

RUSSIAN STUDIES MAJOR

By far the largest nation in the world, the Russian Federation spans two continents, eleven time zones, and over six million square miles. Its geopolitical significance and cultural contributions to the world are as immeasurable as its vast resources. At Holy Cross, students can approach Russia in various ways and from multiple perspectives. In the Russian Studies Program and across campus, we offer courses on Russian languages, literature, art, history, political science, and religion. Students can take part in our Russian Club, meet the experts and cultural figures we invite to campus, go on our study abroad program, and browse the college's rare archival icon collection.

In the U.S., Russian is a "critical need" language. The National Security Language Initiative (NDLI) was launched in 2006 to dramatically increase the number of Americans learning critical need foreign languages such as Russian. At Holy Cross, students can attain advanced levels of speaking, reading and writing Russian during their undergraduate years. Courses are also available for native speakers.

Department Advanced Placement Policy

Students with AP credit in Russian language or literature earn placement in the curriculum but, not progress toward the minimum number of courses required by the major. Students who take a course that duplicates the AP award in Russian will forfeit the AP credit. Students with AP credit in Russian will not be permitted to enroll in a course below the 300 level.

Requirements

Russian Studies majors take a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 14 courses at the intermediate level or above.

Code Title

Required language courses:

RUSS 201 & RUSS 202	Intermediate Russian 1 and Intermediate Russian 2: Language In Action
RUSS 301	Russian Composition & Conversation ¹

Four literature and/or culture classes, with at least one selected from those courses conducted in Russian or with an in-Russian attachment section of a course. ²

RUSS 250	Madness in Russian Literature
RUSS 251	Tales of Desire
RUSS 253	Fire & Ice: Siberia In Fiction
RUSS 257	Russian Drama and the West
RUSS 258	Russian Cinema
RUSS 259	Fairytale: Russia & the World
RUSS 260	19Th Century Russian Literature
RUSS 261	20Th/21st Century Russian Literature
RUSS 263	Soviet Art and Literature
RUSS 264	Writing Under Stalin
RUSS 265	Kjiv to Moscow: A Medieval Journey
RUSS 392	Advanced Russian Tutorial

Additional electives from the lists above or below (two of which may be taken outside of the Russian Studies Program) to meet the ten course requirement.

HIST 245	Imperial Russia/East & West
HIST 253	Soviet Experiment

HIST 254	The Soviet Union After Stalin
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POLS 252	The Politics of Post-Communism
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Note: At least one Russian course must be completed in the fourth year if the student studies abroad.

- Students unable to complete RUSS 301 Russian Composition & Conversation before graduation may complete the requirement by participating in a Holy Cross Russian language Maymester, by taking an in-Russian attachment section of a course, or completing a 300-level topics course (e.g. translation, phonetics).
- Students are encouraged to take at least one class in each of these categories:
 - Historical period (RUSS 260 19Th Century Russian Literature, RUSS 261 20Th/21st Century Russian Literature, RUSS 263 Soviet Art and Literature, RUSS 264 Writing Under Stalin, and RUSS 265 Kjiv to Moscow: A Medieval Journey)
 - A course in 19th or 20th Century Russian Literature is highly recommended (RUSS 260 19Th Century Russian Literature and RUSS 261 20Th/21st Century Russian Literature)
 - Genre (RUSS 257 Russian Drama and the West and RUSS 259 Fairytale: Russia & the World)
 - Thematic (RUSS 250 Madness in Russian Literature, RUSS 251 Tales of Desire, and RUSS 253 Fire & Ice: Siberia In Fiction)

Students may count toward the major two of the regularly offered courses on Russia in the Political Science or History Departments. These latter courses may not be taken in lieu of literature and culture courses conducted in Russian. Majors are strongly encouraged to study abroad in the Russian language for a summer term, semester, or academic year.