The Slavic Department of the University of Fribourg places a particular emphasis on Russian and Polish culture. At Switzerland's oldest academic chair for Slavic studies, students get to know the literary and cultural history of these two countries in the context of philosophy, religious thought, visual arts, film and popular culture. They learn at least one Slavic language: Russian, Polish or Bosnian/Croatian/Montenegrin/Serbian. Fribourg offers optimum student care and support, as course groups are small and students benefit from the accessibility of their teachers.

Apart from close cooperation with the Institute of Slavic Languages and Literatures in Bern, where students have free access to linguistic programmes and language courses in particular, well-established partnerships exist with universities in Russia and Poland. This makes it easy to organise semesters abroad. There is also the opportunity of attending Russian summer courses in Moscow and St. Petersburg.

Seminars and lectures in Slavic studies are held in German and French, language courses in Russian or Polish.

Effective network of Eastern European competence

We maintain close ties with the Institute of Slavic Languages and Literatures in Bern, which in particular offers linguistic programmes and language courses in Russian and the South Slavic languages (Bosnian/Croatian/Montenegrin/Serbian, Bulgarian).

Besides Slavic studies, the University of Fribourg also offers a remarkable array of expertise in Eastern European skills in a wide variety of fields, ranging from social anthropology to theology (with the Institute of Ecumenical Studies) and from political science to Byzantine studies. And unique in the whole of Switzerland are the lectures and seminars on Eastern European cultural philosophy.

Study abroad programme

We organise Russian summer courses in Moscow and St. Petersburg on a regular basis. We have well-established partnerships with universities in Russia and in Poland (Erasmus).

This makes it easy to plan and carry out periods of study abroad.

Learning outcomes and career openings

Learning outcomes

Graduates in Slavic studies are competent users of at least one Slavic language. They have a fundamental knowledge of Slavic literature, culture and linguistics. They possess intercultural competence and are familiar with the society and everyday culture of Russia, Poland and/or other Slavic countries.

Career openings

Besides continued study at Master's degree level, this opens up a wide range of careers to our graduates. The countries of Central and Eastern Europe and Southeast Europe have gained increasingly in importance in recent years. This applies to business and politics as well as to culture. Concrete employment opportunities are available in the following areas: science and research, media, cultural cooperation, diplomatic service, federal administration, international authorities and enterprises, and international organisations including NGOs.

Studies organisation
Structure of studies

120 ECTS credits + 60 ECTS credits in a minor study programme freely chosen, 6 semesters

Curriculum

http://studies.unifr.ch/go/cvx5I (French)
http://studies.unifr.ch/go/8S-ys (German)

Admission

The following Swiss school-leaving certificates grant admission to Bachelor programmes at the University of Fribourg:

- Swiss academic Maturity Certificate
- Swiss vocational or specialised Baccalaureate in conjunction with the supplementary exam certificate from the Swiss Maturity Commission
- Bachelor Degree from a Swiss university, from an accredited Swiss university of applied sciences (HES/FH) or from a Swiss university of teacher education (HEP/PH)

A complete list of all further recognized Swiss school-leaving certificates is to be found on the webpages of swissuniversities (in French and German only): http://studies.unifr.ch/go/en-admission-swisscertificates

Foreign upper secondary school-leaving certificates are recognised only if they correspond substantially to the Swiss Maturity Certificate. They must qualify as general education. Foreign school-leaving certificates are considered to be general education if the last three years of schooling include at least six general education subjects, independent from each other, in accordance with the following list:

1. First language (native language)
2. Second language
3. Mathematics
4. Natural sciences (biology, chemistry or physics)
5. Humanities and social sciences (geography, history or economics/law)
6. Elective (an additional language or an additional subject from category 4 or 5)

The general admission requirements to the Bachelor programmes at the University of Fribourg for holders of foreign school-leaving certificates as well as the admission requirements for individual countries are to be found on the webpages of swissuniversities: http://studies.unifr.ch/go/en-admission-country-list

In addition, foreign candidates must present proof of sufficient language skills in French or German.

The assessment of foreign school-leaving certificates is based on the «CRUS Recommendations for the Assessment of Foreign Upper Secondary School-Leaving Certificates, 7 September 2007» (http://studies.unifr.ch/go/crus07en). The admission requirements are valid for the respective academic year. The Rectorat of the University of Fribourg reserves the right to change these requirements at any time.

Alternatives

Also offered as a minor study programme (60 ECTS credits).

Contact

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