GERMANIC AND SLAVIC LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

As a department of foreign languages, literatures and cultural studies, the Department of Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures prepares students for life and careers in an increasingly global world. Our programs in German, Russian and Nordic Studies enable students to combine their language training with interdisciplinary study of the regions where their language is spoken. The cultural legacies of the Germanic and Slavic countries continue to shape fields such as literature, art, music, film, philosophy and political science.

Course codes for these programs are GRMN, GSLL and RUSS.

Master's Degrees

- German Studies · Master of Arts (MA) (catalog.colorado.edu/graduate/colleges-schools/arts-sciences/programs-study/germanic-slavic-languages-literatures/german-studies-master-arts-ma)
- Russian Studies · Master of Arts (MA) (catalog.colorado.edu/graduate/colleges-schools/arts-sciences/programs-study/germanic-slavic-languages-literatures/russian-studies-master-arts-ma)

Doctoral Degree

- German Studies · Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) (catalog.colorado.edu/graduate/colleges-schools/arts-sciences/programs-study/germanic-slavic-languages-literatures/german-studies-doctor-philosophy-phd)

Certificate

- Critical Theory · Graduate Certificate (catalog.colorado.edu/graduate/colleges-schools/arts-sciences/programs-study/germanic-slavic-languages-literatures/critical-theory-graduate-certificate)

Faculty

While many faculty teach both undergraduate and graduate students, some instruct students at the undergraduate level only. For more information, contact the faculty member's home department.

Crawford, Jackson (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_159391)  
Instructor; PhD, University of Wisconsin–Madison

Firestone, Robert  
Professor Emeritus

Gerwig, Inger-Johanne  
Professor Emerita

Greaney, Patrick F. (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_122807)  
Chair, Professor; PhD, Johns Hopkins University

Grove, Vicki Jean (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_103689)  
Senior Instructor; PhD, University of Colorado Boulder

Hintz, Saskia Barbara (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_144506)  
Senior Instructor; PhD, New York University

Hoecker, Arne (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_152973)  
Associate Chair, Assistant Professor; PhD, Johns Hopkins University

Jany, Berit (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_154411)  
Senior Instructor; PhD, The Ohio State University

Kostoglodova, Elena Yurievna (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_100976)  
Senior Instructor; PhD, University of Colorado Boulder

Lee, C. Nicholas  
Professor Emeritus

Leiderman, Mark N. (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_115326)  
Professor, Chair; Dr habil, Ural State University (Russia)

Mikhailova, Tatiana Alekseevna (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_135187)  
Senior Instructor; MA, Ural State University (Russia)

Muller-Sievers, Helmut Heinz (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_147511)  
Professor; PhD, Stanford University

Osterman, Laura Olson (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_109800)  
Associate Professor, Associate Chair; PhD, Yale University

Plank, D. L.  
Professor Emeritus

Porter, Jillian Elizabeth (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_159413)  
Assistant Professor; PhD, University of California, Berkeley

Roberts, Thomas L.  
Visiting Assistant Professor

Romanov, Artemi (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_100659)  
Professor; PhD, St. Petersurg University (Russia)

Salys, Rimgaila  
Professor Emerita

Schindler, Patricia A.  
Instructor Emerita

Schmiesing, Ann C. (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_106248)  
Professor; PhD, University of Cambridge (England)

Stimilli, David (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_134650)  
Associate Professor; PhD, Yale University

Stone, Lauren Shizuko (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_154888)  
Assistant Professor; PhD, New York University

Weber, Beverly Marie (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_144523)  
Associate Professor, Associate Chair; PhD, University of Massachusetts at Amherst
Courses

GSLL 5900 (1-6) Independent Study
Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 6.00 total credit hours. Allows multiple enrollment in term.
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Germanic and Slavic Courses

RUSS 5010 (4) Advanced Russian Seminar
Review of all aspects of Russian grammar, with a focus on difficulties, vocabulary for communication at an advanced level and contextual usage. Includes intensive writing and editing of compositions on a variety of topics, reading of authentic Russian texts, interactive work with Russian media and fluent conversation in Russian that moves beyond functional proficiency.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: RUSS 4010
Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 8.00 total credit hours.
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Russian

RUSS 5020 (4) Advanced Russian Seminar 2
Review of all aspects of Russian grammar, with a focus on difficulties, vocabulary for communication at an advanced level and contextual usage. Includes intensive writing and editing of compositions on a variety of topics, reading of authentic Russian texts, interactive work with Russian media and fluent conversation in Russian that moves beyond functional proficiency.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: RUSS 4020
Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 8.00 total credit hours.
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Russian

RUSS 5050 (4) Professional Russian
Introduces graduate and advanced undergraduate students to various stylistic registers of Russian (business, politics, the Internet, TV, etc.). Develops new vocabulary and idiomatics, with a special focus on fluency of speech and written communication skills. Along with language training, the course offers an immersion into the world of contemporary Russian media, politics and culture.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: RUSS 4050
Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 8.00 total credit hours.
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Russian

RUSS 5110 (3) Slavic Culture and Society
Examines important ideologies and myths in Slavic societies, with emphasis on contemporary movements and their reinterpretation of history. Acquaints students with major tools for study of cultures of Eastern Europe and the post-Soviet states: research methods, bibliography, transiliteration, critical thinking and writing skills. Required for Russian MA.
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Russian Courses Taught in English

RUSS 5120 (3) Russia after Communism: Post-Soviet Politics and Culture
Explores the process of the re-invention and re-shaping of the Russian national identity after the collapse of the communist society. Topics will include the formation of neoconservative and neo-imperialist agenda (Ukraine crisis), growth of the anti-western attitudes and the protest movement against Putin’s politics. Taught in English.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: RUSS 4120
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Russian Courses Taught in English

RUSS 5210 (3) Topics in Russian Culture
Selected topics in Russian literature, film, art and music. Taught in English.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: RUSS 4210
Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 9.00 total credit hours.
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Russian Courses Taught in English

RUSS 5220 (3) Open Topics: Russian Culture in Russian
Selected topics in Russian culture and society. Taught all or partly in Russian.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: RUSS 4220
Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 6.00 total credit hours.

RUSS 5221 (3) Stalinism: Culture and Society
Examines Soviet society and culture of Stalin period (1929-1953). The Great Terror, communist ideology, shady, commercial practice, political intrigues and show trials, as well as many other aspects of Stalinism will be discussed. Course materials include historical studies, documents, memoirs, diaries, novels and films of or about the period. Taught in English.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: RUSS 4221

RUSS 5230 (3) Russian Cultural Idioms
Focuses on the critical analysis of the Russian cultural discourse through Russian idioms. Taught in Russian. Formerly GSLL 5230.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: RUSS 4230
Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 6.00 total credit hours.
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Russian

RUSS 5301 (3) American-Russian Cultural Relations
Surveys the development of American-Russian cultural relations from the second half of the 18th century to the present. Examines the character and significance of Russian-American relations in social, intellectual, artistic, and other spheres from a comparative perspective. Taught in English.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: RUSS 4301
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Russian Courses Taught in English

RUSS 5352 (3) Russian Novel: Theory and Practice
Examines the Russian novel and its evolution as well as Western and Russian theories of the novel as they engage and reflect upon the claims of modernity. Taught in English. Formerly GSLL 5352.
Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 6.00 total credit hours. Allows multiple enrollment in term.
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Russian Courses Taught in English

RUSS 5401 (3) The Russian Jewish Experience
Examines the experience of Russian Jews from the late 19th century to the present through fiction and films dealing with challenges of co-existence of Jews and their neighbors; Bolshevik Revolution, Stalinism, Holocaust, post-Stalin period; place of Jews as individuals and a minority within Russian and Soviet society; and emigration to America and elsewhere at the turn of the century. Taught in English.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: RUSS 4401 and JWST 4401
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Russian Courses Taught in English
RUSS 5431 (3) Dostoevsky
Focuses on close reading of major novels and other works by Dostoevsky, one of the most important psychological novelists in modern literature, a profound religious thinker and the greatest crime novelist in the world. Taught in English. Formerly GSLL 5431.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: RUSS 4431

RUSS 5441 (3) Tolstoy
Examines the development of Tolstoy's thought and literary style through study of one of his novels and short works from different periods of Tolstoy's writing. Taught in English. Formerly 5441.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: RUSS 4441
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Russian Courses Taught in English

RUSS 5451 (3) Chekhov
Analyzes the life and creative works of the author of some of the funniest and some of the gloomiest stories in Russian literature. Examines Chekhov's major plays that laid the foundation for modernist theatre. Taught in English. Formerly 5451.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: RUSS 4451

RUSS 5471 (3) Women in 20th-21st Century Russian Culture
Examines issues facing women in 20th-21st century Russia, based on study of current events, history, literature, posters and film. Studies images of women as Amazons and rebels, salon hostesses and poets, New Soviet Women and women in combat, prostitutes and mothers. Taught in English. Formerly 5471.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: RUSS 4471 and WGST 4471
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Russian Courses Taught in English

RUSS 5481 (3) Rogues to Revolutionaries: Russian Rebels, Past and Present
Explores the tradition of dissent and opposition in Russian culture, from the medieval period to present, approaching forms of rebellion (religious, political, social, aesthetic) in historical context. This survey in intellectual history will trace this phenomenon across historical documents, literary texts, film, and the fine and performing arts, pairing these primary materials with readings in Russian history. Taught in English. Formerly GSLL 5481.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: RUSS 4481 and IAFS 3621
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.
Grading Basis: Letter Grade
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Russian Courses Taught in English

RUSS 5821 (3) 20th Century Russian Literature and Art
Interdisciplinary course emphasizing the influence of literature and art in 20th century Russian literature. Follows the changing cultural landscape from the time when Russia was in the vanguard of modern European literature to the period of Stalinism. Taught in English.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: HUMN 4821

RUSS 5830 (3) Topics in Literature and History
Taught in English. Formerly GSLL 5830.
Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 6.00 total credit hours. Allows multiple enrollment in term.
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Russian Courses Taught in English

RUSS 5831 (3) Contemporary Russian Literature
Acquaints students with the most representative works of Russian writers after the collapse of the Soviet regime. Examines the relationships between ideological concepts and aesthetics, and the treatment of moral and social issues in recent literary works. All readings are provided in translation. Taught in English.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: RUSS 4831
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Russian Courses Taught in English

RUSS 5841 (3) History of Modern Russian Drama
Examines Russian plays of the 20th and 21st centuries (from Chekhov to contemporary authors) in the context of the Western theatre theory. Surveys most influential directorial styles from Stanislavsky's "method" to contemporary verbatim theatre. All readings are in English. Taught in English. Formerly GSLL 5841.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: RUSS 4841
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Russian Courses Taught in English

RUSS 5850 (4) Russian Film and Society (taught in Russian)
Examines topics in Russian film and TV series from socio-historical and cultural perspectives, while simultaneously developing students' auditing, comprehension, and speaking skills in Russian language. Critical thinking and analytical approaches will be key to working through the course's material. Screenings, discussions, and written assignments are in Russian. Taught in Russian.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: RUSS 4850
Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 8.00 total credit hours.
Recommended: Prerequisites RUSS 2020 or equivalent.
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Russian

RUSS 5851 (3) Critical Thinking: Russian Film and Society (taught in English)
Through structured discussions, selected readings and written assignments, examines topics in Russian film from socio-historical and cultural studies perspectives. Taught in English. Formerly GSLL 5851.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: RUSS 4851
Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 6.00 total credit hours.
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Russian Courses Taught in English

RUSS 5861 (3) Absurd and Supernatural in Russian Literature
Studies themes of grotesque, bizarre, surreal, absurd, supernatural and fantastic in Russian short stories and novels of the 19th and 20th centuries. Discusses works by Pushkin, Gogol, Dostoevsky, Kharm, Bulgakov, Siniavskii, Petrushevskaia and Pelevin, within contexts of Russian folklore, Freud and Jung's interpretations of jokes and dreams and Romanticism. Taught in English. Formerly GSLL 5861.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: RUSS 4861
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Russian Courses Taught in English
RUSS 5900 (1-6) Independent Study
See department for registration information. Department enforced requisite: graduate standing. Department Consent Required.
Repeatability: Repeatable for up to 6.00 total credit hours. Allows multiple enrollment in term.
Grading Basis: Letter Grade
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Russian

RUSS 6940 (1-3) Master's Degree Candidate
Repeatability: Repeatable for up to 3.00 total credit hours.
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Russian

RUSS 6950 (1-6) Master's Thesis
Repeatability: Repeatable for up to 6.00 total credit hours.
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.
Additional Information: Departmental Category: Russian