The major in Russian Studies is jointly offered by the Departments of Modern Languages and History. The program prepares our students for the professional and personal opportunities and responsibilities generated by a Russian and international perspective on our global world by giving students a solid background in the fields of Russian history, language, culture and politics. We pay explicit attention to both content and skill-building across the curriculum. Students emerge with a working knowledge of Russian and a firm groundwork for the development of specialized knowledge.

The study of Russian is central to our understanding of the present world order and international relations. The end of the Cold War allowed for exploration of present and past events in fascinating ways that were formerly forbidden. The proliferation of exchange programs, the increased accessibility of libraries, archives, and information, and the development of a free press have all introduced untried and exciting possibilities and opportunities for students and scholars. Young, talented people with a broadly-based knowledge of Russian history, language and culture are needed to fill jobs in international law, education, diplomacy, business, journalism and computing, as well as in economics, scientific and technical consulting.

This is a suggested schedule for the first 2 years for a Primary Major. It is also available as an Additional Major and Minor.

The remainder of the Major and GenEd can be completed in the junior and senior year.

*Students with prior Russian study may place out of elementary and perhaps intermediate level courses via the Carnegie Mellon internal placement exam and may start the language curriculum at higher levels. In this case, the units must be made up by taking additional higher level courses. [https://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/modlang/undergraduate/placement/index.html](https://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/modlang/undergraduate/placement/index.html)

**Elective: This space can be used for a pre-requisite course, another [GenEd](https://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/modlang/index.html) course, major course, or for a course you are interested in.