Russian Studies (RUS)

Minor in Russian Studies

Department of European Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, College of Arts and Sciences

CHAIRPERSON: Nicholas Rzhevsky   DIRECTOR OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES: Robert Bloomer
COORDINATOR OF THE MINOR: Timothy C. Westphalen   ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Marie Sweatt
OFFICE: Humanities 1055   PHONE: (631) 632-7440 or 632-7360   E-MAIL: Timothy.Westphalen@stonybrook.edu
WEB ADDRESS: http://www.sunysb.edu/eurolangs

Minors of particular interest to students majoring in Russian: Business Management (BUS), Comparative Literature (CLT), Economics (ECO), English (EGL), History (HIS), International Studies (INT), Linguistics (LIN), Medieval Studies (MVL), Philosophy (PHI), Political Science (POL), other languages

The minor in Russian Studies is flexible and gives students the opportunity to select a particular area of emphasis. A student who successfully completes a minor in Russian attains a broadly based background in Russian culture; depending on which electives are chosen, the student also acquires a more specialized knowledge of language, literature, or cultural studies. The Department offers courses in Russian as well as in translation, and the Russian minor may be combined with work in other disciplines.

Russian minors have found employment in teaching, government service, foreign trade and banking, communications, translating, and interpreting. The expansion of East-West trade and the new business ventures in Russia seeking cooperation with Europe, Asia, and Africa offer creative career opportunities. Some Russian students have continued on to do graduate work in Russian or Slavic Studies at Yale, Harvard, Northwestern, Berkeley, and American University. Others have become certified as secondary school teachers. Science, social science, and pre-med minors have found the study of Russian to be particularly useful in their careers.

Courses Offered in Russian

See the Course Descriptions listing in this Bulletin for complete information.

RUS 101 Intensive Elementary Russian
RUS 111, 112 Elementary Russian I, II
RUS 211, 212 Intermediate Russian I, II
RUS 213 Intermediate Russian for Students of Russian-Speaking Background
RUS 311, 312 Russian Conversation and Composition
RUS 323-G Russian Literary Texts
RUS 331 Russian Online
RUS 332 Professional Russian Online

RUS 439 Structure of Russian
RUS 447 Directed Readings in Russian
RUS 475, 476 Undergraduate Teaching Practica in Russian I, II
RUS 491-G Special Author
RUS 492-G Special Genre or Period
RUS 495 Senior Honors Project in Russian

Courses Offered in Russian Literature and Culture Taught in English

See the Course Descriptions listing in this Bulletin for complete information.

HUR 141-B The Age of Empire
HUR 142-B Culture and Revolution
HUR 231-I Saints and Fools
HUR 232-I Rebels and Tyrants
HUR 235-G Crime and Punishment in World Literature
HUR 241-D Russian Cinema
HUR 249-I Russia Today
HUR 341-G Russian Literature and the West
HUR 393-G Literary Analysis of Russian Texts

Placement in Language Courses for Incoming Students

The prerequisites for each course indicate which language level the course is geared towards. As a rule of thumb, one year of high-school foreign-language study is considered the equivalent of one semester of study at the college level for non-native speakers. Heritage speakers, by contrast, are placed according to their relative mastery of both the spoken and written language. Students are advised to consult the coordinator of the Russian minor.

Requirements for the Minor in Russian Studies (RUS)

All courses offered for the minor must be passed with a letter grade of C or higher. Completion of the minor requires at least 21 credits.

1. HUR 249 Russia Today
2. HUR 141, 142 Introduction to Russian Literature I, II
3. Twelve credits of 300- and 400-level RUS and HUR courses

A Russian concentration of 15 credits can also be created through the Multidisciplinary Studies Major. Students should consult with the program coordinator in planning a minor or a concentration in MTD.