RUS 1: Elementary Russian I
4 Credits
Audio-lingual approach to basic Russian; writing. Students who have received high school credit for two or more years of Russian may not schedule this course for credit, without the permission of the department.
Bachelor of Arts: 2nd Foreign/World Language (All)

RUS 2: Elementary Russian II
4 Credits
Audio-lingual approach to basic Russian continued; writing. Students who have received high school credit for four years of Russian may not schedule this course for credit, without the permission of the department.
Prerequisite: RUS 001
Bachelor of Arts: 2nd Foreign/World Language (All)

RUS 3: Intermediate Russian
4 Credits
Emphasis on reading unsimplified texts; composition; grammatical analysis.
Prerequisite: RUS 002
Bachelor of Arts: 2nd Foreign/World Language (All)
Bachelor of Arts: Foreign/World Lang (12th Unit)

RUS 51: Elementary Intensive Russian for Graduate Students I
3 Credits
Intensive introduction to Russian: first half of graduate intensive sequence in elementary reading, writing, speaking, listening, cultural contexts. RUS 051 Elementary Intensive Russian for Graduate Students I (3)This is the first in a series of three courses designed to give students an intensive introduction to Russian. This is the first half of elementary sequence in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and cultural contexts. Students will learn the Russian vocabulary and will learn to create simple sentences. Lessons are taught in an authentic cultural context. 
Prerequisite: graduate standing

RUS 52: Elementary Intensive Russian for Graduate Students II
3 Credits
Intensive introduction to Russian: second half of graduate intensive sequence in elementary reading, writing, speaking, listening, cultural contexts. RUS 052 Elementary Intensive Russian for Graduate Students II (3)This is the second in a series of three courses designed to give students an intensive introduction to Russian. This is the second half of graduate intensive sequence in elementary reading, writing, speaking, listening, and cultural contexts. Students will learn the Russian vocabulary. Lessons are taught in an authentic cultural context. 
Prerequisite: RUS 051 and graduate standing 

RUS 53: Intermediate Intensive Russian for Graduate Students
3 Credits
Continued intensive study of Russian at the intermediate level: reading, writing, speaking, listening, cultural contexts. RUS 053 Intermediate Intensive Russian for Graduate Students (3)This is the third in a series of three courses designed to give students an intermediate intensive knowledge of Russian. Continued intensive study of Russian at the intermediate level: reading, writing, speaking, listening, and cultural contexts. Lessons are taught in an authentic cultural context.
Prerequisite: RUS 052 or equivalent, and graduate standing

RUS 83: First-Year Seminar in Russian
3 Credits
Russia's cultural past and present. RUS 083S First-Year Seminar in Russian (3) (GH;FYS;US;IL)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements.Russia, the world's largest country stretching over eleven time zones in Europe and Asia, is currently undergoing a dramatic transformation. For the past hundred years, Russia has served as a laboratory of gigantic dimensions as various social ideals were implemented with unprecedented radicalism. At the same time, Russia's great writers raised "ultimate questions"; about social justice, the existence of God, and the meaning of human life with unparalled acuity and intensity. This course surveys Russia's cultural past and present. Although it touches on aspects of Soviet culture, the main emphasis lies on what some people would call the "real Russian culture," eclipsed for seventy years under the Communist regime and now about to be resurrected. At this crucial juncture in the history of Russia, the notion of a "real" culture remains highly problematic and controversial. The course surveys the various attitudes of Russian thinkers and authors toward the question of national identity and national destiny. Examples of Russian high culture (philosophy, literature, art, music) and the Russian religious faith (Orthodoxy) are discussed alongside with daily life in post-communist Russia. Special emphasis will be placed on the in-depth study of a few seminal works of Russian literature. The course also includes some Russian films. A knowledge of Russian is not required. Each section of this course will be limited to twenty students who will be instructed by an experienced professor. Questions and discussion are strongly encouraged. This course can be used to fulfill the General Education or Bachelor of Arts Humanities requirement, the Bachelor of Arts International Cultures&nsp;requirement, and the first-year seminar requirement.
A series of short papers will train students in the skills of information gathering and written expression. The course grade will be based on oral participation and on the grade for the papers, which will be evaluated both for content and writing. This course will help to prepare students for a variety of additional courses in the fields of literature and Russian/East European area studies. In addition to the academic topic and issues of this course, students can expect to gain a general introduction to the University as an academic community and have the opportunity to explore their responsibilities as members of that community. Students will develop an understanding of the learning tools and resources available to them, including the opportunity to develop relationships with faculty and other students who share their academic interests. 
Bachelor of Arts: Humanities
International Cultures (IL)
United States Cultures (US)
First-Year Seminar
Russian Culture and Civilization

3 Credits

The Russian people from the tenth century to present times; their literature, arts, music, science, and philosophy. In English. RUS 100 Russian Culture and Civilization (3) (GH;IL)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. This course surveys Russia's cultural past and present. Although it touches on aspects of Soviet culture, the main emphasis lies on what some people would call the "real Russian culture," and for seventy years under the Stalinist regime and now about to be resurrected. At this crucial juncture in the history of Russia, the notion of a "real" culture remains highly problematic and controversial. The course surveys the various attitudes of Russian thinkers and authors towards the question of national identity and national destiny. Examples of Russian high culture (philosophy, literature, art, music) and the Russian religious faith (Orthodoxy) are discussed alongside with daily life in post-communist Russia. The course also includes some Russian films. A knowledge of Russian is not required. The course format consists of lectures, slide, video and audio presentations. Questions and discussion are strongly encouraged. At the end of the course, students will be familiar with the problems that Russia faces at the present time, they will have a summary knowledge of Russian history and geography, and will be acquainted with representative achievements of Russian high culture. Students are evaluated on the basis of four multiple choice exams, of which the lowest grade will be dropped (60% of course grade), and a research paper graded for both content and language (40% of course grade). Extra credit can be earned through class presentations, offering an opportunity for practice in public speaking, and by writing reaction papers about lectures offered by the Penn State Center for Russian and East European Studies, or appropriate extracurricular events (e.g., concerts of Russian music, exhibits of Russian art, etc.). As a General Education course, RUS 100 incorporates the following four elements of active learning: international competence (which is inherent in the subject matter), information gathering and analysis, active use of writing, and dialogue pertaining to social behavior, community, and scholarly conduct, which will be provoked by the reading material. Russian literature and culture is famous for raising the "big questions." Vast in scope, unabashedly ambitious, twentieth-century Russian literature aspired to nothing less than to teach its readers how to live. The failed communist experiment in the twentieth century raises poignant questions about the desirability and pitfalls of utopian social engineering. Students have to write a 10-page research paper on a topic previously agreed upon with the instructor. For this paper, they have to explore both eletronic and print resources. The paper is graded for content, structure, and language. As an option for extra credit, students can volunteer a class presentation on their research topic. Recent presentations included, for example, a lecture on Russian rock music with sound samples and pictures downloaded from the internet, and a presentation on Russian composers of the futurist avant-garde.
no consensus about how to classify these systems, whether the term "totalitarian" is appropriate to describe them, and whether Stalinist Russia and Nazi Germany are essentially similar or essentially different historical phenomena. Espousing a comparative perspective, this course will explore the culture produced by both Stalinist Russia and Nazi Germany. The main focus will be on works of literature, but it will also take into account the visual arts, architecture, music, film, and popular culture. The classics of Stalinist socialist realism and Nazi propaganda, such as Nikolai Ostrovskii's How the Steel Was Tempered or Leni Riefenstahl's Triumph of the Will will be analyzed both as political statements and works of art. The course will also include a reading of authors who attempted to create artistic representations of life in Stalinist and Nazi societies, such as Yevgeny Zamyatin, Alexander Solzhenitsyn, Bertolt Brecht, or George Orwell. The course will be taught by faculty of the Department of Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures. Additional faculty from the Departments of Spanish and Italian and Comparative Literature (Japanese) may be invited to lecture about the totalitarian culture in their respective societies, and members from the Department of History may be invited to lecture about the historical context of Stalinism and Nazism. A knowledge of Russian or German is not required, as class lectures and discussions, as well as all reading assignments, will be in English. At the end of the course, students will have a summary knowledge of the cultural history of Stalinist Russia and Nazi Germany and of the aesthetic and philosophical issues raised by these cultures. Requirements for the course will include a research paper. The course grade will be based on the average score on the mid-term and final exam (using definitions and essay questions) and the grade for the paper, which will be evaluated both for content and style. This course will fulfill the General Education and International/Intercultural requirements. It complements courses on the politics and history of totalitarian regimes offered by the departments of Political Science and History, and it will provide a background for students wishing to study Holocaust literature or Soviet Literature. The course will be taught every two years.

Cross-listed with: GER 143
Bachelor of Arts: Humanities
International Cultures (IL)
General Education: Humanities (GH)

RUS 196: Independent Studies
1-18 Credits/Maximum of 18

Creative projects, including research and design, that are supervised on an individual basis and that fall outside the scope of formal courses.

Bachelor of Arts: Humanities

RUS 197: Special Topics
1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9

Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject which may be topical or of special interest.

Bachelor of Arts: Humanities
RUS 199: Foreign Studies
1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12

Courses offered in foreign countries by individual or group instruction.

Bachelor of Arts: Humanities

International Cultures (IL)

RUS 200: Intermediate Russian II
4 Credits

A continuation of intermediate Russian with a comprehensive grammar review and focus on reading, writing and speaking Russian.

Prerequisite: RUS 003 or permission of program
International Cultures (IL)

RUS 204: Intermediate Russian II
4 Credits

Intensive practice of Russian reading, writing, listening and speaking; review of Russian grammar. RUS 204 Intermediate Russian II (4) (IL)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. This course will provide intensive Russian language training at the intermediate level, stressing the four skills of reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Together with its companion course, Russian 214, the course will provide a complete review of Russian grammar. It will include a discussion of the case system, verbal morphology, and aspect in conjunction with conversation practice and writing assignments. Russian 204 will be a required course for Russian majors. It can be taken before or after Russian 214 (which will also be required). Grading will be based on regular written tests and a final exam which will include an oral component. Students will be encouraged to use the new language training equipment available at Sparks Building.

Prerequisite: RUS 003
Bachelor of Arts: 2nd Foreign/World Language (All)
Bachelor of Arts: Humanities
International Cultures (IL)

RUS 214: Intermediate Russian III
4 Credits

Intensive practice of Russian reading, writing, listening and speaking; review of Russian grammar. RUS 214 Intermediate Russian III (4) (IL) (BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. This course will provide intensive Russian language training at the intermediate level, stressing the four skills of reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Together with its companion course, Russian 204, the course will provide a complete review of Russian grammar. It will include a discussion of participles and verbal adverbs, verbs of motion, and problems of Russian syntax in conjunction with conversation practice and writing assignments. Russian 214 will be a required course for Russian majors. It can be taken before or after Russian 204 (which will also be required). Grading will be based on regular written tests and a final exam that will include an oral component. Students will be encouraged to use the new language training equipment available at Sparks Building.

Prerequisite: RUS 003
Bachelor of Arts: 2nd Foreign/World Language (All)
Bachelor of Arts: Humanities
International Cultures (IL)
RUS 296: Independent Studies
1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12
Creative projects, including research design, which are supervised on an individual basis and which fall outside the scope of formal courses.
Bachelor of Arts: Humanities

RUS 297: Special Topics
1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9
Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject which may be topical or of special interest.
Bachelor of Arts: Humanities

RUS 299: Foreign Studies
1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12
Courses offered in foreign countries by individual or group instruction.
Bachelor of Arts: Humanities
International Cultures (IL)

RUS 304: Readings in Russian III
3 Credits
Extensive reading of contemporary Russian texts, including articles from Soviet press and short fiction.
Prerequisite: 6 credits of Russian at the 200 level
Bachelor of Arts: 2nd Foreign/World Language (All)
Bachelor of Arts: Humanities
International Cultures (IL)

RUS 305: Advanced Russian Conversation
3 Credits
Discussion and role-playing based on real-life situations and current events; supervised by a native speaker. RUS 305 Advanced Russian Conversation (3) (IL) RUS 305 is the basic conversation course for the B.A. in Russian. It centers around discussion and role-playing on such topics as ordering plane tickets, traveling on Russian trains, Russian restaurants, cooking at home, traveling to and from work, summer jobs and career plans, sports and other forms of leisure, movies and television, and interviews with famous people. Some current events are also discussed, e.g., Russian attitudes towards the Romanovs, the AIDS crisis, the economic situation in Russia. Evaluation is based on individual and group oral presentations, regular quizzes, and short compositions. No special facilities are required, but students are encouraged to use the new language training equipment available in Sparks Building.
Prerequisite: RUS 204, RUS 214
Bachelor of Arts: 2nd Foreign/World Language (All)
International Cultures (IL)

RUS 395: Internship
1-18 Credits/Maximum of 18
Supervised off-campus, nongroup instruction including field experiences, practica, or internships. Written and oral critique of activity required.
Prerequisite: prior approval of proposed assignment by instructor
Bachelor of Arts: Humanities

RUS 399: Foreign Studies
1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12
Courses offered in foreign countries by individual or group instruction.
Bachelor of Arts: Humanities
International Cultures (IL)

RUS 400: Senior Seminar in Russian Culture
3 Credits
Senior seminar devoted to topics in Russian culture; conducted in Russian. RUS 400 Senior Seminar in Russian Culture (3) (IL) (BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. RUS 400 will be the senior seminar for Russian majors. Building on linguistic and cultural material covered in the second and third levels of study toward the Russian major, it will add depth and sophistication to the students’ understanding of basic concepts in Russian culture and improve their ability to discuss and write about these concepts in Russian. The materials for RUS 400 will be arranged chronologically and will cover the &quot;big themes&quot; of Russian culture: e.g., the legacy of Kievan Rus, the cultural/historical preconditions for the &quot;Third Rome&quot; theory, the rift between the people and the upper classes following Peter the Great, Westernizers versus Slavophiles, the Bolshevik Revolution, the Stalinist terror. Readings will be selected from a wide variety of genres and will reflect a diversity of linguistic styles: e.g., passages from the ancient chronicles, folk legends, memoirs and autobiography, letters, historical and literary texts. Some films will be used. Students will be evaluated on the basis of frequent quizzes and oral participation. In addition, each student will write a short research paper and present it in Russian to the class. These papers will help round out the presentation of central themes in Russian culture. Research papers might cover such topics as Andrey Rublev, religious sectarianism, peasant beliefs about nature, the biography of Lenin. RUS 400 will be a required course for both the B.A. and B.S. in Russian. Students must complete RUS 204, 214, and 304 prior to RUS 400.
Prerequisite: RUS 204, RUS 214, RUS 304
Bachelor of Arts: Humanities
International Cultures (IL)

RUS 401: Advanced Russian A
3 Credits
Advanced Russian grammar, conversation, and composition. RUS 401 Advanced Russian A (3) RUS 401 is an advanced Russian language course that covers topics in grammar in the context of the spoken and written language. It is taught in Russian and serves as a complement to RUS 402. Emphasis will be placed on verbal aspect, reflexive and passive verbs, un-prefixed verbs of motion, relative pronouns, and participles. Classes will include group and individual oral presentations, analyses of written texts, and assignments using the internet to access recent oral and written materials in Russian that treat current events and illustrate particular linguistic usage. Students will also view one feature film.
Prerequisite: RUS 200
RUS 402: Advanced Russian B

3 Credits

Advanced Russian grammar, conversation, and composition. RUS 402 is an advanced Russian language course that covers topics in grammar in the context of the spoken and written language. It is taught in Russian and functions as a complement to RUS 401. Emphasis will be placed on prefixed verbs of motion, use of the imperative, comparative and superlative forms, and complex and conditional sentences in Russian. Classes will include group and individual oral presentations, analyses of written texts, and assignments using the internet to access recent oral and written materials that treat current events and illustrate particular linguistic usage. Students will also watch one feature film during class time.

Prerequisite: RUS 200

RUS 403: Advanced Russian Conversation and Composition

3 Credits

A conversation and composition course that includes situational topics as well as complex academic discourse. RUS 403 Advanced Russian Conversation and Composition (3) (IL) The Russian 403 course is intended primarily to develop students’ oral and composition skills in Russian. The main focus of the course will be on speaking and understanding spoken Russian and writing on a variety of themes. The students will engage in different oral activities on a number of topics from the everyday life of an average Russian person to more complex discussions of current events, culture, history, the arts, and politics. The students will be expected to do a good deal of talking in Russian both with classmates and with the instructor in class, and prepare oral and written assignments at home. The written exercises will enhance the students’ ability to perform well on the class assignments. The course will include a practical review and practice of some of the most complex and troublesome aspects of Russian grammar. There will be a considerable emphasis on vocabulary, word-formation for vocabulary building, and communicative strategies in the course. One of the goals of the course is also to increase the students’ understanding of Russian culture and the Russian way of life based on Russia’s history and current reality.

Prerequisite: RUS 200 or permission of program; Concurrent: RUS 400, RUS 401, RUS 402, RUS 405, RUS 412

RUS 404: Advanced Reading and Composition

3 Credits

Advanced Russian Reading and Composition. RUS 404 Advanced Reading and Composition (3) RUS 404 focuses on reading and writing in Russian. Some time is spent on reading strategies, methods of building a working Russian vocabulary, sentence structure, and word order. Reading materials are at the advanced level and for the most part treat the history of the Russian Revolution and Civil War, the Stalinist era and the Thaw. Literary selections complement the historical readings and include works of Blok, Akhmatova, Zoshchenko, Bulgakov and Solzhenitsyn.

Prerequisite: RUS 401, RUS 402, or RUS 403

RUS 405: Seminar in Russian Literature

3-6 Credits/Maximum of 6

Readings in classical Russian literature; Topics vary. RUS 405 Seminar in Russian Literature (3 per semester/maximum of 6) (IL) In no other culture has literature attained the centrality it enjoyed in nineteenth- and twentieth-century Russia. Political, social and historical constraints propelled Russian writers into figures of witness, prophecy and moral instruction. Yet far from being limited to the vast, dark novels of legend, Russian literature offers a great deal of variety, including much humor, lyricism and fantasy. RUS 405 is a senior-level seminar devoted to the in-depth study of selected texts of classical nineteenth- and twentieth-century Russian literature. It presupposes a solid reading knowledge of Russian. The choice of authors and texts will vary from one year to the next. Writers discussed on a regular basis will include such major figures as Alexander Pushkin, Mikhail Lermontov, Nikolai Gogol, Ivan Turgenev, Fyodor Dostoevsky, Lev Tolstoy, Anton Chekhov, as well as selected writers from the Soviet and post-Soviet period. The thematic emphasis will vary from one year to the next. The focus may be on the oeuvre of a single writer, on the development of a particular genre (e.g., lyric poetry or the short story), on a particular time period (e.g., the so-called Silver Age, at the beginning of the twentieth century), or a particular theme (e.g., the conflict between liberalism vs. radicalism, the role of religion, Russia vs. the West, Russian & Orientalism, the Communist Revolution and its discontent, etc.). The literary texts will be read in Russian. They will be analyzed both in their socio-historical context and as aesthetically compelling manifestations of verbal art. Explorative analytical writing and class discussion will be essential means to explore the subject matter.

Prerequisite: RUS 401, RUS 402, or RUS 403

RUS 406: Russian Film

3 Credits

Conversation and Composition based on classical Russian films. RUS 406 Russian Film (3) (IL) Taught in Russian, this course offers an overview of the development of the film industry in the USSR/Russia within its historical context: from the silent classics of the Soviet Golden Age, to the mass entertainment movies of Socialist Realism, the new-wave productions of the cultural thaw of the 60s, the popular genres of the 70s, the liberated films of the glasnost period, and the most recent movies reflecting Russia’s difficult economic transition. Russian cinema will be discussed as an index of sociopolitical trends over the years, as well as a medium in its own right. Therefore, attention will be devoted to historical turning points that affected the cultural policies of the Soviet Union, and consequently the styles, themes, and quality of filmmaking. At the same time, the course will consider the film as text, and analyze the feelings it stirs, the moods it evokes, and the ideological message it conveys. To this end, the course will cover the basic elements and techniques of film language (shots, montage, mise en scene, etc.) and the process of visual perception that affects the audience.

Prerequisite: RUS 401, RUS 402, or RUS 403

International Cultures (IL)
RUS 410: Heritage Russian 1
3 Credits
Introductory course for heritage speakers of limited linguistic proficiency aiming at teaching basic reading, writing, and grammar skills in Russian.
RUS 410 Heritage Russian 1 (3) (IL) The course is aimed at "heritage speakers" of Russian, i.e., those who grew up speaking Russian in the family without a full Russian educational and cultural background. It is designed for students who have speaking and comprehension ability in Russian, but have minimum or no exposure to writing and reading. This course teaches basic skills of writing, reading, and grammar. It includes simple original reading material (fairy tales, poems, songs), as well as visual and multimedia material, such as cartoons, advertising, etc.) The course will enhance the students' knowledge and understanding of Russian culture as well as increase their awareness of their own complex cultural identity (Students with reading and limited writing proficiency should consider Heritage Russian II (RUS 411).
Prerequisite: basic speaking proficiency in Russian; placement test and consent of instructor
International Cultures (IL)

RUS 412: Russian Translation
3 Credits/Maximum of 6
Translation from Russian into English of complex texts from the humanities, social sciences, and technical fields.
Prerequisite: 9 credits of Russian at the 200 level or higher
Bachelor of Arts: Humanities
International Cultures (IL)

RUS 427: Tolstoy
3 Credits
Study of representative works by Tolstoy in the original Russian.
Prerequisite: 9 credits of Russian at the 200 level or higher
Bachelor of Arts: Humanities
International Cultures (IL)

RUS 460: Linguistic Analysis of Contemporary Russian
3 Credits
Detailed study of the phonology, morphology, and syntax of Modern Standard Russian and the major dialects.
Prerequisite: 9 credits of Russian at the 200 level or higher
Bachelor of Arts: Humanities
International Cultures (IL)

RUS 494H: Research Project
1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12
Supervised student activities on research projects identified on an individual or small-group basis.
Bachelor of Arts: Humanities
Honors

RUS 496: Independent Studies
1-18 Credits/Maximum of 18
Creative projects, including research and design, which are supervised on an individual basis and which fall outside the scope of formal courses.
Bachelor of Arts: Humanities

RUS 497: Special Topics
1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9
Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject which may be topical or of special interest.
Bachelor of Arts: Humanities

RUS 499: Foreign Studies
1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12
Courses offered in foreign countries by individual or group instruction.
Bachelor of Arts: Humanities
International Cultures (IL)