

Bachelor of Arts in Slavic, German, and Eurasian Studies

Why study Slavic languages and literatures?

If you have turned on a TV set or logged on Twitter lately, you probably have seen a news item on Russia or Ukraine, not to mention countries like Turkey and Iran. From Russian, Polish, Ukrainian, to Bosnian/Croatian/Montenegrin/Serbian (BCMS), to Czech, Turkish, Persian/Tajik/Dar/Farsi, to Yiddish, our department offers only critical languages. In fact, the US government classifies these languages as critical (<https://www.nsep.gov/content/critical-languages/>) for national security interests, and there are a number of federal scholarships that you can apply for to study them.

Think about how Russia has become a power player even in just US politics the last few years through #hacking or other cybersecurity threats. With the end of the Cold War, the study of languages like Russian has considerably decreased in the US, and as this language has become more important to national security and the global economy, there are not nearly enough Americans who speak it. The US government and national and international employers needs individuals with specialized language skills. Some of these languages can be more challenging, but we commit to helping students advance in them. You do not need to have special language abilities to study a language like Russian, you just have to come to class and do the same things you would in any other class, just with a more fun alphabet. And if you consider how many people study more commonly taught languages like Spanish and French, statistically, studying a language like Russian really sets us apart with employers, because you bring in unique skills and expertise. And if you don't believe us, you can take a look at our success stories (<https://sges.ku.edu/success-stories/>).

Our department offers comprehensive undergraduate programs in Russian, Polish, and Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, Turkish, Persian/Tajik/Dar/Farsi. For each language, we offer core curricula emphasizing all four skills: speaking, listening, reading and writing. We also offer intensive introductory Russian in Lawrence during the summer. Because of how foundational to our identities and personal growth study abroad opportunities can be, we offer students multiple opportunities to learn these languages outside of Lawrence. Think about all the great selfies you could take in to these beautiful, off-the-beaten path places! You can go to Moscow, Russia and study at the Higher School of Economics for a semester. Or you can spend your summers in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan, or Zadar, Croatia and Lviv, Ukraine.

And we don't just offer language learning. Our department is multi-disciplinary and we want our students to come out with strong cultural awareness of the region, but also core critical thinking and writing skills. So you can study a language, but also learn about vampires in Slavic and American culture, or robots and scifi writings, explore the linguistic reflections of identity, while reading about socialism, Marxism, and other varieties of Russian political thought.

We welcome applicants from all backgrounds to consider a Slavic major or minor in combination with another field of study.

Undergraduate Admission

Admission to KU

All students applying for admission must send high school and college transcripts to the Office of Admissions. Prospective first-year students should be aware that KU has qualified admission requirements that all new first-year students must meet to be admitted. Consult the Office of Admissions (<http://admissions.ku.edu/>) for application deadlines and specific admission requirements.

Visit the International Support Services (<http://www.iss.ku.edu/>) for information about international admissions.

Students considering transferring to KU may see how their college-level course work will transfer on the Office of Admissions (<http://credittransfer.ku.edu/>) website.

Requirements for the B.A. Major

The student completes a minimum of 30 hours of study (29 hours for Russian emphasis) in one of 5 concentrations: German, Polish, Russian, South Slavic (Bosnian/Croatian/Montenegrin/Serbian), and Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies. The department encourages students to fulfill core requirements from courses in the SLAV 140/SLAV 141, SLAV 144/SLAV 145, and SLAV 148/SLAV 149 series, GERM general education courses, or the REES 110/REES 111/REES 310 or REES 220/REES 221 series. Beyond the minimum required hours, students are strongly encouraged to take additional courses in the Slavic, German, and Eurasian Studies department and appropriate background courses in the history, philosophy, and political science of the respective regions.

German Studies Concentration

We offer students a diverse and challenging program in the language and culture of German-speaking Europe, including literature, the arts, history, business, and politics. Courses at the 100, 200, and 300 levels emphasize student involvement with the aim of developing students' use of the German language, including the ability to comprehend, interpret, and produce spoken, written, and multimedia texts in different genres. Cultural topics are integrated into instruction starting in the first semester. At the 400 and 500 levels, survey courses provide students with a broader perspective on German cultural traditions, while other advanced courses often have a thematic focus. Courses taken in departments such as the history of art, philosophy, political science, sociology, and theatre will enhance students' study of the language and culture of German-speaking Europe.

First- and Second-Year Preparation

The following should be completed as early as possible:

Code	Title	Hours
GERM 104	Elementary German I	5
GERM 108	Elementary German II	5

Required Courses

After completion of GERM 108 Elementary German II, students must complete 18 credits as follows:

Code	Title	Hours
GERM 201	Intermediate German I	3
GERM 202	Intermediate German II	3
GERM 301	High Intermediate German I	3
GERM 302	High Intermediate German II	3
GERM 315	Magic, Murder, Monsters: German Literature and the Modern Era	3
GERM 580	Senior Capstone Course: Topics in German Studies	3

* Student who place in GERM 301 will receive retroactive credit for GERM 201 and GERM 202

Elective Courses

A minimum of 12 credit hours of GERM courses at the 300, 400, and 500 levels must be completed beyond the required courses. These courses may be taught in either English or German and, with permission of the Director of Undergraduate Studies, up to six credit hours may be counted toward the concentration by completing courses offered by other departments with significant content related to German-speaking Europe. Eligible courses include JWSH 343 and POLS 643.

German Studies students are strongly encouraged to study abroad and should discuss this opportunity with the Director of Undergraduate Studies early in their undergraduate career.

Major Hours & Major GPA

While completing all required courses, majors must also meet each of the following hour and GPA minimum standards:

Major Hours

Satisfied by 30 hours of major courses.

Major Hours in Residence

At least 15 hours of coursework at the 300, 400, and 500 levels, including the senior capstone course, GERM 580, must be completed in residence at KU.

Major Junior/Senior Hours

Satisfied by a minimum of 24 hours from junior/senior courses (300+) in the major.

Major Junior/Senior Graduation GPA

Satisfied by a minimum of a 2.0 KU GPA in junior/senior courses (300+) in the major. GPA calculations include all junior/senior courses in the field of study including F's and repeated courses. See the Semester/Cumulative GPA Calculator (<https://sis.ku.edu/gpa-calculator/>).

Polish Studies Concentration

Majors choosing this option must complete courses as indicated in following areas:

Code	Title	Hours
------	-------	-------

Prerequisite Knowledge and Skills

The following courses provide fundamental skills for the major, but do not contribute to the minimum required hours for the major.

Elementary Polish I. Satisfied by:

PLSH 104	Elementary Polish I	5
----------	---------------------	---

Elementary Polish II. Satisfied by:

PLSH 108	Elementary Polish II	5
----------	----------------------	---

Intermediate Polish I. Satisfied by:

PLSH 204	Intermediate Polish I	3
----------	-----------------------	---

Polish Studies Emphasis Core Knowledge and Skills

Intermediate Polish II. Satisfied by:

PLSH 208	Intermediate Polish II	3
----------	------------------------	---

Advanced Polish I & II. Satisfied by:

PLSH 675	Readings in Polish Language and Literature	6
----------	--	---

West Slavic Literature and Civilization (Polish and Czech). Satisfied by:

SLAV 675	Readings in Slavic Studies (English)	3
----------	--------------------------------------	---

Required Electives

Satisfied by 4 courses (12 hours) chosen from the following: 12

PLSH 675	Readings in Polish Language and Literature	
SLAV 144/145	Survey of Russian Literature in Translation	
SLAV 320	Graphic Novels as Memory	
SLAV 340/341	The Language Landscape of Eastern Europe	
SLAV 516	Love, Lust and Liberty: Polish and Czech Film Adaptations	
ECON 560	Economic Systems	
HIST 377	Everyday Communism in Eastern Europe	

Senior Capstone Seminar. Satisfied by:

SLAV 495	Senior Capstone Seminar	3
----------	-------------------------	---

Majors are strongly encouraged to study abroad. Please see your advisor about this opportunity.

Major Hours & Major GPA

While completing all required courses (above), majors must also meet each of the following hour and grade-point average minimum standards:

Major Hours

Satisfied by 27 hours of major courses.

Major Hours in Residence

Satisfied by a minimum of 15 hours of KU resident credit in the major.

Major Junior/Senior (300+) Hours

Satisfied by a minimum of 12 hours from junior/senior courses (300+) in the major.

Major Junior/Senior (300+) Graduation GPA

Satisfied by a minimum of a 2.0 KU GPA in junior/senior courses (300+) in the major. GPA calculations include all junior/senior courses in the field of study including F's and repeated courses. See the Semester/Cumulative GPA Calculator (<https://sis.ku.edu/gpa-calculator/>).

Russian Concentration

Majors choosing this option must complete courses as indicated in following areas:

Code	Title	Hours
------	-------	-------

Prerequisite Knowledge and Skills

The following courses provide fundamental skills for the major, but do not contribute to the minimum required hours for the major.

Elementary Russian I. Satisfied by:

RUSS 104	Elementary Russian I	5
or RUSS 110	Intensive Elementary Russian	

Elementary Russian II. Satisfied by:

RUSS 108	Elementary Russian II	5
or RUSS 110	Intensive Elementary Russian	

Intermediate Russian I. Satisfied by:

RUSS 204	Intermediate Russian I	5
----------	------------------------	---

Russian Concentration Core Knowledge and Skills

Intermediate Russian II. Satisfied by:

RUSS 208	Intermediate Russian II	5
----------	-------------------------	---

Advanced Russian Language. Satisfied by one of the following: 6

RUSS 504 & RUSS 508	Advanced Russian I and Advanced Russian II	
RUSS 512 & RUSS 516	Russian for the Professions I and Russian for the Professions II	

Russian Linguistics. Satisfied by one one course (3 hours, 200+) chosen from: 3

SLAV 340	The Language Landscape of Eastern Europe	
SLAV 341	The Language Landscape of Eastern Europe, Honors	
SLAV 522	The Grammatical Categories of Russian: Linguistic Units, Functions and Meanings	
SLAV 540	The Language Landscape of Eastern Europe	

Russian Literature. Satisfied by 1 course (3 hours, 400+) chosen from: 3

SLAV 532	Dostoevsky	
SLAV 534	Tolstoy	
SLAV 564	The Woman Question in Nineteenth-Century Russian Literature	
SLAV 572	Russian and East European Science Fiction	
SLAV 664	Soviet Russian Literature: 1930-1990	
SLAV 667	Post-Soviet Literature	
SLAV 668	Nabokov	
SLAV 762	Russian Theatre and Drama from Stanislavski and Chekhov to the Present	

Required Electives

Satisfied by 3 courses (9 hours) in Russian literature, linguistics, culture, or advanced language chosen in consultation with the major advisor. Note that only one (1) 100-level course (either SLAV 140/SLAV 141, SLAV 144/SLAV 145, or SLAV 148/SLAV 149) may count as a required elective for the Russian emphasis major. 9

Language		
RUSS 512	Russian for the Professions I	
RUSS 516	Russian for the Professions II	
RUSS 522	Problems in Translating Russian into English I	

RUSS 700	Classics of Russian Culture	
RUSS 704	Contemporary Russian Culture	
RUSS 708	Russian Phonetics and Grammar	
RUSS 712	Introduction to Russian Literature	
RUSS 716	Stylistics	
Linguistics		
SLAV 340	The Language Landscape of Eastern Europe	
SLAV 341	The Language Landscape of Eastern Europe, Honors	
SLAV 522	The Grammatical Categories of Russian: Linguistic Units, Functions and Meanings	
SLAV 540	The Language Landscape of Eastern Europe	
Culture		
SLAV 330	Russian Business Culture	
SLAV 370	War and Violence Russian Literature and Film	
SLAV 322	Soviet and Post-Soviet Russian Cinema	
SLAV 503	Post-Soviet Communication	
SLAV 600	Biography of a City: _____	
Literature		
SLAV 532	Dostoevsky	
SLAV 534	Tolstoy	
SLAV 564	The Woman Question in Nineteenth-Century Russian Literature	
SLAV 572	Russian and East European Science Fiction	
SLAV 664	Soviet Russian Literature: 1930-1990	
SLAV 667	Post-Soviet Literature	
SLAV 668	Nabokov	
SLAV 762	Russian Theatre and Drama from Stanislavski and Chekhov to the Present	

Senior Capstone Seminar. Satisfied by:

SLAV 495	Senior Capstone Seminar	3
----------	-------------------------	---

Majors are strongly encouraged to study abroad. Please see your advisor about this opportunity.

Major Hours & Major GPA

While completing all required courses (above), majors must also meet each of the following hour and grade-point average minimum standards:

Major Hours

Satisfied by 29 hours of major courses.

Major Hours in Residence

Satisfied by a minimum of 15 hours of KU resident credit in the major.

Major Junior/Senior (300+) Hours

Satisfied by a minimum of 12 hours from junior/senior courses (300+) in the major.

Major Junior/Senior (300+) Graduation GPA

Satisfied by a minimum of a 2.0 KU GPA in junior/senior courses (300+) in the major. GPA calculations include all junior/senior courses in the field of study including F's and repeated courses. See the Semester/Cumulative GPA Calculator (<https://sis.ku.edu/gpa-calculator/>).

South Slavic Studies Concentration

Majors choosing this option must complete courses as indicated in following areas:

Code	Title	Hours
Prerequisite Knowledge and Skills		
The following courses provide fundamental skills for the major, but do not contribute to the minimum required hours for the major.		
Elementary Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian I. Satisfied by:		
BCRS 104	Elementary Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian I	5
Elementary Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian II. Satisfied by:		
BCRS 108	Elementary Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian II	5
Intermediate Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian I. Satisfied by:		
BCRS 204	Intermediate Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian I	3
Slavic Studies Emphasis Core Knowledge and Skills		
Intermediate Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian II. Satisfied by:		
BCRS 208	Intermediate Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian II	3
Advanced Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian I & II. Satisfied by:		
BCRS 675	Readings in Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian	6
South Slavic Literature and Civilization. Satisfied by:		
SLAV 508	South Slavic Literature and Civilization	3
Required Electives		
Satisfied by 5 courses (15 hours) chosen from the following:		15
BCRS 380	Intensive Croatian	
BCRS 675	Readings in Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian	
ECON 560	Economic Systems	
HIST 377	Everyday Communism in Eastern Europe	
SLAV 144/145	Survey of Russian Literature in Translation	
SLAV 316	The Peoples and Cultures of Southeastern Europe Through Film	
SLAV 340/341	The Language Landscape of Eastern Europe	
SLAV 558	Readings in Slovene	
SLAV 626	The Cultural Impact of Ottoman Empire on the South Slavs	
SLAV 630	Slavic Folklore	
SLAV 679	Topics in: _____	
Senior Capstone Seminar. Satisfied by:		
SLAV 495	Senior Capstone Seminar	3

Majors are strongly encouraged to study abroad. Please see your advisor about this opportunity.

Major Hours & Major GPA

While completing all required courses (above), majors must also meet each of the following hour and grade-point average minimum standards:

Major Hours

Satisfied by 30 hours of major courses.

Major Hours in Residence

Satisfied by a minimum of 15 hours of KU resident credit in the major.

Major Junior/Senior (300+) Hours

Satisfied by a minimum of 12 hours from junior/senior courses (300+) in the major.

Major Junior/Senior (300+) Graduation GPA

Satisfied by a minimum of a 2.0 KU GPA in junior/senior courses (300+) in the major. GPA calculations include all junior/senior courses in the field of study including F's and repeated courses. See the Semester/Cumulative GPA Calculator (<https://sis.ku.edu/gpa-calculator/>).

Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies Concentration

The Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies (REES) concentration offers students the opportunity to undertake the interdisciplinary study of Russia, Eastern Europe, and Eurasia, training the next generation of professionals, policymakers, and citizens to understand and engage this geopolitically vital and culturally diverse world region.

The REES concentration, offered in partnership with KU's nationally-recognized Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies, allows students to take a wide array of courses across traditional disciplinary boundaries to gain expertise in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies. The concentration pairs the study of language and culture with courses on the region's history and politics. Allowing students to choose from a range of offerings based on their interests and culminating in an intensive research capstone experience, the concentration offers a flexible course of study within the Department of Slavic, German, and Eurasian Studies and is easily paired with a double major in Global & International Studies, History, or Political Science.

Code	Title	Hours
Prerequisite Language Skills		
Students selecting this concentration must complete 4th semester proficiency in a Russian, East European, or Eurasian Language. This entails completion of one of the following courses, or its equivalent:		
Bosnian-Croatian-Serbian:		
BCRS 208	Intermediate Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian II	3
Czech:		
CZCH 208	Intermediate Czech II	3
Polish:		
PLSH 208	Intermediate Polish II	3
Perian/Dari/Tajik:		
PERS 220	Intermediate Iranian/Dari/Tajik Persian II	3
Russian:		
RUSS 208	Intermediate Russian II	5
Turkish:		
TURK 208	Intermediate Turkish II	3
Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies Concentration		3
Core Knowledge and Skills		
Introductory course. Satisfied by one of the following:		
REES 110	Understanding Russia and Eastern Europe	
	or REES 111 Understanding Russia and Eastern Europe, Honors	
	or REES 310 Understanding Russia and Eastern Europe	
	or REES 311 Understanding Russia and Eastern Europe, Honors	
REES 220	Societies and Cultures of Eurasia	
	or REES 221 Societies and Cultures of Eurasia, Honors	
SLAV 140	Understanding Russia	
	or SLAV 141 Understanding Russia, Honors	
HIST 117	Russia, An Introduction	
REES Area Studies Electives		21

21 hours of interdisciplinary area studies courses focusing on Russia, Eastern Europe, and Eurasia. Most courses offered by the Department of Slavic, German, and Eurasian Studies count as electives. Other area studies courses could apply with approval of the Director of Undergraduate Studies.

ARCH 600	Special Topics in Architecture: _____ (Socialist Cities)
ECON 505	History of Economic Analysis
GEOG 399	Topics in Regional Studies: _____ (Geography of the Former Soviet Union)
GEOG 781	Environmental Geopolitics
GIST 335	Iran Through Literature and Film
HIST 139	The Global Cold War
HIST 333	Eurometro: Visions of the European Metropolis, 1849-1939
HIST 334	The Great War: The History of World War I
HIST 340	The History of the Second World War
HIST/JWSH 343	The Holocaust in History
HIST 377	Everyday Communism in Eastern Europe
HIST 378	Beyond the Iron Curtain: Soviet Perspectives on the Cold War
HIST 481	From Harem to the Streets: Gender in the Middle East, 1900-Present
HIST 568	Rise and Fall of the Soviet Union
JWSH 335	History of Jewish Women
JWSH 338	Languages of the Jews
JWSH 361	Jewish Film
MUSC 488	History of Opera
MUSC 650	Selected Topics in Music: _____ (Music in Vienna and Prague)
POLS 125	Intelligence: Supporting National Security
POLS 301	Introduction to Political Theory
POLS 354	Politics of Russia and Post-Soviet States
POLS 363	Populism and Nationalism
POLS 375	Russian Foreign Policy
POLS 409	Topics in Political Theory: _____
POLS 463	Comparative Political Economy
REL 107	Jews, Christians, Muslims
REL 190	Special Topics in Religion: _____ (Eastern Orthodox Christianity)
SOC 532	Sociology of the Middle East
THR 302	Undergraduate Seminar in: _____ (Theatre and Genocide)
WGSS 396	Studies in: _____ (Gendering the Holocaust)

Research Methods and Capstone Experience 6

Satisfied by one of the following option, typically completed in the senior year, culminating in a final capstone paper. Students are encouraged to select an option based on their interests and the availability of courses. Students taking a methods/capstone sequence in another department may petition to substitute that sequence.

Research Methods	
Global and International Studies Option:	
GIST 610	Interdisciplinary Methods for Global Contexts
History Option:	

HIST 301	The Historian's Craft
----------	-----------------------

Literature, Linguistics, and Culture Option:

SLAV 495	Senior Capstone Seminar
----------	-------------------------

Politics Option:

POLS 206	Political Science Methods of Inquiry
----------	--------------------------------------

Capstone Course

Global and International Studies Option:

GIST 698	Capstone Seminar
----------	------------------

History Option:

HIST 696	Seminar in: _____
----------	-------------------

Literature, Linguistics, and Culture Option:

SLAV 600	Biography of a City: _____
----------	----------------------------

or SLAV 710 Introduction to Slavic Languages and Linguistics

Politics Option:

POLS 493	Directed Readings
----------	-------------------

or POLS 498 Honors Thesis

Major Hours & Major GPA

While completing all required courses (above), majors must also meet each of the following hour and grade-point average minimum standards:

Major Hours

Satisfied by 30 hours of major courses.

Major Hours in Residence

Satisfied by a minimum of 15 hours of KU resident credit in the major.

Major Junior/Senior (300+) Hours

Satisfied by a minimum of 18 hours from junior/senior courses (300+) in the major.

Major Junior/Senior (300+) Graduation GPA

Satisfied by a minimum of a 2.0 KU GPA in junior/senior courses (300+) in the major. GPA calculations include all junior/senior courses in the field of study including F's and repeated courses. See the Semester/Cumulative GPA Calculator (<https://sis.ku.edu/gpa-calculator/>).

Sample 4-year plans for the BA degree in Slavic, German, and Eurasian Studies with concentrations in the following can be found here: German Studies, (<https://catalog.ku.edu/liberal-arts-sciences/slavic-languages-literature/ba/german-studies/>) Polish (<https://catalog.ku.edu/liberal-arts-sciences/slavic-languages-literature/ba/polish-studies/>), Russian (<https://catalog.ku.edu/liberal-arts-sciences/slavic-languages-literature/ba/russian/>), Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies (<https://catalog.ku.edu/liberal-arts-sciences/slavic-languages-literature/ba/russian-east-european-urasian-studies/>), South Slavic Studies (<https://catalog.ku.edu/liberal-arts-sciences/slavic-languages-literature/ba/south-slavic-studies/>) or by using the left-side navigation.

Departmental Honors

Undergraduates with a grade-point average of 3.5 in Slavic courses are eligible for departmental honors. Before enrolling, students must consult an undergraduate advisor to formulate an appropriate topic. Students complete SLAV 499 Honors Thesis (3 hours above the major requirements) during 1 semester of the senior year. The honors thesis is evaluated by a committee of 3 faculty members. The candidate makes an oral defense before this committee.

Study Abroad

The department offers a semester study abroad program at the Higher School of Economics in Moscow, Russia, and in conjunction with the Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies (<https://crees.ku.edu/>), conducts summer institutes at universities in

- L'viv, Ukraine (for Ukrainian) (<https://studyabroad.ku.edu/language-institute-lviv-ukraine/>)

Consult the Slavic department (<http://slavic.ku.edu/>) office or the Office of Study Abroad (<http://www.studyabroad.ku.edu/>). Credit for non-KU programs is not automatic and is evaluated in consultation with the Slavic department undergraduate director.

Undergraduate and graduate students at KU are encouraged to spend a summer, semester, and/or year studying and conducting research in their country of interest.

Slavic Language Programs in Russia and Eastern Europe

KU students may take intermediate or advanced Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian at a 6-week summer institute in Croatia or attend a summer language program in Poland.

Graduate students at KU are encouraged to spend a summer, semester, and/or year studying and conducting research in their country of interest.