

SLAVIC AND EURASIAN STUDIES

Faculty

Professor Emeritus

Alex M. Shane Ph.D.
University of California, Berkeley

Professors

Henryk Baran, Ph.D.
Harvard University
Toby W. Clyman, Ph.D.
New York University
Sophie Lubensky, Ph.D.
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Associate Professors

Rodney L. Patterson, Ph.D.
University of California, Los Angeles
Charles P. Rouble, Ph.D.
University of Stockholm

The study of Russian and other Slavic languages and literatures is offered not only for its intrinsic interest, but also as a means toward understanding the peoples and cultures of the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. Major programs lay a firm foundation for postgraduate study in diverse fields or for various professional occupations.

Careers

In addition to traditional careers in teaching and in government agencies, graduates are finding employment in business, telecommunications, banking, and the legal profession, as consultants in a wide variety of areas related to commerce, democratization, and economic development in Russia and the other states of the CIS, as journalists, investment fund analysts, travel agents, cultural exchange coordinators, exhibit guides, translators and interpreters, and in many other fields.

Special Opportunities

To provide access to the riches of Russian literature to all undergraduates, regardless of their interest in language study, the Slavic and Eurasian Studies program offers a wide range of courses in Russian literature in translation. These courses, described in detail later, assume no prior knowledge of the Russian language or Russian literature and are intended also for students who are not majoring in Russian. Students interested in these courses are advised to consult the program for current offerings and course descriptions.

Opportunities to spend a semester in Russia are made possible through close cooperation between the SUNY and Moscow State University.

Language Placement

Experience indicates that students with one year of high school Russian will usually place in A Rus 101L or 102L, with two years in A Rus 102L, with three years in A Rus 102L or 201L, and with four years in A Rus 201L. Placement is contingent upon an active assessment of language skills made by the instructor in the course no later than the second class or in consultation with the undergraduate program director.

A student may not earn graduation credit for a course in a language sequence if it is a prerequisite to a course for which graduation credit has already been earned.

Students earning advanced placement credits from high school, and those earning credits in the University at Albany's University in High School Program, will be expected to register for the next course in the language sequence.

Transfer students are expected to register for the next level course in the language sequence. Placement is contingent upon an active assessment of language skills made by the instructor in the course no later than the second class or in consultation with the undergraduate program director.

Degree Requirements for the Major in Russian

General Program B.A.: A minimum of 36 credits of Russian language (above A Rus 102L), literature, or culture courses. Two alternative tracks lead to the degree: (A) Language, (B) Literature and Culture. Each program consists of

a common core of 28 credits plus at least 8 credits in the area of concentration.

Core Program (28 credits)

Language: A Rus 201L (5), 202L (5), 301 (3), 302 (3), 312 (3) (19 credits).

Literature and Culture: Three courses, at least one of which in literature, from among A Rus 251, 252, 253, 161Z, 162Z, 280 or as advised by the Director of Undergraduate Studies (9 credits).

Area Concentration: (8 credits)

(A) Language: A Rus 311 (3) plus 5 credits in Russian language courses or in literature courses taught in Russian at the 300 level or above.

(B) Literature and Culture: A Rus 311 (3), at least one course in Russian literature at the 300 level or above, and at least one course as advised from among A Rus 380 (3), A His 354 (3), 355 (3), A Pos 354 (3) 356 (3), 452Z (3) or other courses.

B.A./M.B.A. Program

Beginning in the fall semester 1996, Russian has participated with the School of Business in a five-year program leading to a B.A. degree in Russian and an M.B.A. Candidates spend two years on the Albany campus studying language and culture and lower-level business courses and satisfying General Education requirements. The junior year is spent studying at Moscow State University, followed by two years in Albany completing the business degree.

Honors Program

The honors program in Russian is designed for outstanding Russian majors enrolled in either the general program (language, literature or culture track) or the teacher education program.

Students may apply for admission to the honors program by submitting a letter of request to the program no later than April 15 of the sophomore year (for admission in the fall) or November 15 of the junior year (for admission in the spring). Junior transfers may apply for consideration at the time of their admission to the University.

Combined B.A./M.A. Program

The Combined B.A./M.A. Program in Russian provides an opportunity for students of recognized academic ability and educational maturity to fulfill integrated requirements of undergraduate and master's degree programs starting from the beginning of their junior year. A carefully designed program can permit a student to earn the B.A. and M.A. degrees within nine semesters.

The combined program requires a minimum of 138 credits, of which at least 30 must be graduate credits. In qualifying for the B.A., students will meet all University and college requirements, including the requirement for any of the B.A. programs in Russian described above, the minor requirement, the minimum 90-credit liberal arts and sciences requirement, general education requirements and residency requirements. In qualifying for the M.A., students will meet all University and college requirements as outlined in the Graduate Bulletin, including completing a minimum of 30 graduate credits, and any conditions such as a research seminar, thesis, comprehensive examination, or other professional experience where required, and residency requirements. Up to 12 graduate credits may be applied simultaneously to both the B.A. and M.A. programs.

Students will be considered as undergraduates until completion of 120 graduation credits and satisfactory completion of all B.A. requirements. Upon satisfying requirements for the B.A., students will automatically be considered as graduate students.

Students may apply for admission to the combined degree program at the beginning of their junior year, or after the successful completion of 56 credits, but no later than the accumulation of 100 credits. A cumulative grade point average of 3.20 or higher and three supportive letters of recommendation from faculty are required for consideration. Students will be admitted to the combined program upon the recommendation of the Graduate Admissions Committee (Slavic) of Slavic and Eurasian Studies.

Advanced Study in Russia

Through cooperation with the State University of New York Office of International Programs, Slavic and Eurasian Studies provides advanced students with an opportunity to spend one semester in Russia. Students accepted for the program reside and study at Moscow State University and follow a curriculum comprised of advanced Russian language, Russian and Soviet literature and Russian culture. Students are eligible to apply for the program in their third year of Russian study or later.

Other Slavic Languages

The program provides instruction in Slavic languages other than Russian. In recent years, it has offered courses in Bulgarian, Polish, Serbo-Croatian, and Ukrainian. Courses in Yugoslav and Bulgarian culture (in English) and Polish and East European literatures have also been offered.

Literature and Culture Courses in English Translation

A Rus 161 Russian Civilization (3)

The cultural and ideological development of Russia from the inheritance of the Byzantine Empire through the 1917 Russian Revolution. Includes various aspects of history, political systems, economy and culture and the arts. Conducted in English. A Rus 161Z is the writing intensive version of A Rus 161; only one may be taken for credit. [EU]

A Rus 161Z Russian Civilization (3)

A Rus 161Z is the writing intensive version of A Rus 161; only one may be taken for credit. [EU WI]

A Rus 162: Russia Today (3)

Introduction to the society and culture of contemporary Russia, focusing in part on the continuities and differences between Soviet and post-Soviet period. Topics to be studied include: the linguistic and cultural revolution of the 1990's, individual adaptation to a new economic environment, official and unofficial attempts to "construct" a new Russia. Conducted in English. A Rus 162Z is the writing intensive version of A Rus 162; only one may be taken for credit.

A Rus 162Z Russia Today (3)

A Rus 162Z is the writing intensive version of A Rus 162.; only one may be taken for credit. [WI]

A Rus 171L (= A Wss 171L) Women in Russian Culture (3)

The course will examine the roles of women in Russian culture through a study of film, literary works by and about women. Only one of A Rus 171L & A Wss 171L may be taken for credit. [HU]

A Rus 172 (=A Eac 172) Concepts of Self: Chinese & Russian Women's Autobiography (3)

The course examines Chinese and Russian women's autobiographies from a broad spectrum of classes, ages, professions and periods. It examines and compares how culture and history shaped the women's self-presentation. The works studied include: Ding Ling, "Miss Sophia's Diary," Xiao Hong, *Market Street*, Anchee Min, *Red Azalea*, Nagrodskaia, *The Wrath of Dionysus*, and several selection of autobiographies from Tsarist Russia. Only one of A Rus 172 & A Eac 172 may be taken for credit. May not be offered in 2003-2004.

A Rus 190 Women Writers in Russian Literature (3)

The course examines Russian women's writings beginning with the 18th century to the present. The texts are studied in the context of Russian literature in general and women's writings in particular. It includes: autobiographies by Catherine the Great, Alexandra Durova and Nadezda Mandelstam; prose works by Karolina Pavlova, Elena Guro, Tatjana Tolstaia, and the plays by Liudmila Petrushevskaia.

A Rus 240 Great Works of Russia in English Translation (1)

Each mini-course in A Rus 240 focuses on a great book by a Russian author and examines it in depth. Emphasis on textual analysis, with consideration of diverse critical approaches and the work's significance for Russian society and world literature. Conducted in English. A Rus 239 and/or 240 may be repeated for credit when content differs.

A Rus 251L Masterpieces of 19th-Century Russian Literature (3)

Survey of the development of Russian literature, particularly prose fiction, from the age of Pushkin to 1900. Readings will be chosen from short stories and novels by the following writers: Pushkin, Gogol, Lermontov, Turgenev, Goncharov, Tolstoy and Dostoevsky. Conducted in English. [HU]

A Rus 252L Masterpieces of 20th-Century Russian Literature (3)

Survey of the development of Russian literature, particularly prose fiction, from the turn of the century to the death of Stalin (1953). Readings will be chosen from short stories and novels by the following writers: Chekhov, Gorky, Olesha, Bulgakov, Babel, Pasternak, Zamyatin, Sholokhov. Conducted in English. [HU]

A Rus 253L Contemporary Russian Literature (3)

Survey of Soviet literature from the death of Stalin (1953) to the present. Readings taken primarily from prose fiction by such writers as Solzhenitsyn, Trifonov, Aksyonov, Shukshin, Bitov and Erofeyev. Discussion of how the changing political situation has affected writers and literature. Conducted in English. [HU]

A Rus 261L (formerly A Rus 361L) Dostoevsky and Tolstoy in English Translation (3)

Examination of the life, times and works of Russia's two most important 19th-century prose writers. Approximately one-half of the course will be devoted to each writer. Reading of novels, short stories and essays, and discussion of the authors' extra-literary significance. Conducted in English. A Rus 261E is the writing intensive version of A Rus 261L; only one may be taken for credit. Prerequisite(s): one course in literature or junior or senior class standing. [HU]

A Rus 261E (formerly 361E) Dostoevsky and Tolstoy in English Translation (3)

Conducted in English. A Rus 261E is the writing intensive version of A Rus 261L; only one may be taken for credit. Prerequisite(s): one course in literature or junior or senior class standing. [HU WI]

A Rus 266 Gogol in English Translation (2)

Gogol's fiction and his role in the development of Russian prose. Quarter course; conducted in English.

A Rus 267 Chekhov in English Translation (2)

Chekhov's stories and plays with emphasis on social, psychological and philosophical insights. Special attention to Chekhov's role in the development of the short story and drama. Quarter course.

A Rus 270 Topics in Slavic Literatures and Cultures (1-3)

A short course on various topics in Slavic literatures and cultures (Russian, Czech, Serbian, Croatian, Bulgarian, Polish, etc.). May include instruction in language, or lecture-style courses on literature and culture. Course may cover an individual work, an individual author or a genre. Course may be repeated for credit when topic differs. Quarter course; conducted in English.

A Rus 280 Soviet and Russian Cinema (3)

Main trends in the development of Russian and Soviet cinema, from the silents of the early 20th century to the period of glasnost and the post-Soviet era. Introduction to the theories of Eisenstein, Vertov, Kuleshov and others. Social and political issues explored through famous classic and contemporary films. Conducted in English.

A Rus 354L The Russian Novel in its Western Context (3)

A comparative course concentrating on 19th-century prose fiction by Russian authors such as Dostoevsky, Turgenev, Tolstoy, Pushkin and Lermontov, examined as it relates to the work of their European and American contemporaries, including Dickens, Balzac, Byron, Flaubert, Henry James, George Eliot and others. A Rus 354E is the writing intensive version of A Rus 354L; only one may be taken for credit. Conducted in English. Prerequisite(s): one course in literature or junior or senior class standing, or permission of instructor. May not be offered in 2003-2004. [HU]

A Rus 354E The Russian Novel in its Western Context (3)

A Rus 354E is the writing intensive version of A Rus 354L; only one may be taken for credit. Conducted in English. Prerequisite(s): one course in literature or junior or senior class standing, or permission of instructor. May not be offered in 2003-2004. [HU WI]

A Rus 359 (= A Thr 359) Russian Drama in English Translation (3)

Surveys major trends in Russian drama and analyzes major works from the comedies of Fonvizin and Griboedov satirizing the Russian social scene to the twilight melancholy of Chekhov and the theatre of 20th-century Soviet Russia. Conducted in English. Offered in alternate years. A Rus 359Z is the writing intensive version of A Rus 359 & A Thr 359; only one of the three courses may be taken for credit. Prerequisite(s): A Rus 251L, or junior or senior class standing, or permission of instructor. May not be offered in 2003-2004.

A Rus 359Z (= A Thr 359) Russian Drama in English Translation (3)

A Rus 359Z is the writing intensive version of A Rus 359 & A Thr 359; only one of the three courses may be taken for credit. Prerequisite(s): A Rus 251L, or junior or senior class standing, or permission of instructor. May not be offered in 2003-2004. [WI]

A Rus 380 Topics in Soviet and Russian Cinema (3)

In-depth study of individual directors, genres and themes; cinema and the other arts; cinema and the state. Film as propaganda tool and as vehicle for formalistic experimentation, social criticism, and cultural/historical recollection. Films by Eisenstein, Romm, Kalatozov, Chukhral, Tarkovsky, Gherman, Muratova, Mamin and others. Conducted in English. Content varies; repeatable with permission of the instructor. Prerequisite(s): A Rus 280 or with permission of the instructor.

Courses in Russian Language

A Rus 101L Elementary Russian I (4)

Introduction to the fundamentals of Russian grammar and basic vocabulary through extensive classroom drills, graded readings and translations. Systematic attention to essentials of pronunciation. Four classes each week. Some laboratory work. Native speakers of Russian may not take this course without permission of chair. Only one of A Rus 101L, 103L, 105L may be taken for credit.

A Rus 102L Elementary Russian II (4)

Continuation of A Rus 101L. Four classes a week. Some laboratory work. Prerequisite(s): A Rus 101L or permission of chair. Native speakers of Russian may not take this course without permission of chair. Only one of A Rus 102L, 104L, 105L may be taken for credit. [FL]

A Rus 103L Russian for Bilingual Students I (3)

For students of Russian descent who speak Russian but have no formal education in the language. Students will learn to read and write Russian, and will be exposed to the fundamentals of Russian grammar. May be required as a prerequisite to enrolling in more advanced courses in Russian. Only one of A Rus 101L, 103L, 105L may be taken for credit.

A Rus 104L Russian for Bilingual Students II (3)

A continuation of A Rus 103. Only one of A Rus 102L, 104L, 105L may be taken for credit. [FL]

A Rus 105L Intensive Introductory Russian (8)

Intensive first-year Russian. Introduction to the fundamentals of Russian grammar and basic vocabulary through extensive classroom drills, graded readings and translations. Systematic attention to essentials of pronunciation. Equivalent to A Rus 101L and A Rus 102L sequence. Native speakers of Russian may not take this course without permission of chair. Only one of A Rus 101L, 103L, 105L may be taken for credit. Only one of A Rus 102L, 104L, 105L may be taken for credit. [FL]

A Rus 201L Intermediate Russian I (5)

Review of basic grammar; major grammatical issues not covered in elementary Russian; reading, translation, composition conversation. Five classes, one laboratory or drill each week. Also offered in the University in High School Program. Prerequisite(s): A Rus 102L, 104L, 105L or equivalent.

A Rus 202L Intermediate Russian II (5)

Continuation of A Rus 201L with increased use of Russian as language of instruction. Five classes, one laboratory or drill each week. Also offered in the University in High School Program. Prerequisite(s): A Rus 201L or equivalent.

A Rus 301 Advanced Russian I (3)

Essential fine points of morphology and syntax; reading, translation, composition. Taught predominantly in Russian. Prerequisite(s): A Rus 202L or equivalent.

A Rus 302 Advanced Russian II (3)

Continuation of A Rus 301. Taught predominantly in Russian. Prerequisite(s): A Rus 301 or equivalent.

A Rus 311 Russian Conversation (3)

Advanced conversation in idiomatic, colloquial Russian; oral reports, free discussion; systematic practical phonetics; content reflecting everyday activities and current events. Taught in Russian. Three classes two laboratories or drills each week. Repeatable for credit when content varies, with permission of the instructor. Prerequisite(s): A Rus 202L or equivalent. [OD]

A Rus 312 Russian Conversation: The Press (3)

Advanced conversation in idiomatic, colloquial Russian; oral reports, free discussion; content based on topics of current importance as reflected in the Russian language press. Taught in Russian. Three classes one laboratory or drill each week. Repeatable for credit when content varies, with permission of the instructor. [OD]

A Rus 397 Independent Study (1-6)

Directed reading and conferences on selected topics. May be repeated for credit. Prerequisite(s): junior or senior class standing, and permission of instructor and the undergraduate program director.

A Rus 401 Advanced Russian Grammar (3)

Careful review of problematic grammar topics, development of reading and analysis with particular attention to morphology and syntax, improvement of writing skills. Prerequisite(s): A Rus 302 or permission of instructor or the undergraduate program director.

A Rus 408 Translation into Russian (3)

Written translation and linear interpreting from English into Russian on a variety of subjects. Prerequisite(s): permission of instructor. May not be offered in 2003-2004.

A Rus 411 Stylistics (2)

Theoretical foundations of stylistics; basic concepts of functional styles of language; lexical, grammatical, syntactic stylistics; analysis of individual styles and their accurate rendering in translation. Quarter course. Prerequisite(s): A Rus 302 or equivalent.

A Rus 412 Advanced Russian Conversation (3)

Continuation of A Rus 311 on a more advanced level. Three hours a week. Some laboratory and drill work. Semester course. Prerequisite(s): A Rus 311 or 312 or permission of chair. May not be offered in 2003-2004.

A Rus 447 Russian Language Through Film (3)

The course uses Russian films of the late 20th century to enhance students' language skills and deepen their cultural knowledge. Work involves intensive class discussion and written assignments. Films are selected on the basis of artistic merit, language quality, and general interest. Conducted entirely in Russian. Prerequisite(s): Permission of the instructor.

Literature Courses in Russian

A Rus 421 Introduction to Literary Theory and Analysis (3)

Types of analysis; basic terms; basic theoretical approaches and their application. Detailed discussion of individual works to illustrate concepts, theories and methods. Prerequisite(s): A Rus 202L. May not be offered in 2003-2004.

A Rus 422 Russian and Slavic Folklore and Mythology (3)

Introduction to popular customs and literature of Russian and Slavic peoples. Survey of main genres: fairy tale, epic narratives, songs, folk dramas, proverbs and sayings, charms and incantations. Prerequisite(s): A Rus 202L. May not be offered in 2003-2004.

A Rus 423 History of Russian Drama and Theatre (3)

Survey of the Russian theatre and theatrical literature from its origins to the present. Main emphasis on plays of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries (Fonvizin, Gogol, Pushkin, Ostrovsky, Chekhov, Mayakovsky, Gorky). Discussion of the role of the arts (music and painting) in the development of Russian theatre. Prerequisite(s): A Rus 202L. May not be offered in 2003-2004.

A Rus 425 Russian Versification (2)

Basic concepts of verse analysis. Survey of verse systems in Russian poetry of the 18th-20th centuries. Quarter course. Prerequisite(s): A Rus 301 or permission of instructor. May not be offered in 2003-2004.

A Rus 426 Russian Nineteenth-Century Poetry (3)

Course will examine major representative poets representing pre-romanticism, romanticism, pre-realism, realism and aestheticism (or protosymbolism). Major poets include Krylov, Zhukovskij, Pushkin, Lermontov, Baratynskij, Tjutchev, Mekrasov and Fet. Distinguishing characteristics of literary schools will be examined against the background of Russia's cultural and political environment.

A Rus 427 Russian Twentieth-Century Poetry (3)

Course will survey major poets and schools, including Decadence, Symbolism, Acmeism, Futurism, Independent figures, Socialist Realism and subsequent trends. Poets include Sologub, Bal'mont, Brjusov, Bolk, Belyj, Gumilev, Axmatova, Cvetaeva, Majakovskij, Xlebnikov, Zabolockij, Vysockij and Brodskij. Writers and schools will be studied with major cultural and political developments of the times. S/U graded.

A Rus 428 Pushkin's Evgenij Onegin (2)

Reading of Pushkin's novel in verse in the Russian original as well as major secondary and critical works. Prerequisite(s): A Rus 301 or permission of instructor.

A Rus 470 Structure of a Slavic Language (3)

Study of the structure of a Slavic language other than Russian, or occasionally, a non-Indo-European language of Eastern Europe or the former USSR. May be repeated for credit in a different language: Bulgarian, Old Church Slavonic, Czech, Polish, Romanian, Serbo-Croatian, Ukrainian.

Courses in Polish

A Pol 101L Elementary Polish (4)

Beginner's course with audio-lingual approach: fundamentals of language structure and sounds; emphasis on correct pronunciation. Four classes, two laboratories each week. Native speakers of Polish may not take this course without permission of chair. May not be offered in 2003-2004.

A Pol 102L Intermediate Polish (4)

After completion of structural study, emphasis is given to reading in conjunction with a continuation of the audio-lingual method. Four classes, two laboratories each week. Prerequisite(s): A Pol 101 or equivalent. Native speakers of Polish may not take this course without permission of chair. May not be offered in 2003-2004. [FL]

A Pol 290 Topics in Polish Studies (3)

Selected topics in Polish literature, film, theater and culture. May be repeated for credit with change of topic. Consult current schedule

of classes for topic. The course is also counted for credit in the Slavic program.

Courses in Ukrainian

A Ukr 101L Elementary Ukrainian I (4)

Introduction to the fundamentals of Ukrainian grammar and basic vocabulary through extensive classroom drills, graded readings and translation. Systematic attention to essentials of pronunciation. Four classes each week. May not be offered in 2003-2004.

A Ukr 102L Elementary Ukrainian II (4)

Continuation of A Ukr 101L. Four classes a week. Some laboratory work. Prerequisite(s): A Ukr 101L or permission of chair. May not be offered in 2003-2004. [FL]