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 the B.A. in international studies in the Catalog.

Learning Outcomes

By graduation, Russian majors will have:

- enhanced their language proficiency and cultural awareness of the Russian-speaking world; and
- attained skills to engage critically with histories, cultures, literatures, and other arts, and gained knowledge of the diversified Russian-speaking world (Russia, former Republics of the Soviet Union, and Southern and Western Slavs).

Study Abroad

The Department of Asian and Slavic Languages and Literatures offers an Intensive Summer Language Program at Plekhanov Russian University of Economics (PRUE) in Moscow, Russia. Scholarship opportunities are available and students earn University of Iowa credit. By participating in this program, students can complete the requirements for the Russian major in three years and two months.

Students live and study in the historical center of Moscow, within walking distance from famous landmarks such as Red Square, the Kremlin, the Bolshoi Theater, the State Tretyakov Gallery, and Saint Basil’s Cathedral. This immersion in Russian language and culture enables students to become fluent in the Russian language faster, enjoy an authentic Russian language and cultural experience, and make friends from around the world.

Contact the academic coordinator of the Russian program or International Programs Study Abroad for more information.