

# RUSSIAN, BA

Russian is designated a critical language by the United States government. Russian is the seventh-most spoken language in the world and is among the six official languages of the United Nations. Russian speakers live not only in Russia, but in Central Asia, the Caucasus, Eastern Europe, including the Baltic states, and in Russian-speaking diasporas in the United States and throughout the world. Because Russian is so widely spoken in many countries throughout the world, it is an in-demand critical language for careers including government service, non-governmental organizations, science and scholarship, and some business sectors.

Students in the Russian major not only learn the Russian language but read Russian literature in both Russian and English and become familiar with Russian film and visual arts, theater and performing arts, and music.

The Russian major is designed to meet the needs of students who begin to study the language in college as well as those who began to study the language in high school or who grew up speaking or hearing Russian at home.

Russian majors are able to speak Russian in everyday and some work situations, read and listen to Russian-language news and media, and write for daily, academic, and some professional purposes. In addition, Russian majors gain an appreciation and a deeper understanding of the variety of places and cultures in which Russian is spoken, and of politics and foreign policy, history, and world-renowned literary and artistic traditions.