

An interdepartmental program

Courses of Study:
Minor

Russian and East European Studies

Objectives

The program in Russian and East European Studies (REES) provides undergraduates with a curricular framework for the interdisciplinary study of Russia, the former Soviet Union, and East Europe. This interdisciplinary study offers a special breadth and depth of understanding for this region, and leads students to appreciate the interconnectedness of Russian and East European history, economics, politics, and culture. The complementary study allows participating students to achieve an understanding of this world region not otherwise available in existing majors and minors in the traditional disciplines. REES further maintains the extracurricular objective of hosting and facilitating special events concerning Russia and East Europe: presentations by visiting scholars, cultural events, and other learning activities. The program serves any interested undergraduates wishing to complement their major course of study; social science majors with an interest in the area and also majors in Russian language and literature are encouraged to consider becoming program participants.

How to Become a Minor

Interested students who have no background in Russian or any other East European language are advised to begin language training (with RUS 10a) in their first year. Appropriate placement of those with some knowledge of Russian can be arranged by consultation with the German, Russian and East Asian Languages and Literature department. Progress toward the minor will also be facilitated by early enrollment (usually in the sophomore year) in HIST 147a (Imperial Russia).

Committee

Steven Burg
(Politics)

Joan Chevalier
(German, Russian, and East Asian Languages and Literature)

ChaeRan Freeze
(Near Eastern and Judaic Studies)

Gregory Freeze
(History)

Robin Feuer Miller
(German, Russian, and East Asian Languages and Literature)

Antony Polonsky
(Near Eastern and Judaic Studies)

David Powelstock
(German, Russian and East Asian Languages and Literature)

Requirements for the Minor

A. Students must complete the following courses: HIST 147a (Imperial Russia) and HIST 147b (Twentieth-Century Russia); and four semesters of Russian language, or the equivalent.

B. Completion of any three courses listed below, in at least two separate disciplines.

Courses of Instruction

REES 98a Independent Study

Signature of the instructor and the program chair required.

Usually offered every year.
Staff

REES 98b Independent Study

Signature of the instructor and the program chair required.

Usually offered every year.
Staff

Elective Courses

The following courses are approved for the minor. Not all are given in any one year. Please consult the *Course Schedule* each semester.

HIST 148b
Central Asia in Modern Times

NEJS 137b (formerly NEJS 167b)
A History of the Jews in Warsaw, Lodz, Vilna, and Odessa

NEJS 136b (formerly NEJS 168a)
History and Culture of the Jews in East-Central Europe to 1914

NEJS 136b (formerly NEJS 168b)
History and Culture of the Jews in East-Central Europe, 1914 to the Present

POL 129a
East European Politics

POL 213b
Graduate Seminar: Selected Topics in Comparative Politics

RECS 130a
Nineteenth-Century Russian Literature

RECS 134b
Chekhov

RECS 135a
The Short Story in Russia

RECS 137a
Women in Russian Literature

RECS 146a
Dostoevsky

RECS 147b
Tolstoy

RECS 148a
Russian Drama

RECS 154a
Nabokov

RUS 150b
Topics in Russian Literature

RECS 149b
Twentieth-Century Russian Literature, Art,
Film, and Theater

RECS 155a
From Witches to Wood Spirits: Russian
Culture to 1800

RUS 153a
Russian Poetry: Undergraduate Seminar

Russian Language and Literature

Courses of Study:
Minor
Major (B.A.)

Objectives

The mission of the Russian section of the Department of German, Russian, and East Asian Languages and Literature is to train students in the literature, language, culture, and history of Russia. Our major provides all the riches of a liberal arts education as we study the language and discourse of foreign culture and as we study the human drama played out in the pages of its fiction and the pages of its history. Thus the major prepares students who plan to enter professions with an international focus, such as government service, journalism, private industry, international social services, and academia. Yet more broadly, for those pursuing a career in law we offer studies of truth and justice, for those pursuing a career in medicine we offer contemplations of human compassion, and for those in public service and private industry we offer a higher understanding of human communication and deeper appreciation for the complexities of the human spirit. Indeed past Russian majors have gone on to successful careers in all of these areas. The program prides itself on the ability to bring students to a high level of proficiency in the Russian language as rapidly as possible, and in achieving this goal we employ all the resources available: computer technology, audio, video, and film. In the area of literature, our curriculum offers broad and deep study of major authors and movements in Russian literature in the 19th and 20th centuries. In order to serve the University in general, we offer a range of courses taught in translation. Recognizing that majors come to us with a variety of backgrounds, the department has two tracks for the major: one for students coming to the department with no previous background in Russian language and literature, and one for heritage speakers or students

arriving at Brandeis with advanced language proficiency. All majors are required to take a number of courses in the original language as well as doing substantial reading in the original language for other courses. The two tracks are then tailored to provide students with an optimal learning environment suited to their situation and to challenge them appropriately. Courses in Russian history and Russian politics are strongly recommended for majors.

How to Become a Major

The department welcomes all students to become majors in Russian language and literature. We seek enthusiastic students willing to undertake a serious and challenging course of study. The members of the faculty are devoted to teaching the undergraduate student and offer individualized attention. Students interested in becoming a major should read the requirements below and come speak with a member of the department. Students who wish to discuss specific issues of language placement and the two major tracks should speak with Professor Chevalier.

A major in Russian may obtain the Massachusetts teaching certificate at the high school level by additionally completing requirements of the Education Program (q.v.). Interested students should meet with the program director.

Faculty

See German, Russian, and East Asian Languages and Literature.

Requirements for the Major

Russian Language and Literature Track I

Intended for students with no prior knowledge of Russian.

A. ECS 100a (European Cultural Studies: The Proseminar) to be completed *no later* than the junior year.

B. Advanced language and literature study: Required are: RUS 105a, RUS 106b, and RUS 153a.

C. Literature study: Any five RECS courses. At least one of these courses must be taken with a tutorial study of selected readings in Russian.

D. RUS 97a, 97b, or 99d. Majors wishing to graduate with departmental honors must complete RUS 99d (Senior Thesis). Candidates for departmental honors must have a 3.50 GPA in Russian courses previous to the senior year. Honors are awarded on the basis of cumulative excellence in all courses taken in the major and the grade on the Honors Thesis.

Russian Language and Literature Track II

Intended for heritage speakers of Russian and students with advanced proficiency in Russian.

A. ECS 100a (European Cultural Studies: The Proseminar) to be completed *no later* than the junior year.

B. Advanced language study and study of literature in Russian: RUS 110a, (or qualifying exam) and RUS 150b.

C. Literature study: Any six RECS courses. Students will be expected to do a large portion, if not all, of their readings in Russian.

D. RUS 97a, 97b, or 99d. Majors wishing to graduate with departmental honors must complete RUS 99d (Senior Thesis). Candidates for departmental honors must have a 3.50 GPA in Russian courses previous to the senior year. Honors are awarded on the basis of cumulative excellence in all courses taken in the major and the grade on the Honors Thesis.

Requirements for the Minor in Russian Literature

A. One course in advanced language study: RUS 105a, RUS 106b, or RUS 110a (or qualifying exam).

B. Literature Study in Russian: RUS 150a **or** RUS 153a.

C. Literature study: Any three RECS courses.

Courses of Instruction

(1-99) Primarily for Undergraduate Students

RUS 10a Beginning Russian

Enrollment limited to 20 per section.
For students who have had no previous study of Russian. A systematic presentation of the basic grammar and vocabulary of the language within the context of Russian culture, with focus on all four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Usually offered every year.
Ms. Chevalier

RUS 20b Continuing Russian

Prerequisite: RUS 10a or the equivalent. Enrollment limited to 20 per section.
For students with some previous study of Russian. Continuing presentation of the basic grammar and vocabulary of the language within the context of Russian culture, and practice of the four language skills. Special attention to reading and writing skills, as well as guided conversation. Usually offered every year.
Ms. Chevalier

RUS 30a Intermediate Russian

[fl]
Prerequisite: RUS 20b or the equivalent. Enrollment limited to 20 per section.
For students with some previous study of Russian (RUS 10a, RUS 20b). Continuing presentation of the basic grammar and vocabulary of the language within the context of Russian culture. Special attention to reading and writing skills. Usually offered every year.
Ms. Chevalier

RUS 97a Senior Essay

Signature of the instructor required. Students should consult the area head of their major.
Usually offered every year.
Staff.

RUS 97b Senior Essay

Signature of the instructor required. Students should consult the area head of their major.
Usually offered every year.
Staff

RUS 98a Independent Study

May be taken only with the permission of the advisor to majors and the chair of the department. Signature of the instructor required.
Reading and reports under faculty supervision. Usually offered every semester.
Staff

RUS 98b Independent Study

May be taken only with the permission of the advisor to majors and the chair of the department. Signature of the instructor required.
Reading and reports under faculty supervision. Usually offered every year.
Staff

RUS 99d Senior Thesis

Signature of the instructor required. Students should consult the area head of their major.
Usually offered every year.
Staff

(100-199) For Both Undergraduate and Graduate Students

The abbreviation RECS denotes Russian and European Cultural Studies courses.

RUS 105a Russia Today: Advanced Language Skills through Contemporary Culture

[fl hum]
Prerequisite: RUS 30a or the permission of the instructor.
For advanced students of Russian language who wish to expand their vocabulary and to develop their grammar and reading skills. Explores aspects of contemporary Russian society and culture. Texts will be drawn from the Russian press, political essays, modern prose fiction, and drama.
Ms. Chevalier

RUS 106b Advanced Russian Language through Film

[hum]
Prerequisite: A 30-level Russian course or the equivalent, or the permission of the instructor.

For advanced students of Russian who wish to enhance their proficiency and accuracy in writing and speaking. Class discussions and writing assignments will focus on aspects of Russian society as they are portrayed in Russian film. Background readings about the films related to relevant aspects of Russian society will also be assigned.
Ms. Chevalier

RUS 110a Russian Language for Russian Speakers

[hum]
Permission of the instructor required. Enrollment limited to 18.
Designed to meet the needs of Russian language speakers who have had little or no formal training in their native language and who want to improve reading and writing skills. Readings range from short works of contemporary prose fiction to articles from the contemporary Russian press. Basic rules of orthography and advanced grammar topics will be reviewed. Usually offered every year.
Ms. Chevalier

RECS 130a Nineteenth-Century Russian Literature

[hum]
Open to all students. Conducted in English. Students may choose to do readings either in English translation or in Russian.
A comprehensive survey of the major writers and themes of the 19th century including Gogol, Turgenev, Dostoevsky, Tolstoy, Chekhov, and others. Usually offered every second year.
Ms. Miller

RECS 131a Twentieth-Century Russian Literature

[hum]

Open to all students. Conducted in English. Students may choose to do readings either in English translation or in Russian.

A comprehensive survey of the major works and authors of the Soviet and post-Soviet eras. Readings include works by Bulgakov, Pasternak, Akhmatova, Solzhenitsyn, and Tertz. The final portion of the course considers literature emerging in the post-Soviet era. Usually offered every second year. Will be offered in the fall of 2002.
Staff

RECS 134b Chekhov

[hum]

Open to all students. Conducted in English. Students may choose to do readings either in English translation or in Russian.

Offers a detailed investigation of the evolution of Chekhov's art, emphasizing the thematic and structural aspects of Chekhov's works. Attention paid to methods of characterization, use of detail, narrative technique, and the roles into which he casts his audience. Usually offered every second year.

Ms. Miller

RECS 135a The Short Story in Russia

[hum]

Open to all students. Conducted in English. Students may choose to do readings either in English translation or in Russian.

Focuses on the great tradition of the short story in Russia. This genre has always invited stylistic and narrative experimentation, as well as being a vehicle for the striking, if brief expression of complex social, religious, and philosophical themes. Usually offered every second year.

Ms. Miller

RECS 137a Women in Russian Literature

[hum]

Open to all students. Conducted in English. Students may choose to do readings either in English translation or in Russian.

Examines questions of female representation and identity, and of female authorship. Readings include portrayals of women by men and women authors.

Usually offered every second year.

Ms. Miller

RECS 146a Dostoevsky

[hum]

Open to all students. Conducted in English. Students may choose to do readings either in English translation or in Russian.

A comprehensive survey of Dostoevsky's life and works, with special emphasis on the major novels. Usually offered every second year.

Ms. Miller

RECS 147b Tolstoy

[hum]

Open to all students. Conducted in English. Students may choose to do readings either in English translation or in Russian.

Studies the major short stories and novels of Leo Tolstoy against the backdrop of 19th-century history and with reference to 20th-century critical theory. Usually offered every second year.

Ms. Miller

RECS 148a Russian Drama

[hum]

Open to all students. Conducted in English. Students may choose to do readings either in English translation or in Russian. This course may not be repeated for credit by students who have taken RUS 148a and RUS 148b in previous years.

Examines the rich tradition of Russian drama and theater. Readings will include works from the 19th and 20th centuries, with concentrated study of Chekhov and works by Pushkin, Gogol, Gorky, Mayakovsky, and others. Usually offered every second year. Last offered in the fall of 2001.

Mr. Powelstock

RECS 149b Russian Literature, Art, Film, and Theater 1900-30

[hum]

Open to all students. Conducted in English. Students may choose to do readings either in English translation or in Russian.

Focuses on three decades, 1900-30, and their various artistic movements as reflected in literature, painting, and theater. Explores the interrelationships between artistic movements and the political scene. Usually offered every second year.

Staff

RUS 150b Topics in Russian Literature

[fl hum]

Prerequisite: RUS 30a or the permission of the instructor.

An undergraduate seminar intended primarily for students who are heritage speakers or students who have acquired advanced proficiency in Russian. Examines the prose of major figures in Russian literature. Topics vary from year to year. Required for Track 2 majors and open to qualified non-majors. Taught in Russian. Usually offered every second year.

Ms. Chevalier

RUS 153a Russian Poetry: Undergraduate Seminar

[fl hum]

Permission of the instructor required.

An undergraduate seminar intended primarily for students of Russian as a second language. Examines and analyzes poets and poetic movements of the 19th and 20th centuries. Intended to introduce nonnative speakers to reading the rich tradition of Russian verse. Required of Track 1 majors and open to qualified non-majors. Taught in Russian. Usually offered every second year.

Staff

RECS 154a Nabokov

[hum]

Open to all students. Conducted in English. Students may choose to do readings either in English translation or in Russian.

A concentrated study of Vladimir Nabokov, the most noted Russian author living in emigration and one of the most influential novelists of the 20th century. Study focuses on the novels, but readings will also include lectures and autobiography. Usually offered every second year.

Staff

RECS 155a From Witches to Wood Spirits: Russian Culture to 1800

[hum]

Open to all students. Conducted in English. Students may choose to do readings either in English translation or in Russian.

Explores the relationship of culture to society and religion in Russia through the 18th century. Examines the interactions of diverse forms of artistic expression, presenting examples from visual art, music, architecture, and popular culture, giving special attention to Russia's rich folk heritage. Usually offered every second year starting 2003-04.

Ms. Chevalier

RECS 160a Contemporary East European Literature

[hum]

Open to all students. Conducted in English. Students may choose to do readings either in English translation or in Russian.

Examines works of major East European (Polish, Czech, Russian, and other) authors in the historical context of late Communist and post-Communist experience. Special attention to reading for artistic qualities and engagement of historical and political problems. Conducted in English. Usually offered every second year. Will be offered in the fall of 2003.

Mr. Powelstock

Cross-Listed Courses**ECS 100a**

European Cultural Studies: The Proseminar

An interdepartmental program

Courses of Study:
Minor

Social Justice and Social Policy

Objectives

Concepts of justice play a profound role in clarifying human needs for health and well-being. Such basic social problems as inequality, poverty, and discrimination pose a constant challenge to policies that serve the health and income needs of children, families, people with disabilities, and the elderly. The public response to such problems, in America and elsewhere, rests on contested definitions of social obligation and social citizenship. The Program in Social Justice and Social Policy examines these essential connections between social values and practical policies. It unites elements in liberal arts study to bridge the analytic gap between ends and means. It also brings together an unusually broad spectrum of faculty and curriculum—combining the academic perspectives of Arts and Sciences departments with professional expertise from The Heller School for Social Policy and Management. Students are encouraged to explore policy areas in concrete detail, focused variously on particular groups (children, the elderly, people with disabilities) or particular services (health care, income support). Students can also select courses that deal thematically with problems of social equity (poverty, discrimination), as well as courses that approach social justice from historical, philosophical, and comparative perspectives. Key elements of the program include a foundation course, a capstone course, and a research-based internship in a social policy setting.

The concern with social justice speaks to the core educational commitments of Brandeis University. This program does not seek to promote a particular ideological agenda, but rather to spark creative thinking about complex social problems. It carries the search for norms and principles into the wider arena of practical experience. By providing models for critical reflection, it challenges students to articulate their own value commitments in a spirit of constructive debate.

How to Become a Minor

The Program in Social Justice and Social Policy (SJSP) is open to all Brandeis undergraduates. Students may begin the minor at any time, but are encouraged to complete the foundation course within the first two years of study. To enroll in the minor, fill out the declaration forms from the Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs and meet first with one of the members of the program committee. A minor advisor will then be assigned by the director to help you plan your course of study, including the timing of the internship/independent research, and capstone requirements.

Committee

Richard Gaskins, Codirector
(Legal and American Studies)

George Ross, Codirector
(Politics and Sociology)

Robert Reich
(The Heller School)

Marty Wyngaarden Krauss
(The Heller School)

Requirements for the Minor

A. The foundation course SOC 123b (Crisis of the Welfare State). Normally this course will be taken within the first two years of study. It is strongly recommended as an introduction to the program, but is not a formal prerequisite for other courses.

B. Students must complete any three elective courses from those listed below. Electives are grouped into topical fields, but students may choose courses from any group. No more than two electives from The Heller School or from any single department may be counted toward program requirements.

C. Either (1) internship, arranged through the program office and the correlative seminar SJSP 92a or 92b; or (2) an independent research course (SJSP 98a or 98b), directed by a member of the program committee, or by another faculty member with the approval of the program director.

D. The capstone seminar POL 159a (Politics of the Modern Welfare State). Normally this course will be taken in the final year of study.

E. No more than two courses may be double-counted for this minor and for a particular major.

Courses of Instruction

SJSP 92a and b Social Justice and Social Policy Internship and Seminar

Prerequisite: SOC 123b, or permission of the instructor. Signature of the program director required.

Biweekly seminar and supervised internship in a public agency or nonprofit organization. Time commitments depend on the site, up to a maximum of two days per week. In cooperation with the Brandeis faculty advisor and the internship site supervisor, students will complete an

individual research project. Internships must be arranged through the program administrator. Usually offered every year. Staff

SJSP 98a and b Social Justice and Social Policy Independent Research

Prerequisite: SOC 123b or permission of the program director. Signature of the program director required.

Guided readings and research on an independent topic that builds upon and integrates the particular course work completed in the SJSP Program. Research may be directed by a member of the

program committee, or by another faculty member with the approval of the program director. Usually offered every semester. Staff

Core Courses

POL 159a

Seminar: The Politics of the Modern Welfare State: Women, Workers, and Social Citizenship

SOC 123b

Crisis of the Welfare State

Electives

Aging and Disability Policy**HS 124a**

Dilemmas of Long-Term Care

HS 524a

Long Term Care: A Policy Perspective

SOC 177b

Aging in Society

SOC 192b

Sociology of Disability

Democracy and Social Justice**ED 155b**

Education and Social Policy

HIST 163a

Socialism and Communism in American History

HOID 130b

Varieties of Freedom, Liberty, and Choice

HS 300a

Theory and Analysis of Social Policy

PHIL 20a

Social and Political Philosophy: Democracy and Disobedience

POL 154a

Citizenship

Dynamics of Discrimination and Inequality**ECON 56b**

Social Priorities and the Market

HS 110a

Wealth and Poverty

HS 528a

Law and Society: Race and Class

LGLS 120a

Sex Discrimination and the Law

LGLS 121b

Law and Social Welfare: Citizen Rights and Government Responsibilities

Family and Child Policy**HS 544a**

Vulnerable Children and Youth: Policy and Programmatic Responses

SOC 104a

Sociology of Education

Health Care Policy**HS 104b**

American Health Care

LGLS 114a

American Health Care: Law and Policy

SOC 190b

Caring in the Health Care System

SOC 191a

Health, Community, and Society

Historical and Comparative Perspectives on Social Justice**AAAS 80a**

Economy and Society in Africa

AMST 188b

Justice Brandeis and Progressive Jurisprudence

HIST 187b

Social Politics in the Progressive Era

LGLS 124b

International Law and Development

SOC 176a

Nature, Nurture, and Public Policy