

Department of Modern Languages

The Minor in Russian Studies

Faculty Advisor

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Curriculum

78 units

Russian Studies, a B.A. Program, is jointly administered by the Departments of History and Modern Languages in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. It is designed for students from all of the Carnegie Mellon undergraduate colleges. It may be taken as a primary major, additional major, or minor.

The History Curriculum

18 units

For minors, there is a two-course History requirement comprised of one required course and one course selected from a list of electives. The intermediate-level History courses are generally taken in the sophomore and junior years. They provide a substantive overview of the major events and issues in Russian history and policy.

1. Core Courses in History

9 units

Complete one course.

79-280 Russian History from the First to the Last Czar*
79-281 Modern Russian History: From Communism to Capitalism

*Both courses are strongly recommended

2. Required Electives in History

9 units

Complete one course. Substitutions with advisor's permission.

79-282 Soviet Union in World War II: Military and Political History
79-344 The Cold War and Beyond

The Language and Culture Curriculum

42 units

Complete two of the prerequisite courses and two intermediate courses.

3. Prerequisite Courses in Modern Languages

24 units

82-191 Elementary Russian I (or demonstrated equivalent)
82-192 Elementary Russian II (or demonstrated equivalent)

4. Core Courses in Modern Languages

18 units

82-291 Intermediate Russian I
82-292 Intermediate Russian II

Should a student enter the Russian Studies Program with a demonstrated language proficiency at any of these "Intermediate" levels, the required total of 18 units is reached by selecting from among the advanced language options appearing below in the list of "Required Electives". Advanced language options include "Advanced Russian I", "Advanced Russian II" and "Special Topics: Russian", as well as subject-oriented language supplements to existing courses (taught in English) in a variety of fields. Thus students can add a language supplement (3 units) to selected 9-unit electives, earning a total of 12 units for the language-supplemented course.

5. Required Electives

18 units

Complete two courses.

History

79-205	20th Century Europe: Collapse and Renewal
79-231	American Foreign Policy: 1945-Present
79-280	Russian History from the First to the Last Tsar*
79-281	Modern Soviet History: From Communism to Capitalism
79-282	Soviet Union in World War II: Military and Political History
79-344	The Cold War and Beyond

Modern Languages

82-392	Advanced Russian II
82-396	The Faust Legend at Home and Abroad
82-397	Russia's Demons
82-399	Special Topics: Russian
82-491	Literature, Politics and Film in Russia & Eastern Europe Today
82-492	The Historical Imagination in Nineteenth-Century Russian Literature
82-493	Joseph Brodsky in Context

New courses will be added as appropriate.

6. Study Abroad

Students in both the major and minor programs are encouraged to spend a semester or summer in Russia via an approved exchange program. Many exchange programs offer instruction in Russian language, history, literature, and culture, in internationally recognized universities. They also offer travel to ancient sites and cities, visits to museums, palaces, exhibitions, and monuments, and the opportunity to live with a Russian host family. Scholarship monies are frequently available.