

The University of Chicago
Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures

Graduate Student Handbook 2025-26

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I. Introduction

The Graduate Student Handbook contains the rules and procedures for those entering the Graduate Program in Slavic during the 2025-2026 academic year. It is intended to be a convenient overview of relevant Department rules and not to take the place of faculty advisers. You should consult with faculty early and often about your academic plans.

The Slavic Department admits students to its doctoral degree program focused on interdisciplinary approaches to the cultures of Central/Eastern Europe, Russia, and Eurasia. The Ph.D. is awarded after the successful passage of coursework, exams and the defense of the dissertation. Students can request a terminal MA during their PhD coursework if they have completed the MA requirements outlined in section II-A below.

The Ph.D. program provides rigorous professional training in Slavic languages, literatures and cultures in a supportive atmosphere and interdisciplinary framework. Taking advantage of the rich opportunities for cross-disciplinary inquiry at the University of Chicago, at such venues as graduate workshops and the Franke Institute for the Humanities, many students in the Slavic Department forge innovative programs of study that cut across traditional boundaries. The Department's academic program, faculty-student mentoring, training in pedagogy and support for research have consistently produced fine scholars who have succeeded in the highly competitive academic job market.

Mentoring:

Graduate students will work with the Director of Graduate Studies in the first year of the program. In the second year they will choose a mentor, who may or may not be the faculty member working in their area or an anticipated member of a future dissertation committee. All Department faculty will participate in mentoring, and we encourage each student and research faculty member to maintain regular contact.

Expectations:

A primary goal of our program is to make expectations very clear. Coursework, professional training, and mentorship will be tailored for each incoming student, with each side responsible for fulfilling their commitments so that students achieve the desired outcome in a timely and effective manner.

Each spring the department will a) conduct a progress review of Ph.D. students, and b) recalibrate expectations and commitments by mutual agreement with students. Students and faculty mentors should report the completion of degree milestones to the department administrator for recordkeeping in the university's Stellar system.

Funding and Time to Degree:

Students in the PhD program receive an annual stipend, tuition remission, payment of the Student Services Fee, and fully paid individual annual premiums for the University Student Health Insurance Plan. Normative time for completion of the program is six years. All questions about the terms and conditions of your fellowship should be directed to the [Office of the Dean of Students](#).

Beginning with students who matriculate in Autumn 2026 (or Summer 2026 if students matriculate in one quarter early), the maximum time to degree, as mandated by the Department, will be seven years. If a student requires an additional year to complete the degree, they should apply in writing to the Chair and Director of Graduate Studies by Friday of week 6 of their first quarter of their seventh year. The Director of Graduate Studies (DGS), in collaboration with the dissertation chair of the student, and in consultation with other dissertation committee members, will make a decision regarding the extension by Friday of Week 9 of the Autumn Quarter. Students who do not defend their dissertation by the end of the summer of their seventh year (if they have not applied for or been granted an extension) or by the end of their eighth year (if granted an extension) will be withdrawn from the program.

Graduate Resources:

Professional development resources are offered through UChicago's Grad Gargoyle:

<https://grad.uchicago.edu/career-development/grad-gargoyle/>

Be sure to explore their database of internship, fellowship, and research opportunities frequently and to sign up for their newsletter.

Room Reservations:

Affiliated students may reserve rooms controlled by their department on a first-come, first-served basis. Priority will be given to departmental academic and/or social programming. Room reservations must fall within building operating hours.

To reserve space, students must email their department administrator with the following information:

- Name and email of the person leading the event
- Title of the event
- Description of event
- Date of event
- Start and end time(s) of the event
- Estimated number of attendees
- Preferred room
- If there will be any food served

All room requests for the purposes of administering the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the University and GSU-UE should be directed through the [UChicagoGRAD Room Reservation Form](#).

Student Manual

The [Student Manual](#) is the official statement of University policies, regulations, and expected standards of student conduct that are applicable to all students. While students should be familiar with the manual as a whole, the following are commonly referenced by graduate students: [Student Life & Conduct](#), [Leaves of Absence](#), [University Grievance Policy for Graduate Students](#), [Policy on Harassment, Discrimination, and Sexual Misconduct](#), [Policy on](#)

[Title IX Sexual Harassment](#), [Policy on Religious Accommodation for Missed Classes, Assignments, and Exams](#), [Academic Honesty & Plagiarism](#), [Graduate Student Parent Policy](#), [Registration for Students in PhD Programs](#)

Divisional Manual/policies

The Division of Arts and Humanities student policies can be found [here](#).

Collective Bargaining Agreement

The terms and conditions of employment for certain graduate students at the University of Chicago who are employed to perform instructional or research services will be determined by a Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) between the University and Graduate Students United (“GSU-UE”) for the duration of the assignment to perform such services. Students can access the CBA and review frequently asked questions about graduate student unionization on the [Provost’s office website](#).

Departmental and Dean of Students Office

Contact information for departmental staff and faculty can be found [here](#). The [Dean of Students Office](#) is available to assist students with support/resources, answer questions/concerns, and provide review of policies and processes.

Concerns and Clarifications

Students with questions related to grievances or disputes, can review the information found [here](#). Students with questions may contact their Department Administrator, Director of Graduate Studies, the [Dean of Students](#), or the Director of Graduate Student Affairs [in UChicagoGRAD](#).

II. Requirements:

In consultation with faculty, students develop a plan of study upon entering the program. This may be revised each year, but should meet the following requirements:

A. Requirements for the First Two Years:

1. **Courses for years 1 and 2:** fifteen total courses, including ten at the **graduate level**.

The following are specifically required:

- a) Designated departmental graduate proseminar in Theory/Philosophy of Literature, usually taught in Winter quarter;
- b) At least one additional graduate-only seminar;
- c) At least six additional courses taught by faculty in the Slavic Department (this may include hybrid graduate/undergraduate courses and independent studies taken for a letter grade)

2. **Language Study:** At least three quarters in a second regional language or three quarters of advanced study of the primary Slavic language, toward meeting the language requirements for the first two years. (Language study is expected to continue beyond the second year.)

3. Language Requirements: Over the course of the PhD program, students are expected to attain advanced proficiency in the principal language of study and reading proficiency in two other research languages. Each student will devise a language plan together with the DGS in their first year, to be revised in conversation with their advisor in subsequent years. In the first two years, students should plan to attain:

- a) Advanced proficiency in speaking and writing the principal language of study, determined by an exam or interview before advancement to ABD (all but dissertation) level. Entering students may be required to take a placement examination in their primary language of specialization, and they must make up any deficiency. [Students entering the Department with a deficiency in their primary language may need a longer time to complete the degree. This extra time will be taken into consideration for the determination of satisfactory progress for such students.]
- b) Reading proficiency in one additional research language of special relevance to the research field, demonstrated by coursework or examination. Reading proficiency may be demonstrated by 1) examination, 2) minimum of B+ in an intensive reading course, 3) passing grade in an end-of-second-year language course, or 4) fulfillment of a qualifying immersive program.

4. Qualifying Paper: The Qualifying Paper (often developed from a term-paper) should demonstrate the ability to conduct independent research and represent an original, potentially publishable contribution in the student's field of study. It is written under the guidance of a faculty member of the Slavic Department and in consultation with at least one additional faculty member, and is generally 7,000-9,000 words in length. It should be submitted by the seventh week of the spring quarter of the second year.

Evaluation of the Qualifying Paper includes a 60-90 minute discussion, during which the author introduces the work and responds to questions from a committee of three members, at least two of whom should be faculty in the Department. At the conclusion of the meeting, committee members will vote (according to the policy on grading examinations) on whether the paper meets the expectations for continuing toward the PhD., and then inform the student and Department of its decision. A successful Qualifying Paper (Pass or Pass with Distinction) is required for continuation in the Ph.D. Program.

In the event of a Low Pass or Fail on the qualifying paper, students have one month from the time of the first exam to revise and resubmit the paper to the committee. The advisor will schedule a follow up discussion with the student and committee to evaluate the revised paper. A second Low Pass results in an administrative withdrawal and a terminal Master's degree if all MA requirements are completed. In the event of a Fail the MA degree will not be awarded.

B. Requirements for continuation in the Ph.D. Program

1. **Satisfactory Academic Progress:** To continue toward the Ph.D., students must have completed all the requirements indicated on the degree plan for the first two years, including a Pass or Pass with Distinction on the Qualifying Paper.

2. **Students with previous MA degrees:** Students with Master's degrees from other institutions or departments submit the standard application for admission through the Dean of Students Office in the Division. In most cases, coursework and exams from other institutions will not count as fulfilling degree requirements for the PhD in Slavic, but students with an MA degree may petition to be exempted from some coursework, the minor field exam, and/or the qualifying paper. They will be required by the Department to demonstrate that they have fulfilled the equivalent of the M.A. degree requirements outlined above and to make up any deficiencies, such as courses required at the Master's level. Approval of any exemptions will be made by a formal vote of the faculty.

3. **Coursework:** Following the first two years, curricular requirements are less strictly defined. It is assumed that students will take courses needed to prepare for the Comprehensive Examination and Dissertation Proposal and to deepen their knowledge of their area of research and minor field. All students should successfully complete at least one additional graduate seminar, and are encouraged to take three courses devoted to the secondary field of study.

4. **The Comprehensive Examination:** Students are normally expected to take the Comprehensive Examination not later than the end of the first quarter of the third academic year. A grade of Pass with Distinction, Pass, or Fail is given. If unsuccessful, the Comprehensive Exam may be retaken one time. If unsuccessful again, the student will be administratively withdrawn.

Students will be tested in the following areas:

(1) History of the literature/culture in the principal language(s) of specialization. The first part of this examination will be written and will include a passage or passages in the language for close critical analysis; the second part will be oral, and will range over factual and interpretive matters.

The exam committee will provide 4-6 prompts based on the student's specialization, and the student will have 48 hours to answer two of the prompts in 5-7 pages each. Students are allowed to use any language dictionaries necessary and to refer to the full text of the works. However, they are expected not to use any other sources except for to up to 20 pages of their own exam prep notes.

(2) Knowledge of a general corpus represented by a selection of approximately 50 essential works in literature and theory from the region. This will be drawn from the Resource List provided by the Department in consultation with the advisor. This section will be oral.

5. **Minor Field Examination:** Preparation in the minor field, typically **A) comparative Slavic, i.e.** the literature/culture of a second Slavic or regional language, or **B) a secondary discipline** (film, environmental studies, etc.), is demonstrated in a ninety-minute oral examination with faculty, which can be taken any time before advancement to candidacy. Students should prepare a bibliography of relevant works to share with the exam committee at least a quarter in advance. Students may select in discussion with the advisor a faculty member from outside the department in a relevant discipline to serve on this committee. The exam is graded Pass, Pass with Distinction, or Fail. In the case of Fail, students are allowed to retake the exam one time. If unsuccessful again, the student will be administratively withdrawn and will not advance to candidacy.

- a) Students pursuing a **comparative Slavic** focus must acquire
 1. advanced intermediate proficiency in a second Slavic or other regional language (usually achieved after three years of study)
 2. specialized knowledge of an area or period of literature or culture produced in that language
- b) Those pursuing a **secondary discipline**, such as film, visual arts, or performance, gender and sexuality, or environmental studies, must acquire knowledge of its fundamental theoretical apparatus and key works. At least three graduate level courses (hybrid or graduate seminar) in the area of study and participation in relevant workshops are highly recommended. A previous MA examination, degree or a certificate program at the University may be counted for this requirement (the Minor Field Examination) by petition to the faculty.

6. **Research Languages:** By the first quarter of their fourth year, students must demonstrate reading knowledge of two languages (in addition to the primary research language) relevant to the research field. Reading proficiency may be demonstrated by 1) examination, 2) minimum of B+ in a reading course, 3) passing grade in an end-of-second-year language course, or 4) fulfillment of a qualifying immersive program. If students do not pass the language requirement on this timeline, they will be placed on academic probation and be given written documentation for how to return to good academic standing. If they are unsuccessful in doing so, they will be administratively withdrawn.

C. Dissertation Proposal Procedure

1. All Ph.D. dissertation committees in the Slavic Department must have at least three members: a director (chair) and two readers. The director must be a member of the Slavic department, and ordinarily at least one other reader must have their primary appointment in the Slavic Department.
2. The committee formation begins when the student gets a faculty member to serve as chair or director of the dissertation committee and obtains that faculty member's preliminary approval of the topic. After consultation with the director, the student then approaches other members of the faculty, and in some cases faculty in other departments or at other institutions, requesting that they serve on the dissertation committee.
3. The student may prepare a short outline of the proposed topic for approval by the committee. This may be circulated among the faculty of the Department for questions and/or reservations about the proposed topic or about the makeup of the dissertation committee. Such questions are to be resolved by discussion among the concerned faculty members and the director or the dissertation committee.
4. A written dissertation proposal is submitted for formal approval by the committee. This must be done no later than the end of the quarter following the submission of the one-page outline. Proposals differ in length and content according to field. From ten to twenty pages is a typical length (plus any appended materials). Above all, the proposal must give a good prospectus of the dissertation, indicating what the objectives are, what methods will be applied, and what materials will be studied. It should show awareness of scholarship in the subject and include a bibliography of relevant primary and secondary sources.
5. After approval of the proposal by the dissertation committee, and no less than three weeks before the formal proposal discussion, the proposal is distributed to the other members of the Department along with an announcement of the defense of the proposal. The proposal must be received at the department at least two weeks before the date of the defense.
6. At the discretion of the student and Department, the defense of the proposal may be public or include only members of the committee. It is normally ninety minutes or less and is immediately followed by a formal vote by the committee to approve or disapprove and their recommendations for research strategies and possible revisions to the dissertation plan.

D. Advancement to Candidacy

Students are officially recommended for Candidacy after a) passing the Comprehensive and Minor Field Examinations and b) Departmental approval of the dissertation proposal.

A student should normally have completed all requirements for advancement to candidacy by the end of the first quarter of their fourth year in the program. In cases where training needs to be prolonged, additional time may be granted by the department. Per Divisional guidelines, failure to advance to candidacy by the start of the sixth year will result in administrative withdrawal.

E. The Dissertation

To receive the Ph.D., candidates must write an acceptable dissertation which makes an original contribution to the advancement of knowledge in their field. Normative time for completion of the doctoral dissertation is within six years after admission to the program.

The dissertation serves as both a capstone of the student's graduate education and their first major contribution to the profession. The topic is developed by the student in close consultation with a committee, led by the dissertation advisor, who must be a faculty member in the student's home department, along with two or three additional faculty readers. The committee may include faculty from other departments at the University of Chicago and other universities with approval from departmental leadership. Effective topics approach a clearly defined object of study with a focused theoretical question, with the intention of illuminating and refining both the object and the concepts being employed.

Usually, the dissertation is proposed in the 3rd quarter of year three in the program and takes three years to complete. The dissertation is presented at a public defense before being submitted to the University.

Students are encouraged to explore fellowship opportunities for dissertation research travel and to apply for funding to present their dissertation research at conferences. Discuss your research travel plans with your advisor, the DGS, and Chair and ask for advice on funding opportunities.

Candidates writing dissertations are expected to present a progress report, as well as chapters or parts of chapters written since the previous report, to their thesis director by the end of each academic quarter (Autumn, Winter, Spring). The director will report any concerns on progress to the DGS and Chair of the Department. Adequate quarterly progress will be indicated by a satisfactory grade in SLAV 70000 Advanced Study (usually supervised by the department DGS). During the annual spring review, department faculty will review the student's self-assessment with the thesis director and certify whether the Candidate's work represents satisfactory progress. This certification shall become part of the student's record via the annual student update.

The final oral examination will consist of a defense of the dissertation and a discussion of the area of specialization related thereto. The Humanities Division requires that committees have a minimum of three weeks to read before the defense. The Slavic Department recommends that students submit their completed final draft to their committee eight weeks before their intended graduation date, which should be scheduled at least four weeks before the Humanities Division's deadline for dissertation submission to allow for any necessary revisions following the defense.

More information about divisional dissertation policies can be found here:
<https://humanities.uchicago.edu/students/manual/academic-policies/dissertation-and-defense>.

Suggested Pace of Study*:

End of spring quarter of first year:	9-12 courses completed, including advanced course or equivalent in primary language of specialization
End of summer following first year:	First research language requirement fulfilled. [See section on research languages above.]
Spring quarter, second year:	Qualifying Paper Passed
Autumn quarter, third year:	Comprehensive examinations
Winter quarter, third year	Minor field examination
Spring quarter, third year:	Second research language requirement fulfilled.
Summer and Autumn, fourth year:	Preliminary dissertation research
Autumn quarter, fourth year:	Dissertation proposal defense
Winter quarter, fourth year:	Grants and dissertation applications
Spring quarter, fourth year:	1 chapter of dissertation completed.
Winter quarter of fifth year:	Grants and dissertation applications (at least two chapters of dissertation completed)
End of summer, fifth year	Three chapters of dissertation polished.
Sixth year:	Preparation of applications for postdoctoral and assistant professor positions Submission of an article for publication by this time
Autumn quarter, sixth year:	Introduction and dissertation prospectus prepared for use in job applications Applications for professional positions
Spring quarter, sixth year	Defense of dissertation

*Note that leaves of absence and/or summer matriculation will impact registration years, so consult with the Dean of Students or the Director of Graduate Studies regarding individual timelines.

III. Program Expectations

1. Normal Course Load

The normal load for students in the first three years of the graduate program will be 3-4 courses per quarter. One course per quarter can be in a second Slavic language. Advanced language courses in the Slavic Department with a content emphasis may be counted toward the degree upon consultation with the Director of Graduate Studies (DGS). Courses taken outside of the Department, if they are to be counted toward the Slavic degree, must be approved by the DGS at the time of registration.

2. Grading

a. Graduate students must maintain at least a B+ (3.5) average. A student who has less than a B+ average at the end of any quarter will be placed on academic probation and be given a timeline to return to good academic standing. Consequences of not returning to good academic standing will be withdrawal. Grades of D, F, UW, and R cannot be counted towards degrees.

b. The Department has an understanding that the P (Pass) grade will be given sparingly and reserved mostly for research and reading courses. Independent Study courses must be taken for a letter grade to be counted toward the degree. The P grade can be allowed in approved courses taken outside the Department. It is not acceptable in a course specifically required for the degree.

3. Examinations

a. All graduate examinations must have at least two examiners. All public oral examinations must be announced at least two weeks in advance for the benefit of those members of the Department wishing to attend.

b. Reading competence in research languages can be demonstrated via the standard tests offered in the Division or by completion of a reading-for-research course (such as FREN 13100 and GRMN 33300) with a B+ or above. In exceptional cases, students may be allowed to take an exam in the department with translation into a language other than English.

The research language exams may be retaken as many times as necessary, but failure to pass at the appropriate level will prevent advancement to candidacy and will result in academic probation if the requirement is not completed by the first quarter of the fourth year.

The following grades will be given on Qualifying paper and examination:

Pass with Distinction

Pass Sufficient for Advancement to Candidacy

Low Pass Sufficient for the awarding of terminal MA/student withdrawn
(following revision)

The following grades will be given on the Comprehensive Examinations and Minor Field Examinations:

Pass with Distinction	
Pass	Sufficient for Advancement to Candidacy
Fail	Advancement to Candidacy cannot be awarded

In the case of a Fail, students are allowed to retake the comprehensive examination one time. If unsuccessful again, the student will be administratively withdrawn and will not advance to candidacy.

In truly outstanding cases the examiners may award the Pass “with Distinction.” This notation can be recorded only internally in the Department.

Graduate students are expected to adhere strictly to the [University’s policies on academic honesty](#). Plagiarism, representing another’s ideas as your own, or unauthorized or undisclosed use of generative AI tools will be subjected to disciplinary procedures which may include withdrawal from the PhD program. Consult with your advisor about acceptable uses of AI and see the [library guidelines here](#).

4. Guidelines for Good Academic Standing

Your performance in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures of the University of Chicago is measured at a yearly review that is coordinated by the DGS and conducted in spring quarter. A successful review results in a determination of “good academic standing,” which in turn is a prerequisite for various opportunities offered by the University.

To be considered in good academic standing, a student:

- a) cannot accumulate more than two Incompletes per year and may not accumulate more than a total of four Incompletes. Please note Incompletes (as well as blank and “No Grade Reported” grades) cannot be carried over into the next academic year. If an I or other non-grade remains on a student’s record into the next academic year, it will be replaced with a UW or “Unofficial Withdrawal.” A UW bears no point value and confers no credit.
- b) must maintain a grade point average of at least 3.5 and get no grade below a straight B.
- c) receive a Pass with Distinction or Pass on examinations.

A student not in good academic standing may, depending on the situation, be administratively withdrawn or placed on academic probation. If placed on academic probation, the student will be provided a deadline and clarification of how to return to good academic standing and of the consequences if this does not occur. In most cases, a student who does not return to good academic standing in the timeline provided will be administratively withdrawn. Students can review with the DGS and Chair to see if they meet the qualifications, at the time of withdrawal, for a terminal MA degree from the program.

IV. Pedagogical and Professional Training

We are committed to preparing students to enter an increasingly complex and multifaceted job market by providing rigorous preparation and carefully targeted opportunities to gain teaching or other professional experience. An individualized Pedagogical Training Plan will be devised for each student, in consultation with the faculty. Most students will be advised to acquire training and experience in a) second language acquisition and b) the teaching of disciplinary content and approaches in literary and cultural studies. Some students may have a career path for which one of these choices might be emphasized at the expense of the other, or for which neither would be essential. With the latter in mind, we leave sufficient flexibility to address the needs of those intending to enter other fields, such as artistic practice, curation, translation, archival work, government service, social service, —and we also invite students to introduce new fields that would require alternative training strategies.

For those students pursuing teaching careers, the **Graduate Student Teaching Assistantship** is an essential element offering exposure to content strategies, course methodologies, grading and feedback strategies, etc. To fully realize the training potential of these assignments, the TA should meet with the instructor regularly to discuss the goals and outcomes of the course, teaching strategies in relation to the developing atmosphere in the classroom, grading and feedback, additional sources/perspectives that might be brought into discussion, etc. The TA may lead a discussion section; if they do not, they should lead one meeting/discussion of the full class and receive feedback from the instructor.

Teaching at the University of Chicago is understood as mentored teaching experience. Before entering the classroom as an instructor, students spend time shadowing and consulting faculty and receive training in language pedagogy, teaching writing, course planning and inclusivity.

For many students the **capstone** achievement will be a Graduate Student Lectureship, which is a well-enrolled, successful content course that will likely not be narrowly based on the dissertation. It should aim for a broad audience by demonstrating a forward-thinking approach to material of strong interest to students. Possible capstone variations for students with other career goals might include: a curated exhibit or close collaboration with a specialist in a curated project; an archival project; an extended social service or government service project, described in a report presented at a departmental colloquium; a translation, presented and discussed in a departmental colloquium. A capstone other than a graduate student lectureship will need prior approval from the Director of Graduate Studies and Chair.

See the current Pedagogical Training Plan for details.

2. Who's Who

Core Research Faculty

Ania Aizman
on leave 2025-26
Foster 403
aizman@uchicago.edu

Anne Eakin Moss, Chair
Foster 407
aeakinmoss@uchicago.edu

William Nickell
Director of Graduate Studies
Foster 416
Office phone: (773) 702-8033
wnickell@uchicago.edu

Bozena Shallcross
Professor Emerita (as of October 2025)
bshallcr@uchicago.edu

Malynne Sternstein
Foster 409
Office phone: (773) 834-0894
msternst@uchicago.edu

Darya Tsymbalyuk
Foster 401
tsymbalyuk@uchicago.edu

Eleonora Gilburd
(Jointly appointed in History and Slavic)
Social Sciences 515
egilburd@uchicago.edu

Post-doctoral and Visiting Faculty

Agata Zborowska, Postdoctoral Fellow (History)
Foster 402
azborowska@uchicago.edu

Instructional Faculty

Mark Baugher, Associate Instructional Professor (Russian)
Foster 417
mbaugher@uchicago.edu

Irena Cajkova, Instructional Professor (Czech)
Gates-Blake 226
icajkova@uchicago.edu

Erik Houle, Associate Senior Instructional Professor (Russian & Ukrainian) and Director of the Slavic Language Program
Foster 413
erhoule@uchicago.edu

Angelina Ilieva, Instructional Professor and Interim Director of Undergraduate Studies
Foster 411
ilievaa@uchicago.edu

Izolda Wolski-Moskoff, Associate Instructional Professor (Polish)
Foster 410
izolda@uchicago.edu

Nada Petkovic, Instructional Professor (Bosnian-Croatian-Serbian)
Foster 415
petkovic@uchicago.edu

Valentina Pichugin, Senior Instructional Professor, Russian language coordinator (years 3-5)
Foster 414
pichugin@uchicago.edu

Sergei Shokarev, Lecturer
Foster 402
shokarevs@uchicago.edu

Maria Yakubovich, Russian Language Lecturer
Foster 402
puduhepa@uchicago.edu

Affiliated Faculty in Other Departments

Maria Belodubrovskaya, Cinema and Media Studies
Leah Feldman, Comparative Literature
Jonathan Flatley, English
Lenore Grenoble, Linguistics
Faith Hillis, History
Matthew Jesse Jackson, Art History & DoVA
Kenneth B. Moss, History
Monika Nalepa, Political Science
Alina Shokareva, History (Visiting)
Eugene Raikhel, Comparative Human Development
Konstantin Sonin, Harris School of Public Policy
Anna Elena Torres, Comparative Literature
Tara Zahra, History

Center for East European and Russian Eurasian Studies (CEERES)

1155 E. 60th Street, Room 307

<http://ceeres.uchicago.edu>

(773) 702-0866

Faith Hillis, Director

hillis@uchicago.edu

Mike Phillips, Events Coordinator

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Graduate Students, 2025-2026

Benjamin Arenstein
Nadezhda Gribkova
Anna Kaluher
Julia Kulon
Andrei Kureichyk
Oliver Okun
Alina Orlova
Karina Povtseva
Chana Toth-Sewell
Olena Tsykanovska

Administrative Essentials

The Slavic Department is located on the fourth floor of Foster Hall. The departmental office is in Foster 406, which is in a single suite with the chair's office (Foster 405) and a kitchen. Feel free to leave food in the refrigerator but please do help keep the space clean.

You can have professionally related mail sent to you at the following address:

Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures
The University of Chicago
1130 East 59th St.
Chicago, IL 60637

Telephone: 773-702-8033
Fax: 773-926-0967
Email: slavic-department@uchicago.edu

Department Administrator

Stephen Carver
Foster 405
Office phone: (773) 702-8033
slavic-department@uchicago.edu

Dean of Students Office Staff

Shea Wolfe, Dean of Students
Walker 213A
773-834-4241
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Michael R. Beetley, Assistant Dean of Students, Admissions
Walker 111K
773-702-8499
<http://humanities.uchicago.edu>

Additional Resources

Libraries

Slavic and East European Collection at the University of Chicago Regenstein Library

Megan Browndorf, Slavic Librarian

mbrowndorf@uchicago.edu

Room 263

773-702-8456

Containing over 700,000 volumes relating to the area of East European, Russian and Eurasian studies, including material from all disciplines of the humanities and social sciences and in all of the vernacular languages of these geographic areas. The collections are especially strong in Slavic philology and linguistics, Russian and other Slavic literatures, history, economics, political science, geography, and the history of religions.

<http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/su/slavic>

Workshops

The Council on Advanced Studies sponsors a large number of research workshops each year, forming a robust network of opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration. Run by graduate students, with sponsorship and active participation among faculty, the workshops are a key component of graduate education at the University, offering the chance to present work in progress and to learn from the research of other students, faculty, and invited speakers.

For the current list, please consult: <http://cas.uchicago.edu/workshops/workshops/>).

The *Universities* of Chicago

The University of Chicago is part of a consortium that allows you to take courses at Northwestern University and University of Illinois at Chicago, both of which have programs in Slavic languages and literatures. Courses at these institutions may be counted toward the degree upon consultation with the DGS and Chair.

Northwestern University

<http://www.slavic.northwestern.edu/index.html>

University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC)

<http://www.uic.edu/depts/slav/index.html>

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (UIUC)

<http://www.slavic.uiuc.edu>

UIUC runs a Summer Research Laboratory on Russia, Eastern Europe and Eurasia every June which graduate students are encouraged to attend.

UIUC Slavic Reference Service

<http://www.library.uiuc.edu/spx/srs.htm>

Inventory of Slavic, East European and Eurasian Digital Projects:

www.library.uiuc.edu/spx/inventory/index.htm

Slavic Studies

Be sure to join the field-specific mailing lists and the major professional organizations in the field to make sure you receive up-to-date information on study, funding and employment opportunities. Consider becoming members in AATSEEL and ASEEEES, which publish *Slavic and East European Journal* and *Slavic Review* respectively.

Mailing lists:

[SEELANGS](#)

[SEEEES](#)

[AWSS-L](#)

[H-NET](#) (many sub-specialities available)

The American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (AATSEEL)
www.aatseel.org

The Association of Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEEES)
<https://aseees.org/>

American Association for International Education, including American Association of Teachers of Russian
<http://www.actr.org/programList.php>

The Association of Women in Slavic Studies (AWSS) (“dedicated to the promotion of research and teaching in Slavic, East European, and Eurasian women’s, gender, and sexuality studies, and to the support of scholars who identify as women or LGBTQIA”)
<https://awsshome.org/>

Summer language programs in Slavic Languages

Critical Language Institute at the University of Arizona (fellowship support available)
<http://melikian.asu.edu/>

Summer Workshop in Slavic, East European and Central Asian Languages at Indiana University
<http://www.indiana.edu/~iuslavic/swseel/>

Summer Language Institute, University of Pittsburgh (fellowship support available)
<http://sli.slavic.pitt.edu/program.html>

Duke University offers summer FLAS fellowships for graduate students at other universities:
<http://www.duke.edu/web/CSEEEES/flas.html>

Calendar of Academic Deadlines

Fall

September: Orientation for new graduate students

September: Registration; meet with your advisor

September: Beginning of Classes

Mid-October Registration deadline for all language exams

Mid-November: Registration for Winter Quarter

Early December: End of classes

Winter

Early January: Beginning of Classes

End of first week of quarter: Deadline to propose a new student-designed course for the next academic year

Late-February – Early-March: Registration for Spring Quarter

Early March: End of Classes

Spring

Late March: Beginning of Classes

Late March: Admitted Graduate Student recruitment days

Mid-April: Deadline to complete annual self-assessment with advisor

Late May/Early June: Annual student review

Early June: End of Classes