

SLAVIC LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

Major Map

Immerse yourself in the language, literature, and culture of Slavic peoples.

The **Bachelor of Arts degree in Slavic Languages and Literatures** in the College of Letters & Science gives students the opportunity to explore the languages, literatures, and cultures of the Russian and other Slavic peoples and their immediate neighbors in East and Central Europe as well as the Caucasus and Central Asia. The Slavic major offers an interdisciplinary study of the fascinating languages, rich historical legacies, and multifaceted cultures of this vitally important region of the world.

The Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures is one of the first of its kind in the United States, and is known for its breadth of coverage and interdisciplinary approach to the field. Our majors have the opportunity to work closely with faculty in their areas of interest, and benefit from the accessibility of their teachers and the community of fellow students.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Enrich your learning with **study abroad**.
- Submit your original work to **TROIKA**, the department's undergraduate journal.
- Pursue research with an **ISEEES grant**.



Photo credit: UC Berkeley

“

The Slavic Department was an invaluable part of my college experience. I can't imagine a better setting for learning a foreign language.

”

—2019 graduate

UC Berkeley

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

Slavic Languages and Literatures

CURRICULUM

The Slavic department offers two major tracks. In the **Russian/East European/Eurasian Languages and Cultures** track, students take an interdisciplinary “area studies” approach and focus on one language: Russian, Armenian, Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, Czech, Hungarian, or Polish. Students design their own programs by selecting courses offered by the Slavic and other departments and programs. Two years of study (or the equivalent) in the selected language are required. In the **Russian Language and Literature** track, students gain advanced proficiency in the language and an in-depth knowledge of the Russian literary tradition. This track requires three years of language coursework (or the equivalent). Prior to pursuing a major track, students must consult with the Undergraduate Student Services Advisor for **language proficiency referral** and study list planning and approval.

Learn more at slavic.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/

DECLARING THE MAJOR

Upon acceptance to UC Berkeley, you are admitted to the College of Letters & Science as an undeclared student. Students in the Russian/East European/Eurasian Languages and Cultures track may declare the major after completing two semesters of language (or equivalent) and SLAVIC 50. Students in the Russian Language and Literature track may declare after completing two semesters of Russian (or equivalent) and either SLAVIC 45 or 46. Transfers and other students with previous coursework should consult the Undergraduate Major Advisor prior to declaring.

STUDY OPTIONS

In addition to the major, the Slavic department has opportunities open to all students. Options include:

- **Minor programs** in Armenian Studies, Russian Culture, Russian Language, Russian Literature, and East European/Eurasian Languages and/or Cultures.
- **Language instruction** in Armenian, Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, Hungarian, Polish, Russian, and Ukrainian.
- **Courses** taught in English including **Freshmen and Sophomore seminars** as well as courses that fulfill Reading & Composition and L&S breadth requirements.



Photo credit: UC Berkeley

WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?

Graduates from the Slavic Languages and Literature program find opportunities for employment, both in this country and abroad, in fields such as education, journalism, business, diplomacy, social work, health, and environmental affairs. A Slavic major also provides excellent preparation for graduate studies in a number of areas, as well as a sound background in the liberal arts for those wishing to attend professional schools (including law school).

UC Berkeley offers a number of career resources for students studying Slavic Languages and Literatures. The College of Letters & Science spotlights **career pathways** for students in the Arts & Humanities, and offers **advising** for undergraduates pursuing medical or health professions programs, law school, or masters and PhD programs. Additionally, **Berkeley Career Engagement** provides career and graduate school advising, job and internship listings, and events such as career and graduate school fairs.



SPOTLIGHT

Alexandra, class of 2021

Alexandra Butler graduated with a B.A. in Slavic and Linguistics, and works as a Linguist at Meta.

How did your Slavic degree shape your career? After a translator guest-spoke in my Slavic class, I became interested in researching translation. I later completed a Linguistics MA. This has allowed me to explore the role of the Translator, social biases embedded in LLMs, and necessity of the human-in-the-loop.

What skills do you use that you learned as a Slavic student? My Slavic courses helped me identify metrics and targets to assess a major commercial chatbot.

Any advice for future Slavic students? You're not going to keep track of the characters in *War and Peace* without taking notes.

EMPLOYMENT

Alumni find employment in a variety of fields and industries after completing graduation. Examples include:

Attorney
Aviator, US Navy
Computational Linguist
Cybersecurity
Digital News Producer
English Teaching Assistant
Journalist
Legislative Staffer
Literacy Specialist
Software Engineer
Trade Analyst
Taxonomist
Writer

GRADUATE STUDY

Alumni pursue graduate education to gain more depth of knowledge in their field as well as prepare for jobs that require advanced degrees. Examples include:

Comparative Literature
European History, Politics, and Society
History
International Relations
Law
Linguistics
Russian Literature
Political Science and Government

FOUR-YEAR STUDENT TIMELINE

Slavic Languages and Literatures

	FIRST YEAR	SECOND YEAR	THIRD YEAR	FOURTH YEAR	SUMMER OPTIONS
<p>Plan your studies</p>	<p>Start exploring with L&S 1 and first-year guides from L&S and Arts & Humanities.</p> <p>Visit L&S Advising for help with major exploration and degree requirements.</p> <p>Familiarize yourself with the Slavic major; explore major tracks and beginning language classes for your intended track.</p> <p>Discover new interests in a Freshman Seminar, Berkeley Changemaker, or A&H Compass or Gateway course.</p> <p>Learn how to prepare for office hours and build relationships with faculty.</p>	<p>Meet with your major and college advisor to discuss your academic plans.</p> <p>Continue exploring with a Sophomore Seminar or Big Ideas course.</p> <p>Look into study abroad; see resources from the Slavic department.</p> <p>Enrich your studies with a course thread, certificate, or minor such as Armenian Studies.</p> <p>Complete all lower division prerequisites for your major track and declare the major.</p>	<p>Enroll in the SLAVIC 100 seminar and other upper division requirements for your major track.</p> <p>Review your degree progress with your major and college advisor.</p> <p>Develop your writing and critical thinking in an Art of Writing seminar.</p> <p>Spend a term off-campus with UCDC or the Intercampus Visitor Program.</p> <p>Consider applying to the Slavic Honors Program; look into the Haas Scholars and SURF programs.</p>	<p>Consider adding advanced reading (SLAVIC 100L) or a research project (SLAVIC 100R) to a lecture course.</p> <p>Finish all upper division requirements and electives.</p> <p>Receive thesis guidance in the Townsend Center Honors Thesis Workshop.</p> <p>Complete any remaining degree requirements and prepare for graduation.</p> <p>Join the Dobro Slovo National Slavic Honors Society.</p>	<p>Make progress on degree requirements with a Summer Sessions course such as SLAVIC 50.</p> <p>Advance your language skills at a summer intensive or study-abroad program, with Critical Language Scholarship Program or FLAS.</p> <p>Look into a summer internship with Cal in the Capital, Cal in Sacramento, or Berkeley Global Internships.</p> <p>Complement your degree with a summer minor or certificate—look into programs like Teaching English or Journalism.</p> <p>Learn about applying to graduate school with the PhD Admissions Bootcamp.</p>
<p>Engage outside the classroom</p>	<p>Get involved with a student organization like the Russian Speaking Student Association.</p> <p>Join Berkeley Connect for 1:1 mentoring and to meet peers with shared interests.</p> <p>Visit the Discovery Hub to get started with research, entrepreneurship, public service, and creative projects.</p> <p>Attend a Slavic lecture, reading, or other department event.</p>	<p>Browse the Library's Slavic collection and connect with the Institute of Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies.</p> <p>Develop your skills in the Berkeley Student Leadership Academy.</p> <p>Explore research opportunities on the OURS website; apply to URAP to work on a faculty research project.</p> <p>Apply for a FLAS fellowship.</p>	<p>Help other students as a member of the A&H Dean's Leadership Team.</p> <p>Explore the Berkeley Language Center.</p> <p>Check out College Corps and the Haas Public Service Leaders Program.</p> <p>Share your language skills in the SLC Language Exchange Program.</p> <p>Welcome new students to Berkeley as a Golden Bear Orientation Leader.</p> <p>Submit your original work to TROIKA undergraduate journal.</p>	<p>Interested in teaching? Give it a try by teaching your own DeCal course.</p> <p>Submit a course research project for the Library Prize, American Cultures Student Prize, or other awards.</p> <p>Get published! Submit your thesis or research paper to the Berkeley Undergraduate Journal.</p> <p>Pursue a special project after graduation with the Stronach Prize.</p>	
<p>Pursue your career goals</p>	<p>Visit UHS Career Counseling and Berkeley Career Engagement.</p> <p>Start exploring career paths for the major; check out career resources on the Arts & Humanities website.</p> <p>Begin making a plan to get career ready.</p> <p>Create or update your resume and LinkedIn profile.</p> <p>Use Handshake to start connecting with career events and opportunities.</p>	<p>Meet with a BCE career educator to discuss career options and goals.</p> <p>Begin building your network and exploring career fields via job shadowing and informational interviews.</p> <p>Pursue an internship to build skills and explore fields.</p> <p>Considering graduate school? Explore resources from the Graduate Division, L&S Advising, and BCE; look into the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship.</p>	<p>Speak with faculty, advisors, and career educators about post-graduate options.</p> <p>Join a professional association such as the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies.</p> <p>Interested in public service? Look into the John Gardner Fellowship, Peace Corps, Teach for America, and U.S. Department of State.</p>	<p>Check in with a BCE career educator.</p> <p>Start connecting with alumni groups and events like UC Berkeley Armenian Alumni.</p> <p>Apply to graduate school or post-graduate programs.</p> <p>Meet employers at info sessions, on-campus recruiting, and career fairs.</p> <p>Utilize job search tools from BCE and apply for job opportunities.</p> <p>Learn about alumni career services.</p>	

Use this major map to help plan your undergraduate experience, including academic and co-curricular opportunities. Activities in this map are suggestions—always consult with your advisors whenever possible.

TRANSFER STUDENT TIMELINE

Slavic Languages and Literatures

UC Berkeley

	FIRST SEMESTER	SECOND SEMESTER	THIRD SEMESTER	FOURTH SEMESTER	SUMMER OPTIONS
<p>Plan your studies</p>	<p>Get your bearings with L&S 198 Transitioning to Cal and transfer guides from L&S and Arts & Humanities.</p> <p>Meet with your major and college advisor to discuss your academic plans.</p> <p>Decide on a major track and begin working on requirements for the track, including language coursework.</p> <p>Develop your writing and critical thinking in an Art of Writing seminar.</p> <p>Learn how to prepare for office hours and build relationships with faculty.</p>	<p>Keep working on language sequence and upper division requirements for your major track.</p> <p>Explore new interests in a Changemaker or DeCal course.</p> <p>Look into study abroad; see resources from the Slavic department.</p> <p>Enrich your studies with a course thread, certificate, or minor such as Armenian Studies.</p> <p>Consider applying to the Slavic Honors Program; look into the Haas Scholars and SURF programs.</p>	<p>Review your degree progress with your major and college advisor.</p> <p>Enroll in the SLAVIC 100 seminar.</p> <p>Continue upper division coursework; consider adding advanced reading (SLAVIC 100L) or a research project (SLAVIC 100R) to a lecture course.</p> <p>Spend a term off-campus with UCDC or the Intercampus Visitor Program.</p> <p>Receive thesis guidance in the Townsend Center Honors Thesis Workshop.</p>	<p>Finish all upper division requirements and electives.</p> <p>Complete any remaining degree requirements and prepare for graduation.</p> <p>Join the Dobro Slovo National Slavic Honors Society.</p>	<p>Get ready for Berkeley with RHETOR 100 Writing at the University.</p> <p>Apply to the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship if interested in graduate study.</p> <p>Make progress on degree requirements with a Summer Sessions course such as SLAVIC 50.</p> <p>Advance your language skills at a summer intensive or study-abroad program, with Critical Language Scholarship Program or FLAS.</p> <p>Look into a summer internship with Cal in the Capital, Cal in Sacramento, or Berkeley Global Internships.</p> <p>Complement your degree with a summer minor or certificate—look into programs like Teaching English or Journalism.</p> <p>Learn about applying to graduate school with the PhD Admissions Bootcamp.</p>
<p>Engage outside the classroom</p>	<p>Get involved with a student organization like the Russian Speaking Student Association.</p> <p>Join Berkeley Connect for 1:1 mentoring and to meet peers with shared interests.</p> <p>Find support at the Transfer Student Center or Re-entry Student Program.</p> <p>Develop your skills in the Berkeley Student Leadership Academy.</p> <p>Visit the Discovery Hub to get started with research, entrepreneurship, public service, and creative projects.</p>	<p>Attend a Slavic lecture, reading, or other department event.</p> <p>Explore research opportunities on the OURS website; apply to URAP to work on a faculty research project.</p> <p>Browse the Library's Slavic collection and connect with the Institute of Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies.</p> <p>Explore the Berkeley Language Center.</p> <p>Apply for a FLAS fellowship.</p>	<p>Help other students as a Transfer Peer Advocate or member of the A&H Dean's Leadership Team.</p> <p>Check out College Corps and the Haas Public Service Leaders Program.</p> <p>Share your language skills in the SLC Language Exchange Program.</p> <p>Welcome new students to Berkeley as a Golden Bear Orientation Leader.</p> <p>Submit your original work to TROIKA undergraduate journal.</p>	<p>Interested in teaching? Give it a try by teaching your own DeCal course.</p> <p>Submit a course research project for the Library Prize, American Cultures Student Prize, or other awards.</p> <p>Get published! Submit your thesis or research paper to the Berkeley Undergraduate Journal.</p> <p>Pursue a special project after graduation with the Stronach Prize.</p>	
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LEARN MORE

Undergraduate Advising

Have questions about Slavic Languages and Literatures or choosing a major?

The Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures offers undergraduate advising for students interested in the Slavic program. The **Undergraduate Student Services Advisor** can answer questions about major tracks, courses and course equivalents, creating a plan of study, declaring the major, and more. The Undergraduate Student Services Advisor is available for advising in-person in 6303A Dwinelle Hall as well as virtual advising. Email issaug@berkeley.edu for additional information.

The College of Letters & Science helps students with non-major-specific academic topics, including major exploration, general program planning, finding campus resources, and pre-professional graduate programs. L&S College Advisors are available for in-person and virtual meetings. Visit lsadvising.berkeley.edu or email asklms@berkeley.edu.



Scan to explore more
Major Maps!

majormaps.berkeley.edu

Related Programs

Looking for programs similar to Slavic Languages and Literatures? UC Berkeley also offers the following major, minor, and certificate programs:

- **Art History**
- **Comparative Literature**
- **Film and Media**
- **German**
- **Global Studies**
- **Jewish Studies**
- **Medieval Studies**



Photo credit: Megan Martin

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