

Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies

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The major in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies, administered by the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, offers an interdisciplinary approach to the study of a broad region: Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, the Caucasus, and central Asia; Poland, Hungary, the Czech and Slovak Republics, and other areas in east central Europe; and the Balkans. Students majoring in RSEE may concentrate exclusively on Russian Studies, or on East European or Eurasian Studies. The major is appropriate for students considering careers in international public policy, diplomacy, or business, and is also suited to students wishing to continue academic work.

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, C (irina.dolgova@yale.edu)onstantine Muravnik (constantine.muravnik@yale.edu), to schedule the oral placement exam or for information about preregistration.

Entering first-year students who have some knowledge of Ukrainian or Polish should contact Olha Tytarenko (olha.tytarenko@yale.edu) (Ukrainian) or Krystyna Illakowicz (krystyna.illakowicz@yale.edu) (Polish) to arrange to take a brief placement examination.

PREREQUISITES

Russian Studies concentration Completion of Second-Year Russian (RUSS 1400, 1420, 1450 or S140) or placement exam.

East European Studies or Eurasian Studies concentration Two semesters of the first-year sequence in an East European or an Eurasian language or a placement exam.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE MAJOR

Students select one of three concentrations to complete the requirements for the major in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies. A full understanding of these areas demands knowledge of its languages and therefore students are encouraged to learn more than one language.

Russian Studies concentration Twelve term courses, including the senior requirement, are required for the Russian Studies concentration. Students must take two courses in Russian, East European, or Eurasian history; one RSEE-area focused course in the social sciences, such as those found in anthropology, economics, sociology, political science, global affairs, and other disciplines of social science; one course in Russian, East European, or Eurasian literature or culture, selected in consultation with the director of undergraduate studies (DUS); and the Senior Essay (RSEE 4900 or RSEE 4910). To fulfill the language requirement students must demonstrate a proficiency in Russian by completing RUSS 1500 and 1510 or by passing an equivalency exam. A maximum of five language courses may be counted toward the major. If language proficiency is met without coursework, the course

requirements must be fulfilled through additional term courses to bring the overall total to twelve courses. Electives are selected in consultation with the DUS and may include RUSS 1600 and 1610, a content course taught in Russian at the 1700–1900 level, or courses in other East European or Eurasian languages at the second-year level or above.

East European Studies or Eurasian concentration Eleven term courses, including the senior requirement, are required for the East European and the Eurasian concentrations. The requirements are the same as for the Russian Studies concentration, excluding the language requirements. To fulfill the language requirement students must demonstrate a proficiency in either an East European or Eurasian language (such as Czech, Polish, Romanian, Bosnian-Serbian-Croatian, Hungarian, Ukrainian, or those languages taught through the Shared Course Initiative) by completing the third-year level (4 term courses) of the chosen language or by passing an equivalency exam. The remaining two courses are chosen in consultation with the DUS. If language proficiency is met without coursework, the course requirements must be fulfilled through additional term courses to bring the overall total to eleven courses.

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, 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 RSEE 4900 and RSEE 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 RSEE 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 RSEE 4900 or RSEE 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 RSEE 4900 or RSEE 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 RSEE 4900 and RSEE 4910 and write a longer essay than for the single-term essay. In this case, students count the

second term of the RSEE senior essay as their 13th (Russian Studies concentration) or 12th (East European or Eurasian concentration) course in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies.

ADVISING

Qualified students may elect pertinent courses in the Graduate School with the permission of the instructor, the director of graduate studies, and the DUS.

Graduate work The European and Russian Studies program does not offer the simultaneous award of the B.A. and M.A. However, students in Yale College are eligible to complete the M.A. in European and Russian Studies (with concentration in Russia and eastern Europe) in one year of graduate work. Students interested in this option must complete eight graduate courses in the area by the time they complete the bachelor's degree. Only two courses may be counted toward both the graduate degree and the undergraduate major. Successful completion of graduate courses while still an undergraduate does not guarantee admission into the M.A. program. Students must submit the standard application for admission to the M.A. program.

STUDY ABROAD

There are several opportunities for study and travel in eastern Europe and Eurasia. The DUS can provide information on these programs and facilitate enrollment. Students who spend all or part of the academic year in these regions participating in established academic programs usually receive Yale College and major requirement credit. Students are strongly encouraged to take advantage of study abroad opportunities during summers or through the Year or Term Abroad program and should consult the DUS as early as possible.

SUMMARY OF MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

Prerequisites *Russian Studies concentration – RUSS 1400, 1420, 1450 or S140; East European and Eurasian concentrations – two courses of first-year sequence in East European or Eurasian language*

Number of courses *Russian Studies concentration – 12 term courses beyond prereqs (incl senior req); East European and Eurasian concentrations – 11 term courses beyond prereqs (incl senior req)*

Specific courses required *Russian Studies concentration – RUSS 1500 and 1510 or equivalency exam*

Distribution of courses *All concentrations – 2 courses in RSEE history; 1 RSEE-area focused course in the social sciences, as specified; 1 course in Russian, East European, or Eurasian literature or culture, in consultation with DUS; Russian Studies concentration – up to 5 language courses and/or electives in consultation with DUS to fulfill total course requirement; East European Studies and Eurasian Studies concentrations – third-year level in East European or Eurasian language or equivalency exam; remaining electives in consultation with DUS to fulfill total course requirement*

Senior requirement Senior essay (RSEE 4900 or RSEE 4910)

FACULTY ASSOCIATED WITH THE MAJOR

Professors Edyta Bojanowska (*Slavic Languages and Literatures*), Marijeta Bozovic (*Slavic Languages and Literatures, Film and Media Studies, Women's, Gender, & Sexuality*)

Studies), Paul Bushkovitch (*History*), David Engerman (*History*), John Gaddis (*History*), John MacKay (*Slavic Languages and Literatures, Film & Media Studies*), Douglas Rogers (*Anthropology*), Marci Shore (*History*), Timothy Snyder (*History*), Arne Westad (*History*)

Associate Professors Molly Brunson (*Slavic Languages and Literatures*), Marta Figlerowicz (*Comparative Literature, English*)

Assistant Professors Sergei Antonov (*History*), Jinyi Chu (*Slavic Languages and Literatures*), Sam Hodgkin (*Comparative Literature*), Egor Lazarev (*Political Sciences*), Claire Roosien (*Slavic Languages and Literatures*), Nari Shelekpayev (*Slavic Languages and Literatures*)

Senior Lectors 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*)