



Russian Major Bosnian/Croatian/Montenegrin/Serbian (BCMS), Polish, and Slovak Studies Minors

www.slavic.pitt.edu/undergraduate/russian

Revised: 09/2022

The Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures offers a major in Russian and minors in Bosnian/Croatian/Montenegrin/Serbian (BCMS), Polish, and Slovak Studies. During the fall and spring terms, the department offers courses in Russian, BCMS, Polish, Slovak, and Ukrainian.

These languages, as well as Bulgarian and Czech, are also taught in the Summer Language Institute (SLI) at Pitt. Offered in June, July, and the first part of August, the SLI provides intensive courses that cover an entire year of study at the first- through fourth-year levels of Russian language, and the first-year—and typically the second-and third-year—levels of other Slavic languages. There are also study abroad courses available at the SLI in which students spend half of the program in Pittsburgh, and half in Russia, Montenegro, Poland, Slovakia, or the Czech Republic. For prospective majors, the SLI affords the opportunity to rapidly increase language proficiency in order to qualify for advanced courses, study abroad programs, or research opportunities.

Prospective majors in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures include: students who are primarily interested in language or literature, students who wish to enhance their career opportunities in a unique way, students who have an interest in the politics and culture of Russia and Eastern Europe, and students with a desire to explore their ethnic heritage. For students interested in interdisciplinary area studies, the Russian and East European Studies (REES) certificate, offered through UCIS, is an attractive complement to a major or minor in the Slavic department.

Many Russian majors continue their studies in graduate school or go on to careers in law, engineering, business, and government. Students of Slavic languages find their training valuable when working for local western Pennsylvania institutions and in politics, business, health-related professions, and the media, because of the large population in this region which traces its roots to the various Slavic peoples of Eastern Europe. Students interested in a major or minor in the department should begin language study early to ensure attainment of advanced language proficiency.

Required courses for the Russian major

The Russian major requires the completion of 30 credits, over and above preparatory work in the language at the elementary and intermediate levels, distributed as follows.

Language courses

Third-year Russian; choose one of the following options

RUSS 0400 Advanced Russian 1 **and** RUSS 0410 Advanced Russian 2

RUSS 0230 Intensive Advanced Russian

RUSS 0231 Advanced Intensive Russian/Pitt in Moscow

Fourth-year Russian; choose one of the following options

RUSS 1420 Fourth-Year Russian 1 **and** 1430 Fourth-Year Russian 2

RUSS 0240 Intensive Fourth-Year Russian

RUSS 0241 4th Year Intensive Russian/Pitt in Moscow

Core survey courses

RUSS 0850 Early Russian Culture

RUSS 0860 Modern Russian Culture

Electives

Choose three courses from the three lists below with no more than one course from the Survey course list and no more than one course from the Comparative course list.

Survey	Comparative	Topics	
RUSS 0090	RUSS 0670	RUSS 0810	RUSS 1410
RUSS 0325	RUSS 0770	RUSS 0811	RUSS 1420**
RUSS 0590	RUSS 1066	RUSS 0871	RUSS 1430**
RUSS 0800	RUSS 1210	RUSS 13XX *	RUSS 15XX**
RUSS 0870	SLAV 0660	RUSS 1400	RUSS 1780
	SLAV 0860		
	SLAV 1225		
	SLAV 1320		

* Additional capstone-approved course

** Additional fourth year module course, beyond the requirement

Capstone

One 1000-level course over and above those fulfilling the above requirements, chosen from the list below. Students must complete three years of Russian language study or its equivalent to enroll for the course designated for their capstone work. Capstone courses require additional work, typically a research paper written in Russian or consultation with Russian-language sources, that displays their ability to engage with the subject matter in the target language.

RUSS 1066 Forbidden Love on Page and Screen *

RUSS 1210 Man/Superman: Representations of Superior Individuals in Literature, Film, Philosophy, Drama, and Music *

RUSS 1300-level course in Russian literature, culture, or film

RUSS 1400 Morphology of Modern Russian

RUSS 1410 Advanced Russian Syntax

RUSS 1500-level course not already used for another requirement

RUSS 1780 Stalinist Culture in the 1930s *

SLAV 1050 Computational Methods in the Humanities *

SLAV 1225 Behind Bars: Cross-Cultural Perspectives of Prison 20thC *

* Enrollment in these courses requires permission from both the instructor and the advisor.

Grade requirements: A grade of B- or better is required in each course that counts toward the major. A grade of C or better in language courses is required to advance to the next level. A minimum GPA of 2.0 in departmental courses is required for graduation.

Satisfactory/No Credit option: No course that counts toward the major can be taken on an S/NC basis.

Writing (W) requirement: RUSS 0325, RUSS 0800, RUSS 0810, RUSS 0870, and RUSS 0871 satisfy the W-course requirement for the major.

Honors major requirements: Honors in Russian is granted if, in addition to fulfilling all requirements for the major, the student:

- maintained a GPA of 3.75 or above in RUSS courses;
- maintained an overall GPA of 3.25 or above;
- completed an additional capstone-eligible course over and above the major requirements; the work for this course should represent a significant research project and will be evaluated by an appointed faculty member and at least one additional member of the department.

Advising: Dr. Thomas Dyne
CL 1229C
thd29@pitt.edu

Study abroad: Students are encouraged to participate in an approved study-abroad program for a semester or the summer term. The department will adjust the course requirements in individual cases to accommodate this participation without delaying the student's graduation. Majors often apply for SLI and Nationality Rooms Program Scholarships for summer study abroad. The following represents a partial list of study abroad opportunities available to our students.

- **Summer study in Moscow:** The Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures currently sponsors a ten-credit summer-study program as part of the SLI in Pittsburgh (5 weeks) and Moscow (5 weeks) at the Moscow State University. Students may study first- through fourth-year Russian, covering one full year of language study in ten weeks. The Slavic department can be reached at 412-624-5096 or via e-mail at slavic@pitt.edu.
- **The University of Pittsburgh** is affiliated with a number of organizations offering summer, semester, or year-long study in Russia. The **Study Abroad Office**, located in 802 WPU, can be reached at 412-647-7413.
- **The Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies Center (REEES)** regularly organizes summer study abroad programs in languages and social sciences in locations from the Czech Republic to Slovakia. REEES makes scholarships available for many of these programs.
- **The Nationality Rooms Program** offers a wide variety of competitive scholarships for summer study abroad in many parts of the world, including Central and Eastern Europe. Applications are due in January. The NRP, located in 1209 CL, can be reached at 412-624-6150.

Checklist for the Russian major

Prerequisite courses

- _____ RUSS 0010 (does not count toward the major)
- _____ RUSS 0020 (does not count toward the major)
- _____ RUSS 0030 (does not count toward the major)
- _____ RUSS 0040 (does not count toward the major)

Language courses

Third-year Russian; choose one option

- _____ RUSS 0400 **and** RUSS 0410
- _____ RUSS 0230
- _____ RUSS 0231

Fourth-year Russian; choose one option

- _____ RUSS 1420 **and** RUSS 1430
- _____ RUSS 0240
- _____ RUSS 0241

Core survey courses

- _____ RUSS 0850
- _____ RUSS 0860

Electives; choose three courses from the list of electives

- _____ RUSS/SLAV _____
- _____ RUSS/SLAV _____
- _____ RUSS/SLAV _____

Capstone; choose one

- _____ RUSS 1066
- _____ RUSS 1210
- _____ RUSS 13XX
- _____ RUSS 1400
- _____ RUSS 1410
- _____ RUSS 15XX
- _____ RUSS 1780
- _____ SLAV 1050
- _____ SLAV 1225

Checklist for the Bosnian/Croatian/Montenegrin/Serbian minor

Students may complete this 15-credit minor during the regular academic year or through summer study of the Bosnian/Croatian/Montenegrin/Serbian language. *SLAV 1850 may not be used to fulfill a requirement for more than one academic program.*

Option 1: Academic year

- _____ BCMS 0030 _____ BCMS 0410
- _____ BCMS 0040 _____ SLAV 1850
- _____ BCMS 0400

Option 2: Summer study; choose one course from each of the following pairs

- _____ BCMS 0220 _____ BCMS 0230
- _____ BCMS 0223 _____ BCMS 0231

Advising: Dr. Ljiljana Duraskovic
CL 1228 B
412-624-5908
ljiljana@pitt.edu

Checklist for the Polish minor

Students may complete this 15-credit minor during the regular academic year or through summer study of the Polish language. *SLAV 1865 may not be used to fulfill a requirement for more than one academic program.*

Option 1: Academic year

- _____ POLISH 0030 _____ POLISH 0410
- _____ POLISH 0040 _____ POLISH 0325/0870/1260
- _____ POLISH 0400 _____ SLAV 1865

Option 2: Summer study; choose one course from each of the following pairs

- _____ POLISH 0220 _____ POLISH 0230
- _____ POLISH 0221 _____ POLISH 0233

Advising: Dr. Oscar Swan

CL 1228
412-624-5707
swan@pitt.edu

Checklist for the Slovak Studies minor

Option 1: Academic year

- _____ SLOVAK 0030 _____ SLOVAK 0410
- _____ SLOVAK 0040 _____ SLOVAK 0890 or 1250
- _____ SLOVAK 0400

Option 2: Summer study

- _____ SLOVAK 0220 or 0221 _____ SLOVAK 0230 or 0231
- _____ SLOVAK 0890 or 1250

Advising: Dr. Renata Kamenarova
CL 1227 B
412-624-5908
rek89@pitt.edu

Note: Students must apply for any official minor they will complete or have completed at the time they apply for graduation.