

# STUDY ABROAD IN SLAVIC



## Berkeley Study Abroad

160 Stephens Hall  
(510) 642-1356

<http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu>

“The year that I spent in Russia was filled with excitement, vexation, revelation, tedium, despair, rapture, mirth, and pain – in that way, it was like any other year of life, neither “good” nor “bad.” If I had only been in Russia long enough to “have a good time,” I would not have come away feeling like it was my second home. That I have had not only uplifting and exciting experiences in Russia, but some that were trying and upsetting, and others that were simply quotidian, is vital to my now-nuanced appreciation of the culture.”

*Maya Garcia*, graduated in 2015, currently a Harvard Ph.D. student

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Slavic Languages  
and Literatures**  
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The Slavic Department (<http://slavic.berkeley.edu/>) encourages its students to study abroad by participating in Berkeley Study Abroad (BSA) or other programs (EAP, government-funded programs, internships, specialized programs, etc.). Many of our students say that their summer, semester, or year abroad was one of the most important and enriching experiences of their undergraduate education.

## WHY STUDY ABROAD?

- Increase language proficiency
- Hear and speak the language in its natural setting
- Take advantage of unique academic and experiential opportunities in other countries that are very different from the US
- Participate in a different educational system
- Improve critical thinking skills
- Expand world view by experiencing another culture firsthand
- Get a different perspective on language and the world
- Learn to deal with different mindsets and world views
- Develop self-confidence and independence
- Enhance résumés and/or applications for graduate school
- Prepare for a career in an internationally competitive world
- Make new friends

“I think the best part of studying abroad on UCEAP was the program of cultural excursions. I got to go to Moscow, Pskov, Peterhof, Mikhailovskoe, and Tsarskoe Selo, as well as many museums and performances. I went on at least one excursion every single week!”

*Charlotte Pizzella*, the editor of undergraduate Troika journal, graduated in 2015



### - PLAN AHEAD! -

Applications typically are due six months to a year prior to the program’s start date and some programs have academic or linguistic prerequisites that must be satisfied in advance. Please check the BSA website for guidance on “how to apply”:  
<http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu/how-to-apply>

### - THE COST OF BSA-

Study on BSA can be comparable to the cost of study at UC. In some cases, it is less. BSA participants pay UC fees and continue to receive UC financial aid while abroad. Furthermore, BSA students are eligible for special grants and scholarships from UC, the host country, and other sources.

## WHERE CAN I STUDY ABROAD?

Slavic students planning to complete a portion of their major abroad have a wide variety of options. Many of our students have had a wonderful experience on our Berkeley Study Abroad program in St. Petersburg.



- Here is a link to other possible programs in Russia, Latvia, Kazakhstan, etc. for the study of Slavic languages (e.g., Russian, BCS, Polish, Czech), as well as many non-Slavic languages of the region.  
<http://iseees.berkeley.edu/studyabroad>
- In addition, there are great summer language programs in the US:  
<http://iseees.berkeley.edu/sumlangprog>
- Funding opportunities:  
<http://iseees.berkeley.edu/FLAS>  
<http://iseees.berkeley.edu/fellowships>  
[http://iseees.berkeley.edu/iseees\\_fellowships](http://iseees.berkeley.edu/iseees_fellowships)

## I'M INTERESTED, WHAT ARE MY NEXT STEPS?

Slavic students interested in study abroad should first research program options on the BSA website (<http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu>) and on the ISEEEES website (<http://iseees.berkeley.edu/>), then meet with the Slavic undergraduate advisor (<http://slavic.berkeley.edu/>) to discuss departmental regulations and the academic planning process.

Application information and BSA advising are available at the Berkeley Study Abroad office, 160 Stephens Hall.

## WHAT CLASSES CAN I TAKE?

Slavic students have typically received credit for the following types of courses:

- Language courses (e.g., Russian, Bosnian-Serbian-Croatian, Czech, Polish, Armenian, Hungarian, etc.)
- Literature courses (taught in English or target language)
- Courses in culture, political science, and history

The following major requirements must be fulfilled at home:

- Slavic 45, 46, 50
- Slavic 100
- Slavic 180 series

Students will earn UC credit for BSA courses they complete abroad. However, application of credit to major requirements is subject to the discretion of the department.

To search for program and course options, go to the BSA website:

<http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu/programs> and follow the links to courses offered through UCEAP and Berkeley Abroad.

If you plan to conduct research for your senior thesis while studying abroad, talk with a faculty member in your field before you leave, and take detailed notes on your research while you're away.

## WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I RETURN?

- Bring back course materials such as syllabi, reading lists and exams, as these will help when petitioning for major or GE credit.
- See the Slavic undergraduate advisor upon your return.
- If possible, have your language proficiency tested soon after your return.