It is our aim to create a working atmosphere for our students which is both inspiring and challenging. Student care and support are excellent thanks to our small course sizes: Teaching staff are accessible and provide rapid, substantial feedback. In discussions with experienced researchers, our students learn to develop academic questions and work on research activities independently. We attach great importance to linguistic and cultural competence, and are happy to arrange periods of study abroad at one of our partner universities in Russia or Poland.

Academic networking
As a relatively small department we maintain close ties with other areas of the University of Fribourg (comparative literature and linguistics, Eastern European studies). Above all, we cooperate with our sister institute at the University of Bern, especially with regard to their linguistic programmes and language courses in Russian and the South Slavic languages (Bosnian/Croatian/Montenegrin/Serbian, Bulgarian).

Interdisciplinary exchange
Eastern European research has a long tradition at the University of Fribourg: We are the oldest Slavic Department in Switzerland (since the university's foundation in 1889). Today our university offers a wide variety of Eastern European exchange programmes and research projects. The Interfaculty Institute for Central and Eastern Europe and the Institute of Ecumenical Studies organise academic and cultural events on a regular basis. This gives our students the possibility of interdisciplinary exchange and a chance to broaden their academic and their personal horizons.

Learning outcomes and career openings
Graduates in Slavic studies have a fundamental knowledge of Russian and/or Polish culture and are able to describe and interpret current phenomena against the background of historical developments. They are acquainted with the methods of Slavic literature and/or linguistics and are capable of developing and working on academic questions independently. They are familiar with the language and everyday culture of at least one Slavic country.

Career openings
Relations with the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and Southeast Europe have gained increasingly in importance in recent years. This has resulted in career opportunities for graduates of Slavic studies in the following areas: science and research, journalism/media, cultural cooperation, diplomatic service, federal administration, international authorities and enterprises, international organisations including NGOs, and teaching Russian at academic high school level.

Studies organisation
Structure of studies
90 ECTS credits + 30 ECTS credits as an option in a minor study programme freely chosen, 3-4 semesters

Curriculum
Admission

Master's degree programmes are built on the knowledge and abilities that were acquired when obtaining a Bachelor's degree.

Holders of a Bachelor's degree awarded from a Swiss university can be admitted to a Master's degree programme within the corresponding discipline (requires the acquisition of minimum 60 ECTS credits at Bachelor level in the corresponding discipline) without any additional requirements. The same applies to holders of a Bachelor's degree awarded by a foreign university, provided that the Bachelor's degree is recognised and considered equivalent by the University of Fribourg.

Holders of a Bachelor's degree awarded from a Swiss university or holders of a Bachelor's degree awarded by a foreign university, provided that the Bachelor's degree is recognised and considered equivalent by the University of Fribourg, can be admitted to a Master's degree programme within another discipline with prerequisites (must be successfully completed before starting the Master's degree programme) or additional requirements (can be completed during the Master's degree programme). According to existing agreements, holders of a Bachelor's degree awarded from a Swiss university of applied sciences can also be admitted with prerequisites or additional requirements.

The respective conditions of admission for each Master's degree programme are reserved.

Alternatives

Also offered as a minor study programme (30 ECTS credits).

Contact

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