Undergraduate Programs

What is Slavic Languages & Literatures?

Students in the Slavic Languages & Literatures program at the University of Washington study the languages and cultures of Russia, Central and Eastern Europe, and the former Soviet Union in one of the most comprehensive programs in the nation. Our program includes language studies and/or cultural surveys for the countries of Bosnia, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia; Bulgaria; the Czech Republic and Slovakia; Poland; Romania; Russia; Slovenia; and Ukraine. By extending the study of language and culture to include cinema, graphic novels, and political positions, in addition to national traditions and essential literature, our students develop an exceptional understanding of a complex region recognized for its international influence.

Why study Slavic Languages & Literatures?

By studying Slavic languages and cultures at the University of Washington, you will gain more than proficiency in another language. You will also transform your view of the world, while developing the skills and confidence needed to be successful in an increasingly global society. Employers value our alumni for their intercultural competency, ability to communicate persuasively, willingness to tackle difficult challenges, and composure in unfamiliar situations. These same skills aid alumni who pursue graduate education — whether in the same field or professional programs like law or foreign service.

What programs do you offer for undergraduates?

The Department of Slavic Languages & Literatures offers two majors, and three minors:

- B.A.: Eastern European Languages, Literature, and Culture
- B.A.: Russian Language, Literature, and Culture
- Minor: Russian Language, Slavic Languages, or Russian and Slavic Literatures

What resources are available to me?

Students in our program have access to many beneficial learning opportunities and resources, such as:

- Classes taught by nationally acclaimed faculty known for both their leading scholarship and their student-centered approach to teaching
- Close ties to the Ellison Center for Russian, East European and Central Asian Studies, at the Jackson School of International Studies
- Connections to local and global Slavic communities, allowing you to assess firsthand linguistic, cultural, and political differences in a global context
- Events, including lectures, festivals, and film screenings, which share and celebrate the many cultures, creeds, and national traditions represented in our department
Activities outside the classroom, such as conversation groups and study abroad

Career preparation, such as internships and service learning

Financial aid, including scholarships and prizes

How do I major or minor in one of your programs?

The Slavic Languages & Literatures programs are open to all students. Students in good academic standing may declare either major at any time by meeting with our undergraduate adviser. Minors may also be declared at any time, by visiting the undergraduate adviser for your major.

To learn more about applying to the University of Washington as an incoming student, please see information for first-year students, transfer students, or postbaccalaureate students.

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