Bachelor of Arts in Slavic Languages and Literatures

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://slavic.drupal.ku.edu/alumni-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 Liviv, 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. Unless they are college transfer students with at least 24 hours of credit, prospective students must send ACT or SAT scores 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.

Admission to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Admission to the College is a different process from admission to a major field. Some CLAS departments have admission requirements. See individual department/program sections for departmental admission requirements.

Requirements for the B.A. Major

The student completes a minimum of 30 hours of study (29 hours for Russian emphasis) in one of 3 emphases: Polish, Russian, or South Slavic (Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian). The department encourages students to fulfill general education requirements from courses in the SLAV 140/SLAV 141, SLAV 144/SLAV 145, and SLAV 148/SLAV 149 series. Beyond the minimum 27 hours, students are strongly encouraged to take additional courses in the Slavic department and appropriate background courses in the history, philosophy, and political science of the Slavic regions.

Polish Studies Emphasis

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

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PLSH 104</td>
<td>Elementary Polish I</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLSH 108</td>
<td>Elementary Polish II</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLSH 204</td>
<td>Intermediate Polish I</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>PLSH 208</td>
<td>Intermediate Polish II</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLSH 504</td>
<td>Advanced Polish I</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PLSH 508</td>
<td>Advanced Polish II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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:

Intermediate Polish II. Satisfied by:

Intermediate Polish II. Satisfied by:

Advanced Polish I. Satisfied by:

Advanced Polish II. Satisfied by:
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PLSH 508  Advanced Polish II  3
Readings in Polish Language and Literature. Satisfied by:
West Slavic Literature and Civilization (Polish and Czech). Satisfied by:
SLAV 506  Masterworks of Polish and Czech Literature  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 318  Jews and Slavs in Eastern Europe
SLAV 320  Graphic Novels as Memory: Representations of the Holocaust and Communism
SLAV 340/341  The Language Landscape of Eastern Europe
SLAV 504  Introduction to East-Central European Culture and Society: _____
SLAV 514  Totalitarianism and Literature in Central Europe
SLAV 516  Love, Lust and Liberty: Polish and Czech Film Adaptations
SLAV 635  Language, Culture and Ethnicity in Prehistoric Eastern Europe
ECON 560  Economic Systems
HIST 377  Everyday Communism in Eastern Europe
HIST 557  Nationalism and Communism in East Central Europe from 1772 to the Present
PHIL 580  Marxism (or other relevant course in philosophy)

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 (http://clas.ku.edu/undergrad/tools/gpa/).

Russian Emphasis

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

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RUSS 104</td>
<td>Elementary Russian I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or RUSS 110</td>
<td>Intensive Elementary Russian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RUSS 108</td>
<td>Elementary Russian II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or RUSS 110</td>
<td>Intensive Elementary Russian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RUSS 204</td>
<td>Intermediate Russian I</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Russian Linguistics. Satisfied by one one course (3 hours, 200+) chosen from:
SLAV 340  The Language Landscape of Eastern Europe
SLAV 341  Introduction to the Languages and Peoples of Russia and East-Central Europe, Honors
SLAV 520  Russian Phonetics, Phonology, and Inflectional Morphology
SLAV 522  The Grammatical Categories of Russian: Linguistic Units, Functions and Meanings
SLAV 524  Russian Since the Revolution
SLAV 526  The Pragmatics of Slavic Languages
SLAV 540  The Language Landscape of Eastern Europe

Russian Literature. Satisfied by 1 course (3 hours, 400+) chosen from:
SLAV 510  The Russian Literary Genius
SLAV 530  Introduction to Russian Poetry
SLAV 532  Dostoevsky
SLAV 534  Tolstoy
SLAV 536  Turgenev
SLAV 564  The “Woman Question” in Nineteenth-Century Russian Literature
SLAV 566  The Devil in Russian Literature
SLAV 568  Biblical Themes in Modern Russian Literature
SLAV 572  Russian and East European Science Fiction
SLAV 612  Introduction to Russian Literature of the Nineteenth Century
SLAV 614  Russian Literature in Translation: _____
SLAV 616  Introduction to Russian Literature of the Twentieth Century
SLAV 642  Pushkin and Evgenij Onegin
SLAV 650  The Russian Short Story
SLAV 656  Russian Literature of the Eighteenth Century
SLAV 662  Russian Literary Modernism: 1880-1930
SLAV 664  Soviet Russian Literature: 1930-1990
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**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.

#### 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 526** Problems in Translating Russian into English II
- **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** Introduction to the Languages and Peoples of Russia and East-Central Europe, Honors
- **SLAV 520** Russian Phonetics, Phonology, and Inflectional Morphology
- **SLAV 522** The Grammatical Categories of Russian: Linguistic Units, Functions and Meanings
- **SLAV 524** Russian Since the Revolution
- **SLAV 526** The Pragmatics of Slavic Languages
- **SLAV 540** The Language Landscape of Eastern Europe

#### Culture
- **SLAV 330** Russian Business Culture
- **SLAV 322** Soviet and Post-Soviet Russian Cinema
- **SLAV 500** Russia Today
- **SLAV 502** Introduction to Russian Culture and Society: _____
- **SLAV 503** Post-Soviet Communication
- **SLAV 600** Biography of a City: _____
- **SLAV 622** Soviet and Post-Soviet Russian Cinema
- **SLAV 684** Main Currents of Russian Thought I
- **SLAV 686** Main Currents of Russian Thought II

#### Literature
- **SLAV 510** The Russian Literary Genius
- **SLAV 530** Introduction to Russian Poetry
- **SLAV 532** Dostoevsky
- **SLAV 534** Tolstoy
- **SLAV 536** Turgenev
- **SLAV 564** The "Woman Question" in Nineteenth-Century Russian Literature
- **SLAV 566** The Devil in Russian Literature
- **SLAV 568** Biblical Themes in Modern Russian Literature
- **SLAV 572** Russian and East European Science Fiction
- **SLAV 612** Introduction to Russian Literature of the Nineteenth Century
- **SLAV 614** Russian Literature in Translation: _____
- **SLAV 616** Introduction to Russian Literature of the Twentieth Century
- **SLAV 642** Pushkin and Evgenij Onegin
- **SLAV 650** The Russian Short Story
- **SLAV 656** Russian Literature of the Eighteenth Century
- **SLAV 662** Russian Literary Modernism: 1880-1930
- **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

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 (http://clas.ku.edu/undergrad/tools/gpa/).

### South Slavic Studies Emphasis

Majors choosing this option must complete courses as indicated in the 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.

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BCRI 104</td>
<td>Elementary Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian I</td>
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<tr>
<td>BCRI 108</td>
<td>Intermediate Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian I</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BCRI 204</td>
<td>Intermediate Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian II</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>BCRI 208</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>BCRI 504</td>
<td>Advanced Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BCRI 508</td>
<td>Advanced Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian II</td>
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**Slavic Studies Emphasis Core Knowledge and Skills**

Intermediate Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian II. Satisfied by:

<table>
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<tbody>
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<tr>
<td>BCRI 508</td>
<td>Advanced Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Advanced Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian II. Satisfied by:
- BCRS 508 Advanced Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian II 3

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:

- BCRS 380 Intensive Croatian
- BCRS 675 Readings in Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian
- ECON 560 Economic Systems
- HIST 377 Everyday Communism in Eastern Europe
- HIST 557 Nationalism and Communism in East Central Europe from 1772 to the Present
- PHIL 580 Marxism
- 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 358 Readings in Slovene
- SLAV 626 The Cultural Impact of Ottoman Empire on the South Slavs
- SLAV 630 Slavic Folklore
- SLAV 635 Language, Culture and Ethnicity in Prehistoric Eastern Europe
- 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 (http://clas.ku.edu/undergrad/tools/gpa/).

Sample 4-year plans for the BA degree in Slavic Languages and Literatures with concentrations in the following can be found here: Polish (http://catalog.ku.edu/liberal-arts-sciences/slavic-languages-literature/ba/polish-studies/), Russian (http://catalog.ku.edu/liberal-arts-sciences/slavic-languages-literature/ba/russian/), South Slavic Studies (http://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, conducts summer institutes at universities in

- Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan (for Russian)
- L'viv, Ukraine (for Ukrainian)
- Zadar, Croatia (for Croatian)
- Almaty, Kazakhstan (internship program)

Consult the Slavic department office or the Office of Study Abroad. 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.