

Russian Major Assessment Plan

Russian has established the following student learning objectives for the major:

1. Achieve competence in Russian listening, speaking, writing, and reading;
2. Acquire broad understanding of the people, movements, and events that have shaped Russian cultural history over the past 1000 years;
3. Become familiar with theoretical approaches common in the field of Slavic Studies or one of its sub-fields;
4. Integrate general and specialized knowledge to ask productive questions and pursue them rigorously in extended work;
5. Use appropriate critical tools and research skills for analyzing cultural texts at a deep level;
6. Demonstrate skill in finding, understanding, evaluating, and integrating secondary sources in both Russian and English;
7. Express all the above in clear and compelling ways.

Our assessment of these objectives includes:

1. Direct assessments by instructors within relevant core and supporting classes, as well as successful completion of the language requirement (at least 204 or its equivalent).
2. Review of results of the comprehensive exam that students take before embarking on their senior project. The exam integrates information from coursework and study abroad, and is designed to test goal #2 above.
3. A review of the senior project, framed by rubrics.
4. An exit survey completed by majors, normally during the winter or spring term of senior year.
5. A discussion by Russian faculty, occurring at least once every three years (or when a reasonable sample size is accrued), focusing on student work, including a review of exit survey results, placed in the context of results from previous years. Discussion will be framed by rubrics, and will focus on one learning objective per cycle.
6. A discussion by Russian faculty about what, if anything, might be changed in the curriculum in order to address any general weaknesses.