet art. By the mid-1930s, ideological consensus and Socialist Realism as the dominant mode in art came to the fore in film, as in all other areas of Soviet art.”

**Jewish Theater Under Stalinism: Moscow State Jewish Theater (GOSET) and Moscow State Jewish Theater School (MGETU).**
[http://www.columbia.edu/cgi-bin/cul/resolve?clio10275782](http://www.columbia.edu/cgi-bin/cul/resolve?clio10275782)

“Finding aid with links to electronic reproductions of documents covering the period 1916-1950 from the Russian State Archive of Literature and Art (RGALI) in Moscow about the Moscow State Jewish Theater (GOSET) and the affiliated Moscow State Jewish Theater School (MGETU); describes the history of the Soviet culture and theater, Jewish theater, Jewish avant-garde art and the Kremlin's policy toward Jewish society and culture from 1919 until the early 1950s; includes correspondence with ministries, state organizations, authors, administration, plays, notes (with comments of censors) and the personal archives of Alexei Granovskii, Solomon Mikhoels, and other actors and writers; also includes press reports from Soviet and foreign periodicals about the theater and its tours in Europe, posters, drawings, theater programs, and documents about other Jewish theaters.”

**Russian military intelligence on Asia: secret prints, 1883-1914.**
[http://www.columbia.edu/cgi-bin/cul/resolve?clio7822874](http://www.columbia.edu/cgi-bin/cul/resolve?clio7822874)

“A collection of articles, consisting of descriptions, reports, and treatises, by Russian military and diplomatic staff, and also translations and summaries of works originally published outside Russia, issued by the general staff of the Russian army in order to support existing and potential Russian activities on the Asian continent.

**Russian military intelligence on Asia: archive series, 1651-1917.**
“Historical-geographical, statistical, topographical and ethnographical descriptions of countries and their individual regions; material on the domestic political and economic situation of states, their foreign policy and international relations, and the state of their armed forces and military skills.”

**Slavonic Bibles: early printed Cyrillic books from the Lomonosov Moscow State University Library.**

"Collection of the earliest part of the Slavonic early printed books of the Moscow University Library, consisting of 40 Slavonic bibles and 64 Cyrillic religious books printed in the 15th and 16th centuries, including editions of the Gospels, New Testaments, Acts and Epistles, and Psalms. Included are: the first printed edition of the Slavonic Bible by Belorussian printer Franciscus Skorina; the first printed Slavonic text of the complete Bible by Moscow printer Ivan Fedorov; Slavonic books from Moscow, Lwow, Ostrog, and Vilno (the latter from the Mamoni chi press of printer Petr Mstislavets); and books from Slavonic printing presses in Nesvizh, Venice, and Skutri, among others."

**Ezhegodnik imperatorskikh teatrov**

“This impressive annual periodical, published during the period 1890-1915, offers an incredible wealth of exciting material concerning the late imperial stage in Russia. Its pages include repertoires, critical essays and reviews of theatrical performances, chronicles of metropolitan theater life, articles discussing a wide range of topics as well as information about the actors.”

Tip: The digital point of access numbering is rather misleading: Under “1890” one has actually has links to issues from 1890 to 1915. The label “1920” actually refers to the single title *Ezhegodnik Petrogradskikh gosudartvennykh teatrov*, and covers the 1918-1919 season (actually published in 1922).