



Twin Cities Campus

Russian B.A.

Slavic Languages & Literatures

College of Liberal Arts

- Program Type: Baccalaureate
- Requirements for this program are current for Fall 2018
- Required credits to graduate with this degree: 120
- Required credits within the major: 32 to 52
- Degree: Bachelor of Arts

Russian is the native language of some 150 million citizens of the Russian Federal Republic. It is one of the five official languages of the UN, and ranks with English, Chinese, Hindi, Urdu, and Spanish as a major world language. Russian remains the unofficial lingua franca of the former Soviet republics, an indispensable communications tool across all of the Caucasus and Central Asia. Russian is a major language for scientific publication, and it is an increasingly important language for business and trade as Russian institutions, both public and private, integrate with their European and American counterparts.

Besides a thorough grounding in the Russian language, students in the Russian major become conversant with the enormous wealth of Russian cultural heritage in literature, visual art, theater, and music. In particular, Russia has produced one of the world's most vibrant and exciting literary traditions--including the works of poets like Pushkin, Lermontov, Blok, and Akhmatova, and writers like Gogol, Turgenev, Dostoevsky, Tolstoy, and Chekhov. Despite the upheavals caused by the fall of communism, Russian literary culture remains vibrant today, and only a fraction of this fascinating contemporary work is available in translation.

Further information on the value of a Russian major can be found at <http://modules.russnet.org/why/>.

Program Delivery

This program is available:

- via classroom (the majority of instruction is face-to-face)

Admission Requirements

For information about University of Minnesota admission requirements, visit the [Office of Admissions website](#).

Required prerequisites

Beginning and Intermediate Russian

These courses, or equivalent, must be taken in sequential order. In select cases, students with advanced proficiency may be exempt from taking some or all of these courses. See the departmental advisor for more information.

Take 0 - 4 course(s) totaling 0 - 20 credit(s) from the following:

- [RUSS 1101](#) - Beginning Russian I (5.0 cr)
- [RUSS 1102](#) - Beginning Russian II (5.0 cr)
- [RUSS 3001](#) - Intermediate Russian I (5.0 cr)
- [RUSS 3002](#) - Intermediate Russian II (5.0 cr)

General Requirements

All students are required to complete general University and college requirements including writing and liberal education courses. For more information about University-wide requirements, see the [liberal education requirements](#). Required courses for the major or minor in which a student receives a D grade (with or without plus or minus) do not count toward the major or minor (including transfer courses).

Program Requirements

Students are required to complete 4 semester(s) of Russian, with a grade of C-, or better, or demonstrate proficiency in the language(s) as defined by the department or college.

CLA BA degrees require 18 upper-division (3xxx-level or higher) credits outside the major designator. These credits must be taken in designators different from the major designator and cannot include courses that are cross-listed with the major designator. The major designator for the Russian BA is RUSS.

At least 17 upper-division credits in the major must be taken at the University of Minnesota - Twin Cities campus.

Students may earn a BA or a minor in Russian, but not both.



All incoming CLA freshmen must complete the First-Year Experience course sequence.

Advanced Language Courses

Take exactly 2 course(s) totaling exactly 8 credit(s) from the following:

- [RUSS 3101](#) - Advanced Russian I (4.0 cr)
- [RUSS 3102](#) - Advanced Russian II (4.0 cr)

Required Courses

Take exactly 3 course(s) totaling exactly 9 credit(s) from the following:

- [RUSS 3421](#) - Literature: Middle Ages to Dostoevsky in Translation [LITR] (3.0 cr)
or [RUSS 5421](#) - Literature: Middle Ages to Dostoevsky in Translation [LITR] (3.0 cr)
- [RUSS 3422](#) - Literature: Tolstoy to the Present in Translation [LITR] (3.0 cr)
or [RUSS 5422](#) - Literature: Tolstoy to the Present in Translation [LITR] (3.0 cr)
- [RUSS 3512](#) - Russian Art and Culture [AH, GP] (3.0 cr)

Electives

Any RUSS 3xxx, 5xxx, or its cross-list that is not counting towards a different major requirement may count as an elective.

Take exactly 4 course(s) totaling 12 or more credit(s) from the following:

- [RUSS 3105](#) - Russian Poetry and Prose (3.0 cr)
- [RUSS 3900](#) - Topics in Russian Language, Literature, and Culture (1.0 - 4.0 cr)
- [RUSS 5900](#) (*Inactive*)(1.0 - 4.0 cr)
- [RUSS 3404](#) - Tolstoy in Translation [LITR, GP] (3.0 cr)
or [RUSS 5404](#) - Tolstoy in Translation [LITR, GP] (3.0 cr)
- [RUSS 3411](#) - Dostoevsky in Translation [LITR, GP] (3.0 cr)
or [RUSS 5411](#) - Dostoevsky in Translation [LITR, GP] (3.0 cr)

Directed Studies

Take no more than 2 course(s) from the following:

- [RUSS 3993](#) - Directed Studies (1.0 - 4.0 cr)
- [RUSS 5993](#) - Directed Studies (1.0 - 4.0 cr)

Capstone

The capstone is an individual directed study under the close supervision and mentoring of a member of the faculty. The subject is determined in consultation between student and mentor, who will continue to meet at regular intervals as the study proceeds. The outcome of the study is an analytical or interpretive essay of not less than twenty typed, double-spaced pages, showing evidence of appropriate use, as determined by the faculty mentor, of Russian-language sources.

Take exactly 1 course(s) totaling exactly 3 credit(s) from the following:

Students who double major and choose to complete the capstone requirement in their other major may waive the Russian BA capstone, and they do not need to replace the 3 credits.

- [RUSS 3311W](#) - Russian Major Project [WI] (3.0 cr)
or [RUSS 3311V](#) - Honors Major Project in Russian [WI] (3.0 - 4.0 cr)

Upper Division Writing Intensive within the major

Students are required to take one upper division writing intensive course within the major. If that requirement has not been satisfied within the core major requirements, students must choose one course from the following list. Some of these courses may also fulfill other major requirements.

Take 0 - 1 course(s) from the following:

- [RUSS 3311W](#) - Russian Major Project [WI] (3.0 cr)
- [RUSS 3311V](#) - Honors Major Project in Russian [WI] (3.0 - 4.0 cr)