

RUSSIAN, EAST EUROPEAN, AND CENTRAL ASIAN STUDIES, CERTIFICATE

The Certificate in Russian, East European, and Central Asian studies provides students with knowledge of the societies and cultures of the peoples of Eastern Europe and Eurasia, drawing on the disciplines of anthropology, communication arts, economics, folklore, geography, history, language and literature, law, political science, and sociology. The certificate can be a valuable addition to a major in business, economics, education, geography, history, international studies, political science, Slavic languages and literature, and others.

At least two years of a Slavic, East European, or Central Asian language are strongly recommended for the certificate, but are not formally required. Read about the languages (<https://languages.wisc.edu/languages/>) taught at UW–Madison.

Students may also be interested in the Russian major (<https://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/german-nordic-slavic/russian-ba/>), the Polish major (<https://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/german-nordic-slavic/polish-ba/>), and the Certificate in East Central European Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (<https://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/german-nordic-slavic/east-central-european-languages-literatures-cultures-certificate/>).

HOW TO GET IN

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Students interested in declaring the undergraduate certificate should contact the advisor.

REQUIREMENTS

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Seven courses are required, at least one from each of the following three groups.¹

INTERDISCIPLINARY COURSES (GROUP 1)

Complete at least one course:

Code	Title	Credits
HISTORY/POLI SCI/GEOG/ SLAVIC 253	Russia: An Interdisciplinary Survey	
HISTORY/POLI SCI/GEOG/ SLAVIC 254	Eastern Europe: An Interdisciplinary Survey	
HISTORY/ GNS 265	An Introduction to Central Asia: From the Silk Route to Afghanistan	

HISTORY AND THE SOCIAL SCIENCES (GROUP 2):

Complete at least one course from any of these areas:

Agricultural and Applied Economics

Code	Title	Credits
A A E/ ENVIR ST 244	The Environment and the Global Economy	
A A E/ INTL ST 373	Globalization, Poverty and Development	
A A E/ INTL ST 374	The Growth and Development of Nations in the Global Economy	
A A E/ECON 474	Economic Problems of Developing Areas	

Economics

Code	Title	Credits
ECON 464	International Trade	

Geography

Code	Title	Credits
GEOG 318	Introduction to Geopolitics	
GEOG 340	World Regions in Global Context (Check with instructor to verify 25% or more regional content)	

History

Code	Title	Credits
HISTORY 120	Europe and the Modern World 1815 to the Present	
HISTORY 270	Eastern Europe since 1900	
HISTORY 350	The First World War and the Shaping of Twentieth-Century Europe	
HISTORY 357	The Second World War	
HISTORY 359	History of Europe Since 1945	
HISTORY/ INTL ST 375	The Cold War - From World War II to End of Soviet Empire	
HISTORY 417	History of Russia	
HISTORY 418	History of Russia	
HISTORY 419	History of Soviet Russia	
HISTORY 420	Russian Social and Intellectual History	
HISTORY 424	The Soviet Union and the World, 1917-1991	
HISTORY 434	American Foreign Relations, 1901 to the Present	
HISTORY/ CURRIC/ED POL/ JEWISH 515	Holocaust: History, Memory and Education	

Political Science

Code	Title	Credits
POLI SCI 120	Introduction to Comparative Politics	
POLI SCI 182	Introduction to Comparative Politics (Honors)	
POLI SCI 323	Islam and World Politics	
POLI SCI 334	Russian Politics	

POLI SCI 340	The European Union: Politics and Political Economy
POLI SCI 344	The Russian War on Ukraine: Causes and Consequences
POLI SCI 377	Nuclear Weapons and World Politics
POLI SCI/ INTL ST 434	The Politics of Human Rights
POLI SCI/ INTL ST 439	The Comparative Study of Genocide
POLI SCI 538	
POLI SCI 659	Politics and Society: Contemporary Eastern Europe

LITERATURE AND THE ARTS (GROUP 3)

Complete at least one course from any of these areas:

Asian Language & Culture

Code	Title	Credits
ASIAN/ RELIG ST 236	Asia Enchanted: Ghosts, Gods, and Monsters	
ASIAN/AFRICAN/ RELIG ST 370	Islam: Religion and Culture	

Communication Arts

Code	Title	Credits
COM ARTS 463	Avant-Garde Film	
COM ARTS 474	Rhetoric of the Cold War	

Comparative Literature

Code	Title	Credits
COMP LIT 202	Introduction to Modern and Contemporary Literature	
COMP LIT 350	Problems in Comparative Literatures and Cultures	

English

Code	Title	Credits
ENGL/ LITTRANS 223	Vladimir Nabokov: Russian and American Writings	

Folklore

Code	Title	Credits
FOLKLORE/ LITTRANS 347	In Translation: Kalevala and Finnish Folk-Lore	
FOLKLORE/ RELIG ST 352	Shamanism	
FOLKLORE/ SCAND ST 443	Sami Culture, Yesterday and Today	
FOLKLORE/ SLAVIC 444	Slavic and East European Folklore	
FOLKLORE 460	Folk Epics	

German, Nordic and Slavic

Code	Title	Credits
GNS/ FOLKLORE 200	Folklore of Central, Eastern and Northern Europe	
GNS/ ENVIR ST 210	Cultures of Sustainability: Central, Eastern, and Northern Europe	

GNS 270	Introductory Topics in GNS
GNS 324	Literatures of Central Asia
GNS 460	Readings in Turkish: Contemporary Turkey through Literature and Media
GNS 471	Advanced Topics in East European and Central Asian Languages and Cultures

Jewish Studies

Code	Title	Credits
JEWISH 230	Elementary Topics in Jewish Literature	
JEWISH/ GERMAN/ LITTRANS 269	Yiddish Literature and Culture in Europe	

Literature in Translation

Code	Title	Credits
LITTRANS 201	Survey of 19th and 20th Century Russian Literature in Translation I	
LITTRANS 202	Survey of 19th and 20th Century Russian Literature in Translation II	
LITTRANS 203	Survey of 19th and 20th Century Russian Literature in Translation I	
LITTRANS 204	Survey of 19th and 20th Century Russian Literature in Translation II	
LITTRANS/ GEN&WS 205	Women in Russian Literature in Translation	
LITTRANS 207	Slavic Science Fiction through Literature and Film	
LITTRANS 208	The Writings of Vaclav Havel: Critique of Modern Society	
LITTRANS/ SLAVIC 215	Love and Death: Introduction to Polish Literature & Culture	
LITTRANS 218	Polish Literature in Translation: Late 19th and 20th Centuries	
LITTRANS 220	Chekhov: The Drama of Modern Life	
LITTRANS 221	Russia's Greatest Enigma: Nikolai Gogol	
LITTRANS 222	Dostoevsky in Translation	
LITTRANS 224	Tolstoy in Translation	
LITTRANS 229	Representation of the Jew in Eastern European Cultures	
LITTRANS 233	Russian Life and Culture Through Literature and Art (to 1917)	
LITTRANS 234	Soviet Life and Culture Through Literature and Art (from 1917)	
LITTRANS 241	Literatures and Cultures of Eastern Europe	
LITTRANS 247	Topics in Slavic Literatures in Translation	
LITTRANS/ SLAVIC 266	Elementary Special Topics in Russian Literature & Culture	
LITTRANS/ GERMAN/ JEWISH 269	Yiddish Literature and Culture in Europe	

LITTRANS/ FOLKLORE 327	Vampires
LITTRANS/ FOLKLORE 347	In Translation: Kalevala and Finnish Folk-Lore
LITTRANS/ SLAVIC 361	Living at the End of Times: Contemporary Polish Literature and Culture
LITTRANS/ SLAVIC 366	Intermediate Special Topics in Russian Literature & Culture
LITTRANS 454	History of Serbian and Croatian Literature
LITTRANS 471	Polish Literature (in Translation), Middle Ages to 1863
LITTRANS 473	Polish Literature (in Translation) since 1863

Scandinavian Studies

Code	Title	Credits
SCAND ST/ FOLKLORE 443	Sami Culture, Yesterday and Today	
SCAND ST/ MEDIEVAL 444	Kalevala and Finnish Folk-Lore	

Slavic Languages and Literature

Code	Title	Credits
SLAVIC 231	History and Ethics on Film: Polish Cinema	
SLAVIC/ LITTRANS 238	Literature and Revolution	
SLAVIC 239	Performance and Power	
SLAVIC 242	Literatures and Cultures of Eastern Europe	
SLAVIC 243	Contemporary Russia: History, Politics, and Culture	
SLAVIC 245	Topics in Slavic Literatures	
SLAVIC 246	Escaping Utopia: Cultures after Communism	
SLAVIC/ LITTRANS 259	Adventure in Literature and Film	
SLAVIC 285	Slavic Culture in Context: An Honors Course	
SLAVIC 307	Study Abroad in Poland	
SLAVIC 308	Polish Culture and Area Studies on Study Abroad	
SLAVIC 309	Russian Area Studies on Study Abroad	
SLAVIC 310	Topics in Russian: Study Abroad	
SLAVIC 342	Introduction to Serbian and Croatian Literature	
SLAVIC/ LITTRANS 357	Intermediate Special Topics in Slavic Languages and Literatures	
SLAVIC 405	Women in Russian Literature	
SLAVIC 420	Chekhov	
SLAVIC 421	Gogol	
SLAVIC 422	Dostoevsky	
SLAVIC 424	Tolstoy	

SLAVIC 433	History of Russian Culture
SLAVIC 434	Contemporary Russian Culture
SLAVIC 449	History of Serbo-Croatian Literature
SLAVIC 465	Advanced Readings in Russian Literature & Culture
SLAVIC/ LITTRANS 467	Advanced Special Topics in Slavic Languages and Literatures
SLAVIC 470	History of Polish Literature until 1863
SLAVIC 472	History of Polish Literature after 1863
SLAVIC 560	Capstone Seminar in Russian Literature and Culture
SLAVIC 699	Directed Study

Theatre & Drama

Code	Title	Credits
THEATRE/ LITTRANS 423	In Translation: Slavic Drama in Context	

RESIDENCE AND QUALITY OF WORK

- Minimum 2.500 GPA on all certificate courses
- At least 11 certificate credits must be completed in residence

FOOTNOTES

¹ A course that is listed in more than one group will only apply to one group. A course that is more than minimally required in one group may apply to a different group.

CERTIFICATE COMPLETION REQUIREMENT

This undergraduate certificate must be completed concurrently with the student’s undergraduate degree. Students cannot delay degree completion to complete the certificate.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

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1. (Regional Understanding) Demonstrate an understanding of the cultural, political, economic, social, and historical factors that have shaped the development of societies in Eurasia, Russia, and East and Central Europe.
2. (Multi-disciplinarity) Analyze the historical, political, economic, social, and cultural realities in the region from at least two disciplinary perspectives, including both humanities and social sciences approaches.

ADVISING AND CAREERS

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Advising for the certificate is administered by the Institute for Regional and International Studies (IRIS). The IRIS Assistant Director for Students

and Curriculum can assist you in developing your plan of study for the certificate, track progress toward your certificate, explore study abroad and international internship options, and begin the career-exploration process. We offer walk-in advising, advising workshops, and scheduled appointments. We strongly encourage students to begin career exploration early on and to make use of the many resources available on campus. creeca.wisc.edu/academics/undergraduates/ (<https://creeca.wisc.edu/academics/undergraduates/>)

- Language and International Directions Advising (<https://languages.wisc.edu/make-an-appointment/>) (Language Institute)
- International Internship Program (<http://internships.international.wisc.edu/>)

SUCCESSWORKS

SuccessWorks (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/>) at the College of Letters & Science helps you turn the academic skills learned in your classes into a fulfilling life, guiding you every step of the way to securing jobs, internships, or admission to graduate school.

Through one-on-one career advising, events, and resources, you can explore career options, build valuable internship and research experience, and connect with supportive alumni and employers who open doors of opportunity.

- What you can do with your major (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/what-you-can-do-with-your-major/>) (Major Skills & Outcomes Sheets)
- Make a career advising appointment (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/make-an-appointment/>)
- Learn about internships and internship funding (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/finding-a-job-or-internship/>)
- Try "Jobs, Internships, & How to Get Them," (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/canvas/>) an interactive guide in Canvas for enrolled UW-Madison students

WISCONSIN EXPERIENCE

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As a regional center within the Institute for Regional and International Studies, we support and enhance international and global awareness in our student communities and inspire informed thinking about the complexities of our world. We encourage our students to connect to international networks and our regional communities through our program's lecture series, film screenings, and varied outreach events and activities. We encourage our students to study abroad, do international internships, learn foreign languages, and expect them to gain an interdisciplinary grounding in global and regional affairs. We provide resources and expertise on our world area to students, and prospective students, and more broadly to K-12 teachers and students, postsecondary educators and graduate students, businesses, the media, the military, the community at large, and anyone else who is interested.

RESOURCES AND SCHOLARSHIPS

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Information about resources, scholarships, and other funding (<https://creeca.wisc.edu/funding/>) through the Center for Russia, East Europe, and Central Asia website. We also encourage our students to explore funding options available through the Institute for Regional and International Studies (IRIS) Awards Office (<https://iris.wisc.edu/funding/>).