MODERN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES—RUSSIAN

College of Liberal & Creative Arts
Dean: Andrew Harris

Department of Modern Languages and Literatures
Humanities Building, Room 475
Phone: (415) 338–1421
Email: russian@sfsu.edu
Website: mll.sfsu.edu/russian-program/

Chair: Mohammad Salama
Undergraduate Advisor: Natalia Tkachov

Program Scope
The Russian program offers lower division language courses (RUSS 101 – RUSS 103) and courses in advanced language, conversation, composition, culture, and civilization as well as a considerable range of literature—both in Russian and in English translation—comprising a minor that will enhance a wide range of majors in various disciplines. In this post-Soviet era the study of Russian language and culture, and the knowledge of the country as a whole, becomes even more imperative. Students are either frequently visiting Russia or working there for an extended period of time. In addition, there is now a greater availability of Russian archival material to Western students, researchers, and scholars.

The minor in Russian consists of 23 units of lower and upper division coursework. Up to 13 units of prerequisite coursework or demonstrated language proficiency is required to begin the minor.

Minor

- Minor in Russian (bulletin.sfsu.edu/colleges/liberal-creative-arts/foreign-language/foreign-languages-and-literatures-russian/minor-russian)

RUSS 101 First Semester Russian (Units: 5)
Instruction in understanding, speaking, reading, and writing Russian. (Page reference for Department of Foreign Language statement can be found in the Index.)

RUSS 102 Second Semester Russian (Units: 5)
Prerequisite: RUSS 101 or consent of instructor.

Continuation of RUSS 101.

RUSS 103 Third Semester Russian (Units: 5)
Prerequisite: RUSS 102 or consent of instructor.

Understanding, speaking, reading, and writing Russian at the intermediate level; Russian culture.

RUSS 260 Russian Culture and Civilization in English (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or consent of instructor.

Major themes in the development of Russian culture and civilization from the 9th Century to the present; architecture, literature, folklore, customs, music, dance, theatre and cinema. Taught in English. [Formerly RUSS 401]
RUSS 621 Tolstoy in English Translation (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or consent of instructor.

Tolstoy—master of fiction and non-fiction, radical thinker who challenged
the status quo. Major fiction works/correspondence with Gandhi. Taught
in English.

RUSS 699 Independent Study (Units: 1-3)
Prerequisite: Consent of department chair and instructor.

Special topics in Russian. Written projects requiring critical analysis
and interpretation of linguistic or literary problems. Material adapted to
individual needs and interests. May be repeated.

RUSS 810 Dostoevsky in English Translation (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: ENG 214 or equivalent or consent of instructor.

Dostoevsky’s seven important works. [Taught in English]
(RUSS 810/RUSS 610 is a paired course offering. Students who complete
the course at one level may not repeat the course at the other level.)

RUSS 813 The Russian Novel: Pushkin, Lermontov, Gogol in English
(Units: 3)
Prerequisite for RUSS 813: Graduate standing or consent of instructor.
Prerequisite for RUSS 613: ENG 214 or equivalent or consent of
instructor.

Analysis of late 18th and early 19th century Russian novels assessed
from perspective of genre theory and Bakhtin’s theory of novel. [Taught in
English]
(RUSS 813/RUSS 613 is a paired course offering. Students who complete
the course at one level may not repeat the course at the other level.)

RUSS 815 The Russian Avant-Garde (Units: 3)
Prerequisites for RUSS 815: Graduate standing; ENG 214 or equivalent; or
consent of instructor.
Prerequisite for RUSS 615: ENG 214 or equivalent; or consent of
instructor.

Creativity in Russian literature, arts, cinema, society between 1905-1930
in context of Russian traditions and Western European parallels. Taught
in English.
(RUSS 815/RUSS 615 is a paired course offering. Students who complete
the course at one level may not repeat the course at the other level.)

RUSS 899 Independent Study (Units: 1-3)
Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Study is planned, developed, and completed under the direction of a
member of the department faculty. Open only to graduate students
who have demonstrated ability to do independent work. Enrollment by
petition.