Slavic Studies

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Program Codes:
20FS1684MA (MA)
20FS1684PhD (PhD)

The Department of Slavic and Baltic Languages and Literatures offers work leading to the MA and PhD in Slavic Studies with concentrations in Polish Literature and Culture and Russian Literature and Culture. The Interdepartmental Concentration in Gender and Women’s Studies, the Interdepartmental Graduate Concentration in Central and Eastern European Studies, and the Interdepartmental Graduate Concentration in Violence Studies are available to students in both programs.

Admission and Degree Requirements

- MA in Slavic Studies (http://catalog.uic.edu/gcat/colleges-schools/liberal-arts-sciences/slav/ma)
- PhD in Slavic Studies (http://catalog.uic.edu/gcat/colleges-schools/liberal-arts-sciences/slav/phd)

Polish Courses

POL 401. Polish Composition and Conversation III. 3 or 4 hours.
Development of oral and writing skills: expanding vocabulary and perfecting style. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite(s): POL 302.

POL 402. Polish Composition and Conversation IV. 3 or 4 hours.
Continues POL 401. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite(s): POL 401 or the equivalent.

POL 420. Polish Contemporary Theater and Drama. 3 or 4 hours.
A survey covering the 20th century innovative phenomena in Polish theater in a comparative context. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Taught in English. Prerequisite(s): Junior standing or above; or consent of the instructor.

POL 440. Studies in Polish Poetry. 3 or 4 hours.
A detailed study of Polish poetry in the past or present in a historical context. A study of major Polish poets and their work. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours; 4 graduate hours. Taught in English. Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor.

POL 460. Studies in Polish Literature. 3 or 4 hours.
Major literary Polish writers recognized in the world, translated extensively into English; their poetics, worldviews as compared with foreign writers; historical and philosophical background. Topics may vary. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. May be repeated to a maximum of 9 hours for undergraduates, or 12 hours for graduate students, if topics vary. Only 6 hours may be applied toward the undergraduate major in Polish. Taught in English. Polish majors will be required to complete some assignments in Polish. Prerequisite(s): SLAV 224; or consent of the instructor.

POL 499. Independent Study. 1-4 hours.
Investigation of special problems under the general direction of a staff member. Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 8 hours. Graduate students may register for more than one section per term. Prerequisite(s): Senior or graduate standing, consent of the instructor and consent of the head of the department. Class Schedule Information: This course counts toward the limited number of independent study hours accepted toward the undergraduate degree and the major.

POL 525. Polish Visual and Popular Culture. 4 hours.
Advanced analysis of Polish film, art, comic books, or other visual phenomena in Polish culture. Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 8 hours. Taught in English. Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor.

POL 535. Polish Modernism and Avant-Gardes. 4 hours.
A survey of the most innovative trends in Polish literature in the 20th century, against the European background, with a strong comparative component. Topics may vary. Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 8 hours of credit, if topics vary, and with consent of the instructor. Taught in English.

POL 540. Polish Literature in Political Context. 4 hours.
Introduction to Polish literature in various social and ideological contexts; topics include Communism, censorship, gender, journalism, etc. Topics may vary. Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 8 hours of credit, if topics vary, and with consent of the instructor. Taught in English.

POL 544. Workshops in Translation. 4 hours.
Intensive work on translation of literary and non-literary texts from Polish to English combined with elements of theory. Topics may vary. Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 8 hours of credit, if topics vary, and with consent of the instructor. Taught in English.

POL 555. Polish Modernism and Avant-Gardes. 4 hours.
A detailed interpretation of various literary works prior to the 20th century. Topics may vary. Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 8 hours, if topics vary, and with consent of the instructor. Taught in English.

POL 570. Literary Theory and the Polish Canon. 4 hours.
A detailed analysis of main currents in contemporary Polish criticism and theory. Topics may vary. Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 8 hours, if topics vary, and with consent of the instructor. Taught in Polish.

POL 596. Independent Study. 1-4 hours.
Investigation of special problems under the general direction of a staff member. Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 8 hours. Students may register in more than one section per term. Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor and consent of the head of the department.
Russian Courses

RUSS 410. Structure of Modern Russian. 3 or 4 hours.
Introduction to Russian morphology and phonology. Examination of the Russian language as a system with particular attention to verb conjugation and noun declension, with the goal of improving students' practical language skills. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Prerequisite(s): RUSS 201; and credit or concurrent registration in RUSS 202; or consent of the instructor.

RUSS 411. Reading Russian Literature in the Original I. 3 or 4 hours.
Reading some of the highlights of 19th-century Russian short prose and poetry in the original. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Taught in Russian, all readings in Russian. Prerequisite(s): RUSS 202; or consent of the instructor.

RUSS 412. Reading Russian Literature in the Original II. 3 or 4 hours.
Continuation of RUSS 411. Reading some of the highlights of 20th- and 21st-century Russian short prose and poetry in the original. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours; 4 graduate hours. Taught in Russian, all readings in Russian. Prerequisite(s): RUSS 411; or consent of the instructor.

RUSS 440. Topics in Russian Culture and Cultural Studies. 3 or 4 hours.
Exploration of various topics in Russian culture through an interdisciplinary prism, addressing intersections between visual and verbal arts as well as high and popular culture. Content varies. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. May be repeated to a maximum of 6 hours for undergraduate students or 8 hours for graduate students, if topics vary, and with consent of the instructor. Taught in English. All texts are available in English. Students pursuing a major or minor in Russian, or an MA or PhD in Slavic Studies, will be required to read primary texts in the target language. Prerequisite(s): Junior standing or above; or consent of the instructor.

RUSS 460. Studies in Russian Literature. 3 or 4 hours.
Study of a major author, movement, genre, or special topic. Content varies. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. May be repeated up to 2 time(s). Prerequisite(s): 24 hours of Russian or consent of the instructor.

RUSS 499. Independent Study. 1-4 hours.
Investigation of special problems under the general direction of a staff member. Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 8 hours. Graduate students may register for more than one section per term. Prerequisite(s): Senior or graduate standing, consent of the instructor and the head of the department. Class Schedule Information: This course counts toward the limited number of independent study hours accepted toward the degree and the major.

RUSS 525. Studies in the Russian Novel. 4 hours.
Extensive reading and independent critical analysis of the nineteenth-century classic Russian novels. Authors may include, but are not limited to, Pushkin, Lermontov, Tolstoy, Dostoevsky, Turgeney, and Gogol. Topics may vary. Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 8 hours, if topics vary and with consent of instructor. Taught in English. Recommended background: RUSS 411 and RUSS 412.

RUSS 530. Studies in Russian Poetry. 4 hours.
The development of Russian poetry from the 18th century to the present. Contemporary theories on poetry. Topics may vary. Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 8 hours, if topics vary and with consent of instructor. Taught in English. Recommended background: RUSS 411 and RUSS 412.

RUSS 535. Experimental Prose and Metafiction. 4 hours.
In-depth exploration of six metatextual novels dealing with defining aesthetics and rethinking the place of the writer vis-a-vis his age, his reader, and his self. Topics may vary. May be repeated to a maximum of 8 hours, if topics vary and with consent of instructor. Taught in English. Recommended background: RUSS 411 and RUSS 412.

RUSS 540. Imitation and Originality in Russian Literature. 4 hours.
Practices of imitation and parody in Russian literature, the role of those practices in Russian literary history, and their relationship to literary evolution and ideological change. Topics may vary. Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 8 hours, if topics vary and with consent of instructor. Taught in Russian. Recommended background: RUSS 411 and RUSS 412.

RUSS 550. Russian Modernism and the Avant-Garde. 4 hours.
In-depth exploration of various theories of the avant-garde and of avant-garde practices in literature, film, architecture, visual and performing arts. Topics may vary. Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 8 hours, if topics vary, and with consent of the instructor. Taught in English.

RUSS 575. Workshops in Translation. 4 hours.
Focuses on the translation of literary and non-literary texts. Various theoretical approaches to translation and trace the evolution of notions of conveying from one language to another. Topics may vary. Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 8 hours, if topics vary, and with consent of the instructor. Taught in English. Recommended Background: RUSS 411 and RUSS 412.

RUSS 596. Independent Study. 1-4 hours.
Investigation of special problems under the general direction of a staff member. Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 8 hours. Students may register in more than one section per term. Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor and the head of the department.

Slavic Baltic Languages Lit Courses

SLAV 460. Topics in Central and Eastern European Literature and Culture. 3 or 4 hours.
Study of a time period, movement, genre, or special topic. Course Information: 3 undergraduate hours. 4 graduate hours. Same as CEES 460. May be repeated up to 2 time(s), with consent of the instructor, and if topics vary. Prerequisite(s): Junior standing or above; or consent of the instructor.

SLAV 470. Educational Practice with Seminar I. 6 hours.
The first half of a two-segment sequence of practice teaching, including seminar, to meet certification requirements for teaching in grades six through twelve. Course Information: Graduate credit only with approval of the department. Prerequisite(s): Good academic standing in a teacher education program, completion of 100 clock hours of pre-student-teaching field experiences, and approval of the department. Class Schedule Information: To be properly registered, students must enroll in one Lecture-Discussion and one Practice.

SLAV 471. Educational Practice with Seminar II. 6 hours.
The second half of a two-segment sequence of practice teaching, including seminar, to meet certification requirements for teaching in grades six through twelve. Course Information: Graduate credit only with approval of the department. Prerequisite(s): Good academic standing in a teacher education program, completion of 100 clock hours of pre-student-teaching field experiences, credit or concurrent registration in SLAV 470, and approval of the department. Class Schedule Information: To be properly registered, students must enroll in one Conference and one Practice.
SLAV 499. Independent Study. 1-4 hours.
Investigation of special problems under the general direction of a staff member. Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 8 hours. Graduate students may register for more than one section per term. Prerequisite(s): Senior or graduate standing, consent of the instructor and the head of the department. Class Schedule Information: This course counts toward the limited number of independent study hours accepted toward the degree and the major.

SLAV 515. Topics in Contemporary Serbian Linguistics. 4 hours.
Variable content. Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 12 hours. Prerequisite(s): SLAV 410.

SLAV 535. Topics in Comparative Slavic Linguistics. 4 hours.
Comparative study of various linguistic aspects of the Slavic languages. Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 12 hours.

SLAV 536. Topics in Comparative Slavic Literatures. 4 hours.
Comparative study of a literary topic or movement. Content varies. Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 12 hours.

SLAV 542. Studies in Serbian Poetry. 4 hours.
Specific topics are announced each semester. Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 12 hours.

SLAV 545. Studies in Serbian Prose I. 4 hours.
Specific topics of the Serbian short story and novel are announced each term. Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 12 hours.

SLAV 550. Studies in Yugoslav Literary Historiography and Criticism. 4 hours.
Major concepts and movements in the South Slavic literary history. Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 12 hours.

SLAV 560. Studies in Ukrainian Renaissance and Baroque Literature. 4 hours.
Ukrainian prose, poetry and drama of the sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth centuries.

Study of a period or movement in the nineteenth and early twentieth-century Ukrainian poetry. Content varies. Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 12 hours.

SLAV 565. Studies in Nineteenth Century Ukrainian Prose. 4 hours.
Study of a genre, topic, period, movement or author. Content varies. Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 12 hours.

SLAV 575. Studies in Slavic Literary Theory. 4 hours.
Russian, Czech, Polish and Serbian contributions to literary theory: Formalism, structuralism, semiotics, phenomenology. Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 12 hours. Taught in English.

SLAV 576. Methods and Principles of Translation. 4 hours.
Introduction to theory and methods of literary translation. Extensive practice translating expository prose, literary prose, and poetry from Slavic languages into English. Course Information: Taught in English.

SLAV 596. Independent Study. 1-4 hours.
Investigation of special problems under the general direction of a faculty member. Course Information: May be repeated up to 8 time(s). Students may register in more than one section per term. Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor and the head of the department.

The writing of a Ph.D. thesis based on original research in the area of the candidate's major specialization (literature or culture). Course Information: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. May be repeated. Students may register in more than one section per term. Students may apply a maximum of 26 credit hours toward the degree. Prerequisite(s): Admission to candidacy for the doctoral degree and consent of the Director of Graduate Studies.