Russian, B.A.

The Russian major leading to the B.A. degree trains students in both written and spoken Russian and in Russian literature, culture, and civilization. The department encourages students to pursue a second major (e.g., global health, history, linguistics, political science) and to develop their interests in related or complementary fields. Students interested in focusing on a broader interdisciplinary understanding of the region may earn a second major in International Studies; see B.A. in International Studies in the Catalog.

Requirements

The Bachelor of Arts with a major in Russian requires a minimum of 120 s.h., including 32 s.h. of work for the major earned in Russian courses. Students must maintain a g.p.a. of at least 2.00 in all courses for the major and in all UI courses for the major. They also must complete the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences General Education Program.

The B.A. with a major in Russian requires the following course work.

Language Courses 20
Russian and East European Culture Courses 12
Total Hours 32

Language

One of these:
SLAV:3113 Beginning Composition and Conversation I 4
SLAV:3114 Beginning Composition and Conversation II 4

Both of these sequences:
SLAV:3111-3112 Third-Year Russian I-II 8
SLAV:4111-4112 Fourth-Year Russian I-II 8

Russian and East European Culture

Four of these (12 s.h.):
SLAV:1082 Youth Subcultures After Socialism 3
SLAV:1131 Introduction to Russian Culture 3
SLAV:1132 Russia Today 3
SLAV:1450 Diversities of Eastern Europe: Culture, Art, and Politics 3
SLAV:1500 Ukraine, a Country at the Crossroads: An Interdisciplinary Seminar on Ukrainian History and Culture 3
SLAV:1531 Slavic Folklore 3
SLAV:1532 Religion and Culture of Slavs 3
SLAV:2100 Secrets of Russian Mentality 3
SLAV:2131 Women in Russian Society 3

SLAV:2531 Topics in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies arr.
SLAV:3100 West and East: Women in the Slavic World 3
SLAV:3122 Tolstoy and Dostoevsky 3-4
SLAV:3131 Health Care and Health Reforms in Russia 3
SLAV:3202 Russian Literature in Translation 1860-1917 3

Students are urged to choose elective courses in economics, geographical and sustainability sciences, history, political science, global health, and international studies. Nearly every avenue of professional training and employment requires a solid background in Russian area studies. For example, criteria for U.S. government employment include substantive knowledge in history, economics, political science, sociological disciplines, scientific specialties, demography, military-related skills, and in some cases, cultural and religious background. In-depth knowledge of literature or linguistics without other substantive background may be of limited practical use in finding employment.

B.A. with Teacher Licensure

Students who are interested in earning licensure to teach in elementary and/or secondary schools must complete the College of Education’s Teacher Education Program (TEP) in addition to the requirements for their major and all requirements for graduation. The TEP requires several College of Education courses and student teaching. Contact the Office of Student Services for details.

Students must satisfy all degree requirements and complete Teacher Education Program licensure before degree conferral. Majors must complete designated pedagogy and linguistics courses in the department in addition to the course work required for their major.

Students who plan to use their work toward a minor in Chinese, Japanese, or Russian as academic background for earning teacher licensure should contact the Office of Student Services about requirements.

Honors

Honors in the Major

Students have the opportunity to graduate with honors in the major. They must have junior or senior standing, a g.p.a. of at least 3.33 in Russian, and a cumulative University of Iowa g.p.a. of at least 3.33 in order to enroll in the honors program in Russian.

Honors students must register for SLAV:4995 Honors. They must complete an honors project (e.g., thesis, translation, cultural studies, or research) in Russian. Students must present their work to a faculty committee as determined by their honors thesis adviser. Contact the department for more information about requirements for graduation with honors in the Russian major.

University of Iowa Honors Program

In addition to honors in the major, students have opportunities for honors study and activities through membership in the
University of Iowa Honors Program. Visit Honors at Iowa to learn about the University’s honors program.

Membership in the UI Honors Program is not required to earn honors in the Russian major.

### Four-Year Graduation Plan

The following checkpoints list the minimum requirements students must complete by certain semesters in order to stay on the University’s Four-Year Graduation Plan. Courses in the major are those required to complete the major; they may be offered by departments other than the major department.

- **Before the third semester begins**: competence in first-year Russian
- **Before the fifth semester begins**: competence in second-year Russian
- **Before the seventh semester begins**: competence in third-year Russian, an additional course in the major, and at least 90 s.h. earned toward the degree
- **Before the eighth semester**: competence in fourth-year Russian and two more courses in the major
- **During the eighth semester**: enrollment in all remaining course work in the major, all remaining General Education courses, and a sufficient number of semester hours to graduate

### Sample Plan of Study

#### Russian (B.A.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>First Year</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>SLAV:1111 First-Year Russian I ¹</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>RHET:1030 Rhetoric (GE: Rhetoric or other</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General Education course) ²</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GE: Diversity and Inclusion</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective course</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CSI:1600 Success at Iowa</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Hours</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>SLAV:1112 First-Year Russian II ¹</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ENGL:1200 The Interpretation of Literature</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(GE: Interpretation of Literature)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GE: Historical Perspectives</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective course ³</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective course ²</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Hours</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Second Year</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>SLAV:2111 Second-Year Russian I ¹</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Major: Russian and East European culture course</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GE: Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GE: Quantitative or Formal Reasoning</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective course</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Hours</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>SLAV:2112 Second-Year Russian II ¹</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


2. General Education (GE) courses may be completed in any order unless used as a prerequisite for another course. Students should consult with an advisor about the best sequencing of courses. For more information, view the General Education Program.

3. Students may use their elective courses to complete a double major, minors, or certificates.

#### Financial Support

Undergraduate students have access to the following financial aid and scholarship resources. Contact the Department of Asian and Slavic Languages and Literatures for application information.

**Fairall Scholarship**: Majors who have attended and/or graduated from Iowa elementary or secondary schools may be nominated by the department to receive a Fairall Scholarship. Preference is given to Japanese studies students. Applications
are available late spring, with scholarships to be awarded the following fall semester.

**Support for undergraduate study abroad:** Opportunities for undergraduates to study abroad include the Presidential Scholarships for Study Abroad and the Stanley Scholarships for International Research and Study.

### Career Advancement

Training in Russian is often an important asset to careers in the natural and physical sciences, engineering, medicine, business, journalism, library and information science, and the social and military sciences. It also may be appropriate preparation for study of law or international relations as well as Slavic languages and literatures, comparative literature, and other humanistic disciplines.

Some governmental agencies are interested in job candidates who have advanced training in Russian; these agencies give preference to applicants who combine strong language proficiency with a well-rounded background in area studies. Students who develop an exceptional facility with the Russian language may pursue careers in literary and technical translation and interpretation.

The Pomerantz Career Center offers multiple resources to help students find internships and jobs.