

Russian

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The major in Russian offered by the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures acquaints students with Russian literature and culture, develops students' appreciation of literary values and skill in literary analysis, and gives them a basic competence in Russian. For an area major in Russian studies, see Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies, an interdisciplinary program administered by the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures.

PLACEMENT PROCEDURES

Students who have previously studied Russian formally or informally are required to take the Russian placement exam. This brief oral exam helps determine which Russian course best fits each student's background. Contact the Russian language coordinator, Constantine Muravnik (constantin.muravnik@yale.edu) to schedule the oral placement exam or for registration information.

PREREQUISITES

Prerequisite to the major is second-year Russian, RUSS 1400, 1420, 1450, or S140. The department offers three sequences of language courses to fulfill the prerequisite: either (1) RUSS 1100, 1200, 1300, 1400, or (2) RUSS 1250, 1450 or (3) courses for heritage speakers, RUSS 1220, 1420. Prospective majors should complete the prerequisites by the end of their sophomore year or accelerate their course of study by taking summer courses or studying abroad. While completing the prerequisite, students are encouraged to begin fulfilling the requirements of the major that do not presuppose advanced knowledge of Russian by taking courses in Russian history and Russian literature in translation.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE MAJOR

In addition to the prerequisite, the major in Russian requires eleven term courses, which must include the following (some courses may fulfill more than one requirement):

1. Third-year Russian: RUSS 1500 and 1510.
2. Fourth-year Russian: RUSS 1600 and 1610.
3. Two terms of Russian literature in translation, one in 19th-century or earlier Russian literature and one in 20th-century or later Russian literature. Russian First-Year Seminars and courses numbered 2000 or higher may fulfill this requirement.
4. One content course in which Russian is the language of instruction (RUSS 1700–1900).
5. One course in Russian, East European, or Eurasian history or social sciences.
6. RUSS 4900 or 4910. The senior essay is the intellectual culmination of the student's work in the major. All primary sources used in the essay must be read in Russian.

If the language proficiency is met without coursework, these course requirements must be fulfilled through additional term courses to bring the overall total to 11 term courses.

A Yale summer program in Russian culture may be used to fulfill the requirements, with the approval of the director of undergraduate studies (DUS).

Credit/D/Fail No course taken Credit/D/Fail may be applied toward the requirements of the major.

Outside credit Courses taken at another institution or during an approved summer or term-time study abroad program may count toward the major requirements with DUS approval.

SENIOR REQUIREMENT

All majors write a senior essay (RUSS 4900 or 4910), an independent project carried out under the guidance of a faculty member. The senior essay takes the form of a substantial article, no longer than 13,000 words, excluding footnotes and bibliography. By the end of the junior year, students should declare their general topic and arrange for a faculty adviser, in consultation with the DUS. Students planning to conduct summer research for the senior essay, especially if abroad, should contact the DUS early in the spring semester of the junior year and apply for fellowships.

Students may opt to enroll in both RUSS 4900 and RUSS 4910, but only one of these courses counts toward the major requirements.

Optionally, students may opt to prepare for the senior essay in the term before they enroll in either RUSS 4900 or 4910. In this instance, students submit a proposal to their adviser (up to two pages double spaced) by the first day of the term before they enroll in RUSS 4900 or RUSS 4910. They also submit a draft of at least ten pages, or a detailed outline of the entire essay by the end of the midterm break. Students finalize their essay during the term in which they are enrolled in RUSS 4900 or 4910. The final essay is due ten days before the last day of classes, typically around April 15 for those students graduating in the spring or November 25 for those graduating in December. A member of the faculty other than the adviser grades the essay. Senior essays will be considered for prizes.

Students pursuing two majors need to fulfill the senior requirement of both majors. If the second major allows, students may enroll in both RUSS 4900 and 4910 and write an essay longer than a single-term essay. In this case, students count the second term of the Russian senior essay as their twelfth course in the Russian major.

ADVISING

Courses in the Graduate School are open to qualified undergraduates with permission of the instructor and of the director of graduate studies. Course descriptions are available at the office of the DUS.

STUDY ABROAD

Students majoring in Russian are strongly encouraged to spend a summer or a term studying abroad under the auspices of programs approved by the DUS. Language courses, as well as RUSS S241, S242, and S243, taken during the summer or during a term in approved programs may substitute for certain advanced Russian courses at Yale. Students interested in studying abroad should consult the DUS well before their junior year. Students can apply for FLAS and Fox fellowships to support their travel.

SUMMARY OF MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

Prerequisite RUSS 1400, 1420, 1450, S140, or placement exam

Number of courses 11 term courses beyond prereq (incl senior essay)

Specific courses required RUSS 1500, 1510, 1600, 1610

Distribution of courses 1 course in 19th-century or earlier Russian literature in translation, as specified; 1 course in 20th-century or later Russian literature in translation, as specified; 1 content course taught in original language, as specified; 1 course in Russian, East European, or Eurasian history or social sciences, as specified

Substitution permitted Yale summer program in Russian culture (RUSS S241, S242, or S243) for electives

Senior requirement Senior essay (RUSS 4900 or 4910)

CERTIFICATE OF ADVANCED LANGUAGE STUDY

Certificate Director: Claire Roosien (claire.roosien@yale.edu)

The Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures offers a Certificate of Advanced Language Study in Russian. A certificate adviser, typically the director of undergraduate studies (DUS), advises students on the certification process. The Certificate of Advanced Language Study is listed on student transcripts.

REQUIREMENTS

Students seeking to earn the certificate are required to take four courses beyond the L4 level in their chosen language, at least two of which must be Yale courses designated as L5. Students should take L5 content courses only after they have completed RUSS 1510, Third-Year Russian II. All courses must be taken for a letter grade, and students must achieve a grade of B or above. With the approval of the adviser, one advanced non-L5 course, conducted in the target language, such as an independent study course (graded pass/fail), a graduate seminar, or an advanced seminar may count toward certification requirements.

The certificate adviser may allow one “language across the curriculum” (LxC) course taught in English to count toward the certification requirements provided the course includes at minimum a weekly discussion section conducted entirely in the target language. The discussion section must enroll a minimum of three students and the course must be designated as LxC in the course description.

The certificate adviser may also approve the substitution of up to two credits earned during study abroad and taught in the target language to count toward the certificate requirements. If the adviser approves courses taken outside of Yale for inclusion in the certificate requirements, students must take the necessary steps to ensure those courses appear on their transcript.

Credit/D/Fail No courses taken Credit/D/Fail may be counted toward the requirements of the certificate.

Declaration of Candidacy

Students must declare their intention to earn a Certificate on the *Declare Major, Concentration within the Major, Certificate* page on Yale Hub, as early as possible, but

at the very latest, by the 15th of January or September in their last semester at Yale. Once declared, Degree Audit tracks students' progress toward completion of the certificate.

FACULTY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SLAVIC LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

Professors Edyta Bojanowska (*Slavic Languages and Literatures*), John MacKay (*Film & Media Studies, Slavic Languages and Literatures*), Marijeta Bozovic (*Slavic Languages and Literatures*)

Associate Professor Molly Brunson (*Slavic Languages and Literatures*)

Assistant Professors Jinyi Chu (*Slavic Languages and Literatures*), Claire Roosien (*Slavic Languages and Literatures*), Nari Shelekpayev (*Slavic Languages and Literatures*)

Senior Lector II Constantine Muravnik (*Slavic Languages and Literatures*), Julia Titus (*Slavic Languages and Literatures*)

Senior Lectors I Krystyna Illakowicz (*Slavic Languages and Literatures*), Olha Tytarenko (*Slavic Languages and Literatures*)

Lector I Anastasia Selemeneva (*Slavic Languages and Literatures*)