

# Slavic Languages and Literatures

College of Letters and Science (<http://ls.berkeley.edu>)

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## Related Course Descriptions:

**East European Studies** (<http://bulletin.berkeley.edu/archive/2013-14/courses/eaEURst>)

**Eurasian Studies** (<http://bulletin.berkeley.edu/archive/2013-14/courses/eurast>)

## Overview

The Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures provides instruction in the languages and cultures of Russian and other Slavic peoples—Czech, Polish, and Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian (BCS)—as well as some of the non-Slavic peoples of Eastern Europe (Hungarian) and Eurasia (Armenian). In addition to language and literature, our department teaches different aspects of Slavic cultures, including film, drama, visual arts, popular culture, critical theory, religious thought and cultural history.

## Majors

The department offers three different major tracks. The **major track in Russian/East European/Eurasian Cultures** offers an interdisciplinary "area studies" approach. For this major track, two years of study (or the equivalent) in Russian or another language are required. The **major track in Russian Language and Literature** focuses specifically on Russian language and literature. It requires three years of language coursework (or the equivalent). The **major tracks in other Slavic languages and literatures** allow students to focus intensively on Czech, Polish, or BCS (Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian).

## Major Track in Russian/East European/Eurasian Cultures (50-52 units)

This major track integrates the study of languages and cultures of a large area: Russia, East Central Europe, Southeastern Europe and Eurasia. Students design their own programs by selecting courses offered by the Slavic department and other departments such as History, Political Economy, Geography, Political Science, Peace and Conflict Studies, Anthropology, and others. While all majors in this track will gain some knowledge of the whole area, the program also allows each student to (1) emphasize a specific cultural region, (2) to compare different regions, and/or (3) to define a particular field of study. Students are advised to see the major adviser in advance to prepare an individualized study list plan.

## Requirements

### Lower Division (21-24 units)

- Four semesters of one language of the area (18 to 20 units) or the equivalent, as determined by examination. Russian and East European heritage speakers: See the department website (<http://www.ls.berkeley.edu/dept/slavic>) for language placement approval instructions.

[www.ls.berkeley.edu/dept/slavic](http://www.ls.berkeley.edu/dept/slavic)) for language placement approval instructions. The department highly recommends additional exposure to language, through coursework, intensive summer language programs, or the UC Education Abroad Program. Languages regularly offered by this department that can be used for the major are Russian, Polish, Czech, BCS (Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian), Hungarian, and Armenian.

- One lower division course in the Slavic department: Slavic 50, Introduction to Russian, East European and Eurasian Cultures. In rare instances, and with permission of the major adviser, it may be possible to substitute another lower division course in the department relevant to the major, e.g., Slavic, 39, 45, 46.

### Upper Division (28 units)

#### REQUIREMENT FOR NEW MAJORS DECLARING SPRING 2014

**ONWARD:** Slavic 100 (Seminar: Russian, East European, and Eurasian Cultures for 4 units) offered each Fall beginning Fall 2014.

- One cultural topics course: Slavic 148, Topics in Russian Cultural History, or Slavic 158, Topics in East European and Eurasian Cultural History.
- One relevant course in the Department of History, e.g., History 171A, 171B, or 171C (History of Russia); 172 (Russian Intellectual History); 173 or 174A (History of Eastern Europe, History of Poland-Lithuania); 177A or B (History of Armenia).
- Four courses chosen from the upper division offerings of the Slavic department, and the following courses from outside departments: Geography 55C; Political Science 129B, 129C, 141A, 141C; Sociology 181. With permission of the major adviser, students may utilize relevant courses from the following departments: Anthropology, Political Economy, Comparative Literature, Economics, Journalism, Legal Studies, Peace and Conflict Studies, Theater, Dance, and Performance Studies.

**Variations:** With permission of the major adviser, up to two upper-division language courses (taken in addition to the initial four semesters of the same language) may be counted among these four electives. Similarly, up to two lower- or upper-division language courses in another language relevant to the program of study may be counted.

## Major Track in Russian Language and Literature (53-56 units)

This major track integrates the study of Russian language, literature, and culture. Students will learn what defines Russia's unique place in civilization, both in earlier times and in today's world. Students are advised to see the major adviser in advance to prepare an individualized study plan. Students may declare the major after completion of Slavic 2 and either Slavic 45 or 46.

### Lower Division (26 units)

- The first four semesters of Russian (Slavic 1, 2, 3, 4) or the equivalent. Russian heritage speakers: See the department website (<http://www.ls.berkeley.edu/dept/slavic>) for language placement approval instructions.
- A two-semester survey of nineteenth- and twentieth-century Russian literature (Slavic 45 and 46).

### Upper Division (27-30 units)

#### REQUIREMENT FOR NEW MAJORS DECLARING SPRING 2014

**ONWARD:** Slavic 100 (Seminar: Russian, East European, and Eurasian Cultures for 4 units) offered each Fall beginning Fall 2014.

- Advanced Russian language (Slavic 103A, 103B) and Russian conversation (Slavic 120A or 120B).
- One literature course with readings in Russian (Slavic 180\*\*, 181, 182 or 188).
- One Russian literature class in English translation (Slavic 131, 132, 133, 134A, B, C, D, E, F, G, or N).
- One course in culture selected from the following: Russian culture (Slavic 130, 131, 140, 148, 190), or the literatures of other Slavic peoples (Slavic 150, 160, 170), folklore (Slavic 147A or 147B), linguistics (Slavic C137), or film (Slavic 138).
- One upper division elective course (3 or 4 units) in Russian language, literature, or culture selected from the courses listed above. Relevant courses from other programs—for example, History—may be substituted with the permission of the major adviser.

\*\*Infrequently offered

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### Major Track in Czech, Polish, or BCS (Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian) Language and Literature (53-56 units)

With advance consultation, students may pursue a major track in Czech, Polish, or BCS (Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian). Advance consultation with the major adviser is critical, since not all required courses are offered each year.

#### Lower Division (26 units)

- Slavic 1 and 2 (2 semesters of elementary Russian), 10 units
- Two lower-division courses in literature and culture chosen from Slavic 36, 39, 45, 46 or 50 (6 units)
- Two lower-division course in the target language [Slavic 25A-25B (Polish), 26A-26B (Czech), 27A-27B (BCS: Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian)], 10 units.

#### Upper-division (27-30 units)

- **FOR NEW MAJORS DECLARING SPRING 2014 ONWARD:** Slavic 100 (Seminar: Russian, East European, and Eurasian Cultures for 4 units), offered each Fall beginning Fall 2014.
- 8 units of intermediate language: Slavic 115A-115B (Polish), 116A-116B (Czech), or 117A-117B (BCS).
- 3 units of a survey course in the relevant literature (Slavic 150, 160, or 170; or with the appropriate content and permission of the major adviser, Slavic 158).
- 7 units of two additional courses in the relevant literature in the original (Slavic 151-152, 161-162, or 171-172).
- A plan of study, designed in advance in consultation with the major adviser, consisting of two relevant electives (3-4 units each) in Russian or European literature and history.

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### Honors Program

Slavic majors with a minimum GPA of 3.3 overall and in courses for the major are invited to consult with members of the faculty and the major adviser in the spring of their junior year about the honors program and a thesis topic. Requirements for the honors program in Slavic include: (1) an additional upper division Slavic course chosen by the student, and (2) an honors thesis course (H195). In the honors thesis course, normally taken during the fall semester of the senior year, the student will write a thesis under the direction of a member of the faculty (the thesis director). In order to enroll in H195, students must file an application with

the department (available from the Undergraduate Student Services Adviser). This application includes a preliminary statement of the thesis topic and the names and signatures of the honors committee—the faculty director and one additional faculty member, who also read the completed thesis—and the department chair.

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### Minors

The department offers a range of minors in Russian and other Slavic languages, literatures, and cultures. Students normally discuss the possibility of doing a minor with the faculty or staff major adviser well before graduation, although the "Completion of L&S Minor" form is completed with the major adviser in the student's final semester. Courses used to satisfy major and minor requirements must be taken for a letter grade.

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### Minor Tracks

The department offers minors in (a) Russian language, (b) Russian literature (requiring no knowledge of Russian), (c) Russian language, literature, and culture, and (d) Slavic languages/literatures with an emphasis in either Czech, Polish, or BCS (Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian) language and literature.

### Requirements

The basic course requirement for each of the minors is five upper division courses, all completed for a letter grade. Three of them must be completed at Berkeley. The minor is in a field academically distinct from the student's major. An overall GPA of 2.0 in upper division courses applied to the minor program is required. Students must see the major adviser early on to formulate a study list plan leading to the completion of a minor. The minor paperwork ("Completion of L&S Minor" form) is completed with the major adviser in the student's final semester at Berkeley.

Restrictions to Minor Tracks: (1) Russian native speakers may choose only the minor in Russian literature; (2) Russian heritage speakers may choose any minor except the minor in Russian language; and (3) native or heritage speakers of an East European language may choose any minor that does not utilize their native/heritage language. Note: Native or heritage proficiency is determined by the major adviser in consultation with the relevant faculty language coordinator. Final approval for a minor rests with the major adviser.

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### Minor in Russian Language, Literature and Culture

- Prerequisites: Four semesters of elementary and intermediate Russian (Slavic 1, 2, 3, and 4, or equivalent). Russian heritage speakers: See the department website (<http://www.ls.berkeley.edu/dept/slavic>) for language placement approval instructions.
- Five upper division courses (3 or 4 units each) in Russian language and Russian or other Slavic literatures and cultures. Students may choose courses in any combination, in consultation with the major adviser. A course from another related program (for example, Comparative Literature) may be substituted with approval of the major adviser.

Total lower division units: 20

Total upper division units: 15-20

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### Minor in Russian Language

- Prerequisites: Four semesters of elementary/intermediate Russian (Slavic 1, 2, 3, and 4, or equivalent).
- Four semesters of advanced Russian (Slavic 103A-103B, plus two courses chosen from Slavic 104A\*, 104B\*, 180\*\*, 181, 182, 188); advanced Russian conversation (Slavic 120A or 120B).

Total lower division units: 20

Total upper division units: 16-20

\*Courses not currently offered

\*\*Infrequently offered

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### Minor in Russian Literature

- Prerequisites: Surveys of Russian literature (Slavic 45, 46).
- One course on the culture of Russia or other Slavic nations (chosen from Slavic 130, 138, 140, 147A, 147B, 148, 150, 160, 170).
- Four courses in Russian literature (chosen from Slavic 132, 133, 134A-134B-134C-134D-134E-134F-134G-134N, 136, 140, 180\*\*, 181, 182, 188).

Total lower division units: 6

Total upper division units: 19-20

\*\*Infrequently offered.

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### Minor in Czech, Polish, or BCS (Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian) Language and Literature

- Prerequisites: Appropriate first-year language sequence (Slavic 25A-25B, 26A-26B, or 27A-27B) or equivalent. Note: Native and heritage speakers of an East European language may choose any minor that does not utilize their native language. See the department website (<http://www.ls.berkeley.edu/dept/slavic>) for language placement approval instructions.
- Two advanced language courses in the target language: Slavic 115A-115B (Polish), 116A-116B (Czech), 117A-117B (BCS).
- One course in the relevant literature survey (Slavic 150, 160, or 170).
- Two courses in the relevant literature (Slavic 151 and 152 or 161 and 162 or 171 and 172) or substitutes approved by the major adviser.

Total lower division units: 10

Total upper division units: 17-18

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### Education Abroad

The Slavic department actively encourages students to participate in study abroad programs in Russia and other Slavic countries. Through the UC Education Abroad Program, students may spend a fall semester in St. Petersburg, which provides intensive work on Russian language, literature, and culture. There is also a program sometimes offered in Budapest featuring Central European studies. Other institutions also offer programs in Russia and other Slavic lands, both during the school year and summer. Please consult with the major adviser for information about these programs.

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### The Slavic National Honor Society and Department Events

The Berkeley Chapter of Dobro Slovo, the National Slavic Honor Society, is part of a nationwide honor society that recognizes outstanding

achievement in Slavic studies. Students who meet the grade point average and academic requirements are invited by the faculty undergraduate adviser to join during the spring semester of their senior year.

Our campus hosts many Slavic-related lectures, concerts, films, conferences, and other events. A weekly Russian conversation hour is one of the Slavic department's most lively institutions. The Polish Circle and Czech Circle meet regularly for discussions and social events. Film showings—of classic and contemporary films from Russia and other countries—are periodically organized by graduate students.

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### Graduate Programs

#### Admission to Graduate Study

The Department offers a synthetic approach to the study of language, literature, and culture. The most common career choice of our graduates is teaching at the college level, although some also pursue careers in writing, publishing, public and government service, and other fields in the humanities. Applicants must have completed an undergraduate major program in Slavic languages and literatures or received equivalent training. Prospective and current students are encouraged to acquire a background in other related fields—for those in literary studies, European languages and literatures (especially French, German, and English), literary theory, Russian and Western European intellectual history are useful; for those in linguistics, preparation in French, German, Greek or Latin, and/or in general and comparative linguistics is desirable.

We select our graduate students on the basis of prior academic achievement and promise of success in scholarship and teaching. Students admitted to the PhD program with an MA in Slavic or a related field from another institution are required to pass a screening (permission-to-proceed) examination. Students who have earned the MA degree from this department may receive permission to proceed to the PhD program following successful performance on the MA comprehensive examinations and demonstrated aptitude for advanced work. The department does not accept applications for a terminal MA program of study.

Students are admitted to the PhD or MA/PhD program with a focus in Russian, Polish, Czech, Bulgarian, and BCS (Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian) each with an emphasis in literature or linguistics. The department will not consider applications for an M.A. only. Detailed descriptions of requirements are available from the department website (<http://ls.berkeley.edu/dept/slavic>). Described below are programs focusing on Russian literature and on linguistics. Students who choose other Slavic literatures as their major field are offered individual programs of study.

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### MA Coursework

#### Russian Literature Program

- Required skills and methods courses: Proseminar in literary scholarship, Old Church Slavic, Russian stylistics, descriptive grammar, proficiency maintenance
- Selected courses in history and theory of literature to be chosen from offerings that include Eighteenth-Century Literature, Slavic Literary Theory, Sentimentalism and Romanticism, Realism, Modernism, Poetry, and Contemporary Literature
- Graduate research seminars (topics vary): at least one is required.

Instruction in Polish, Czech, BCS (Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian), and Bulgarian is offered to both MA and PhD students.

## Linguistics Program

- Required skills and methods courses: Proseminar in linguistics scholarship, Old Church Slavic, three semesters of a second Slavic language; and in the major language, stylistics, descriptive grammar, proficiency maintenance
- Additional courses: Historical Grammar of Slavic Languages, Medieval Orthodox Slavic Texts, and, in the major language, stylistics,
- One period or genre literature course.

All candidates for the MA must demonstrate advanced proficiency in their major language, pass the department's reading examination, and pass two written and one oral comprehensive MA examinations. They must pass a reading examination of French or German or, for Literature majors, take two semesters of instruction in a second Slavic language.

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## PhD Requirements

### Literature

The PhD program in Russian literature consists of:

- Additional coursework in literary history (including the Medieval and early Modern periods) and theory; and participation in research seminars and independent research. In addition, students develop knowledge of a second Slavic language and literature (Polish, Czech, BCS [Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian], Bulgarian), film, visual arts, music, comparative literature, minor field (e.g., film, Russian or East European history, Eurasian studies, etc.).
- An extended written research project under faculty supervision and evaluation on a topic relative to the student's field of study and interests.
- Written and oral PhD examinations.
- A dissertation.

### Linguistics

The PhD program in Slavic linguistics consists of:

- Required coursework in a set of core courses covering comparative Slavic linguistics, advanced structure of Slavic languages, history of Slavic literary languages, and two semesters of a third Slavic language.
- Additional courses and seminars in two of three fields of specialization —grammatical analysis and theory, structural and cultural history of a major language, and comparative philology.
- An extended written research project under faculty supervision and evaluation.
- Written and oral PhD examinations.
- A dissertation.

All candidates for the PhD must pass a written and oral examination in their major Slavic language and demonstrate reading knowledge of at least two languages other than their major language (to be selected from French, German, and a second Slavic language).

Instruction in language-teaching methodology is provided for graduate student instructors and prospective teachers of Russian, Polish, Czech, and BCS (Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian). Internships (Slavic 310) are available in the teaching of literature or Slavic linguistics.

## SLAVIC 1 Elementary Russian 5 Units

**Department:** Slavic Languages and Literatures

**Course level:** Undergraduate

**Terms course may be offered:** Fall, spring and summer

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**Hours and format:** 5 hours of lecture and 2 hours of language laboratory per week.

Beginner's course.

## SLAVIC 2 Elementary Russian 5 Units

**Department:** Slavic Languages and Literatures

**Course level:** Undergraduate

**Terms course may be offered:** Fall and spring

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**Hours and format:** 5 hours of lecture and 2 hours of language laboratory per week.

**Prerequisites:** 1, 14A, or equivalent.

## SLAVIC 3 Intermediate Russian 5 Units

**Department:** Slavic Languages and Literatures

**Course level:** Undergraduate

**Terms course may be offered:** Fall and spring

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**Hours and format:** 5 hours of lecture and 1 hour of language laboratory per week.

**Prerequisites:** 2, 14B, or equivalent.

## SLAVIC 4 Intermediate Russian 5 Units

**Department:** Slavic Languages and Literatures

**Course level:** Undergraduate

**Terms course may be offered:** Fall and spring

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**Hours and format:** 5 hours of lecture and 1 hour of language laboratory per week.

## SLAVIC R5A Reading and Composition 4 Units

**Department:** Slavic Languages and Literatures

**Course level:** Undergraduate

**Terms course may be offered:** Fall, spring and summer

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**Hours and format:** 3 hours of Lecture per week for 15 weeks. 8 hours of Lecture per week for 6 weeks.

**Prerequisites:** UC Entry Level Writing Requirement or equivalent for 5A; 5A or equivalent for 5B.

Reading and composition course based on works of Russian and other Slavic writers, either written in English or translated into English. As students develop strategies of writing and interpretation, they will become acquainted with a particular theme in Russian and/or Slavic literatures and their major voices. R5A satisfies the first half of the Reading and Composition requirement, and R5B satisfies the second half. Satisfies the first half of the Reading and Composition requirement Formerly known as 5A.

## SLAVIC R5B Reading and Composition 4 Units

**Department:** Slavic Languages and Literatures

**Course level:** Undergraduate

**Terms course may be offered:** Fall, spring and summer

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**Hours and format:** 3 hours of Lecture per week for 15 weeks. 8 hours of Lecture per week for 6 weeks.

**Prerequisites:** UC Entry Level Writing Requirement or equivalent for 5A; 5A or equivalent for 5B.

Reading and composition course based on works of Russian and other Slavic writers, either written in English or translated into English. As students develop strategies of writing and interpretation, they will become acquainted with a particular theme in Russian and/or Slavic literatures and their major voices. R5A satisfies the first half of the Reading and