When Can I Study Abroad?
Slavic Studies majors, Russian majors, and Russian minors are eligible to study abroad during either the fall or spring semester of their junior year. For students who plan ahead, it may be possible to study abroad for an entire academic year, but students must be in early contact with the Director of Undergraduate Studies.

Various BC summer programs are also offered every year in which students may participate as early as the summer after the freshman year.

Should I Study In A Foreign Language Destination?
Even if students have already met the BC language requirement, they are strongly encouraged to study abroad in a foreign language destination. Students who already have strong language skills can select a program where they can take all courses in Russian, such as the approved external program, Bard-Smolney College of Liberal Arts and Sciences in St. Petersburg.

Students who have beginning or intermediate language skills can select a program that combines regular courses in English with language courses, such as the approved external program, AIFS: St. Petersburg.

What Classes Should I Take Before Studying Abroad?
Early planning is essential to make sure that students will meet all BC requirements, and to ensure that they will have a strong background in Russian and Slavic Studies for study abroad. Since most international education systems require a higher degree of specialization at an earlier level, this strong background will allow students to take advantage of the best offerings at the host institution, including upper-level seminars.

At a minimum, all Russian and Slavic Studies majors and minors should take the following language courses prior to study abroad:
- SL 003-004
- SL 051-052

All Russian and Slavic Studies majors and minors must meet with the Director of Undergraduate Studies before studying abroad. Prior to this meeting, students should obtain their degree audits and map out a tentative schedule for the semester(s) abroad and for the remaining time on campus at Boston College to show how they plan to meet the remaining major requirements.

What Classes Should I Plan To Take Abroad?
The ideal type of course is one that fits with the Russian and Slavic Studies major or minor but is not available at BC. Courses that focus on the region in which students are studying and those that reflect the academic strengths of the host university department are highly recommended.

To receive major credit for courses taken abroad, students must provide a course syllabus and obtain approval from the department chair.

What If I Am Planning To Do An Honors Thesis?
In recent years, many students have used their experiences abroad to help generate or supplement a compelling honors thesis. For some Russian and Slavic Studies majors who already have a topic in mind, studying abroad provides an excellent opportunity to conduct on-site research and establish contact with faculty at the host institution. All students are strongly encouraged to think about how their semester or year abroad can be integrated into an honors thesis.

Students who are planning to do an honors thesis are strongly urged to plan ahead. Students are advised to establish a thesis topic and identify a BC faculty member willing to supervise their work before departing and to maintain e-mail contact with their thesis advisor while abroad. Students should discuss whether or not they need to take a specific course while abroad.

How Can I Find Out More Information?
- Visit OIP in Hovey House during business hours
- Go to the OIP website: www.bc.edu/international
- Attend an OIP “Information Session” to learn about study abroad opportunities
- Visit the OIP Resource Room at the Hovey House to speak with an Advising Assistant about study abroad
- Set up an appointment with an International Study Advisor to discuss specific programs