GRADUATE PROGRAM

SLAVIC & EASTERN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES
The Department of Slavic and Eastern Languages and Literatures offers a diverse number of programs and courses in linguistics and on Slavic, Near Eastern and East Asian languages, literatures and cultures. The department also hosts and participates in a variety of programs, including symposia, lectures, readings and cultural events.

As you explore Boston College, you will no doubt be impressed by the strength of our graduate programs and the depth of the resources we offer to support outstanding graduate study. On campus, one-third of all students are graduate students; they are a vital part of the intellectual life of the University. Graduate students across all Boston College programs contribute to and benefit from the charism of a Jesuit university, combining a zest for academic achievement with a climate that fosters personal growth and a caring concern for the individual.

You will also find a beautiful campus, situated just to the west of the city of Boston. Our location is an especially favorable environment for graduate study, providing ready access to the enormous richness of academic and cultural institutions of the area while retaining an atmosphere that sustains disciplined inquiry and quiet reflection for a close community of scholars and researchers.

Those who have earned graduate degrees in our Department of Slavic and Eastern Languages and Literatures have pursued successful careers in a variety of fields, including foreign service, international business and law, research and scholarship, and many other exciting venues. We invite your questions and encourage you to visit our department.

THE GRADUATE PROGRAM IN SLAVIC AND EASTERN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

Program Overview

The Department of Slavic and Eastern Languages and Literatures offers three distinct Master of Arts programs:

- Master of Arts in Linguistics
- Master of Arts in Russian Language and Literature
- Master of Arts in Slavic Studies

Degree Requirements

All three M.A. programs require:

- A minimum of 10 one-semester courses (30 credits) in prescribed graduate-level course work
- Qualifying and special field examinations
- A supervised paper of publishable quality on an approved topic

Applicants to the M.A. program in Russian Language and Literature and the M.A. program in Slavic Studies must be able to demonstrate a working knowledge of the Russian language at least equivalent to the proficiency expected at the end of three years of advanced-level college study.

Applicants to the M.A. program in Linguistics, a program that stresses the interdisciplinary nature of the field, should demonstrate good preparation in languages and at least some undergraduate work in linguistics.
Our faculty work and publish in a number of areas and on a range of subjects, including, but not limited to: women in the former Yugoslavia and in Leningrad under siege; Jewish-Russian literature and culture; Classical Armenian; liturgical language; second-language acquisition; the history of linguistics; pan-Arabism and nationalism in the Near East; early Chinese literature; Russian romanticism; and contemporary and émigré Russian literature.

**MAXIM D. SHRAYER**  
Professor, Russian  
Ph.D., M.A., M.Phil., Yale University  
M.A., Rutgers University  
A.B., Brown University

**FRANCK SALAMEH**  
Associate Professor, Near Eastern Studies  
Ph.D., Brandeis University  
M.A., Boston University  
B.A., University of Central Florida

**ATEF N. GHOBRIAL**  
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Ph.D., M.A., Boston University  
B.A., Cairo University

**CYNTHIA SIMMONS**  
Professor, Slavic Studies  
Ph.D., A.M., Brown University  
B.A., Indiana University

**MARGARET THOMAS**  
Professor, Linguistics  
Ph.D., A.M., Harvard University  
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M.Ed., Boston University  
B.A., Yale University

**FANG LÜ**  
Assistant Professor of the Practice, Chinese  
Ph.D., Simon Fraser University  
M.A., B.A., Beijing Normal University

**SING-CHEN LYDIA CHIANG**  
Associate Professor, East Asian Studies  
Ph.D., Stanford University  
M.A., University of Washington  
B.A., National Taiwan University

**FACULTY**

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The combined and varied interests of the faculty ensure that the department offers a variety of graduate course electives. While the number and content of the graduate electives varies from year to year, the following list is illustrative of the range of courses offered.

**FALL 2016**

- General Linguistics  
  Connolly

- The Structure of Modern Russian  
  Connolly

- The History and Structure of Latin  
  Connolly

- Language in Society  
  Thomas

- Language and Language Types  
  Thomas

- Literatures of the Other Europe  
  Simmons

- Society and National Identity in the Balkans  
  Dakova

- The Art and Craft of Literary Translation  
  Shrayer

**SPRING 2017**

- War and Peace in Yugoslavia  
  Simmons

- Old Irish  
  Connolly

- Syntax and Semantics  
  Foley

- The Linguistic Structure of English  
  Thomas

- Historical Linguistics  
  Connolly

- Urban Dialectology  
  Fleming

- Second Language Acquisition  
  Thomas

- Women in Russian Literature  
  Simmons

- Russian Literary Forms  
  Epstein
The oldest and largest of the University’s eight schools and colleges, the Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences offers graduate programs in the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences, leading to the degrees of Doctor of Philosophy, Master of Arts and Master of Science. In addition, numerous dual-degree options are offered in cooperation with the Carroll School of Management, the Boston College Law School, the Lynch School of Education and the Graduate School of Social Work.

With approximately 1,000 students and 400 full-time faculty, the Graduate School is small enough to know you as a person, but large enough to serve you and prepare you for a rewarding life and satisfying career.

**Academic Resources**

**BOSTON AREA CONSORTIUM**
The Boston Area Consortium allows graduate students to cross-register for courses at Boston University, Brandeis University and Tufts University.

**BOSTON COLLEGE LIBRARIES**
The University is home to eight libraries, containing 2.95 million volumes; more than 700 manuscript collections, including music, photos, art and artifacts; 625,000 e-books; and more than 600 electronic databases. O’Neill Library, Boston College’s main library, offers subject-specialist librarians to help with research, to set up alerts to publications in areas of interest and to answer any research- and library-related questions.

**THE BOSTON LIBRARY CONSORTIUM**
The Boston Library Consortium allows Boston College students access to millions of volumes and other services at 19 area institutions in addition to the world-class resources available through the Boston College Library System.

**THE GRADUATE CONSORTIUM IN WOMEN’S STUDIES**
The Graduate Consortium in Women’s Studies (GCWS) brings together scholars and teachers at nine degree-granting institutions in the Boston area: Boston College, Boston University, Brandeis University, Harvard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Northeastern University, Simmons College, Tufts University and the University of Massachusetts Boston. The GCWS is devoted to graduate teaching and research in Women’s Studies and to advancing interdisciplinary Women’s Studies scholarship. Students can engage in the community and cross-disciplinary study promoted by the GCWS in myriad ways. Through courses, attending events and organizing conferences, these initiatives provide a learning environment unlike any other.
Boston College is located on the edge of one of the world’s most vibrant cities. Just six miles from downtown Boston—an exciting and dynamic place to live and learn—Boston College is an easy car or “T” ride away from a booming center for trade, finance, research and education.

Home to some of New England’s most prestigious cultural landmarks, including the Museum of Fine Arts, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Boston Symphony Hall and the Freedom Trail, Boston provides a rich environment for those passionate about art, music and history. For sports fans, Boston hosts a number of the country’s greatest sports teams: the Celtics, Patriots, Bruins and, of course, Fenway Park’s beloved Red Sox. Found within a short drive from Boston are some of New England’s best recreational sites, from the excellent skiing in New Hampshire to the pristine beaches of Cape Cod.

Boston also offers a wide range of family friendly attractions, including the Children’s Museum, New England Aquarium, Franklin Park Zoo and the Museum of Science. There are roughly 50 universities located in the Boston area, and the large student population adds to the city’s intellectually rich and diverse community. Events, lectures and reading groups hosted by world-renowned scholars abound on area campuses, providing abundant opportunities to meet and network with other graduate students and faculty throughout the Boston area.

The University

Boston College is a Jesuit university with more than 14,000 students, 786 full-time faculty and more than 170,000 active alumni. Since its founding in 1863, the University has known extraordinary growth and change. From its beginnings as a small Jesuit college intended to provide higher education for Boston’s largely immigrant Catholic population, Boston College has grown into a national institution of higher learning that is consistently ranked among the top universities in the nation: Boston College is ranked 30th among national universities by U.S. News & World Report.

Today, Boston College attracts scholars from all 50 states and over 80 countries, and confers more than 4,000 degrees annually in more than 50 fields through its eight schools and colleges. Its faculty members are committed to both teaching and research and have set new marks for research grants in each of the last 10 years. The University is committed to academic excellence. As part of its most recent strategic plan, Boston College is in the process of adding 100 new faculty positions, expanding faculty and graduate research, increasing student financial aid and widening opportunities in key undergraduate and graduate programs.

The University is comprised of the following colleges and schools: Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences, Carroll School of Management, Connell School of Nursing, Lynch School of Education, Woods College of Advancing Studies, Boston College Law School, Graduate School of Social Work and School of Theology and Ministry.

General Resources

Housing

While on-campus housing is not available for graduate students, most choose to live in nearby apartments. The Office of Residential Life maintains an extensive database with available rental listings, roommates and helpful local real estate agents. The best time to look for fall semester housing is June through the end of August. For spring semester housing, the best time to look is late November through the beginning of the second semester. Additionally, some graduate students may live on campus as resident assistants. Interested students should contact the Office of Residential Life.
STUDENT LIFE & CAMPUS RESOURCES

JOHN COURTNEY MURRAY, S.J., GRADUATE STUDENT CENTER
One of only a handful of graduate student centers around the country, the Murray Graduate Student Center is dedicated to the support and enrichment of graduate student life at Boston College. Its primary purpose is to build a sense of community among the entire graduate student population and cultivate a sense of belonging to the University as a whole. Its amenities include study rooms, a computer lab, two smart televisions, kitchen, deck and patio space, complimentary coffee and tea, and more. Throughout the year, the center hosts programs organized by the Office of Graduate Student Life and graduate student groups. The Murray Graduate Student Center also maintains an active job board (available electronically), listing academic and non-academic opportunities for employment both on and off campus.

MCMULLEN MUSEUM OF ART
Serving as a dynamic educational resource for the national and international community, the McMullen Museum of Art showcases interdisciplinary exhibitions that ask innovative questions and break new ground in the display and scholarship of the works on view. The McMullen regularly offers exhibition-related programs, including musical and theatrical performances, films, gallery talks, symposia, lectures, readings and receptions that draw students, faculty, alumni and friends together for stimulating dialogue. Located on the main campus, the McMullen Museum is free to all visitors.

CONNORS FAMILY LEARNING CENTER
Working closely with the Graduate School, the Connors Family Learning Center sponsors seminars, workshops and discussions for graduate teaching assistants and teaching fellows on strategies for improving teaching effectiveness and student learning. Each fall, the Learning Center and the Graduate School hold a one-and-a-half day “Fall Teaching Orientation” workshop designed to help students prepare for teaching. The center also hosts ongoing seminars on college teaching, higher learning and academic life; assists graduate students in developing teaching portfolios; and provides class visits and teaching consultations, upon request. Through these and other activities, the Connors Family Learning Center plays an important role in enhancing the quality of academic life at Boston College.

FLYNN RECREATION COMPLEX
The 144,000-square-foot Flynn Recreation Complex houses a running track; tennis, basketball, volleyball, squash and racquetball courts; an aquatics center with pool and dive well; saunas and more. Its 10,000-square-foot Fitness Center offers more than 100 pieces of cardio equipment, a full complement of strength training equipment and free weights, an air-conditioned spin studio and three air-conditioned group fitness studios. During the academic year, BC Rec holds more than 80 group fitness classes per week in a variety of disciplines, including Zumba, spin, yoga, strength training, Pilates and more.

BOSTON COLLEGE CAREER CENTER
The Boston College Career Center works with graduate students at each step of their career development. Services include self-assessment, career counseling, various career development workshops, resume and cover letter critiques, and practice interviews. In addition to extensive workshop offerings, Career Center staff members are available throughout the year for one-on-one advising about any aspect of the career path. The Career Resource Library offers a wealth of resources, including books, periodicals and online databases.
The application deadline for fall admission is February 1. Please visit bc.edu/gsas for detailed information on how to apply.

Application requirements include:

- **Application Form:** Submitted online, via the GSAS website.
- **Application Fee:** $75, non-refundable.
- **Abstract of Courses Form:** A concise overview of background and related courses completed in an intended field or proposed area of study.
- **Official Transcripts:** Demonstrating coursework completed/degree conferral from all post-secondary institutions attended.
- **GRE General Test:** Official score report required for all applicants.
- **Two Letters of Recommendation:** From professors or supervisors. It is highly advisable that at least one letter be from an academic source.
- **Statement of Purpose:** A brief (1-2 page) discussion of an applicant’s preparation, motivation and goals for their proposed course of study.
- **Writing Sample:** A sample of an applicant’s best work (usually a course paper or equivalent) related to their proposed field of study highly recommended.
- **Proof of English Proficiency:** Official TOEFL/IELTS score reports accepted.

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Financial Assistance

**DEPARTMENT FUNDING**

The department is able to offer some financial assistance to qualified students. Several students function as graduate assistants within the department and receive a stipend in exchange for their services. In addition, the department awards tuition scholarships to a number of qualified students.

**FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID**

Graduate students can apply for federal financial aid using the FAFSA. The loans that may be available to graduate students are the Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan and Perkins Loan, based on eligibility. If additional funds are needed, student may apply for a Grad Plus Loan. For more information, see the Graduate Financial Aid website at bc.edu/gradaid or contact the Graduate Financial Aid Office at 617-552-3300 or 800-294-0294.

**OFFICE OF SPONSORED PROGRAMS**

The Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) assists both faculty and graduate students in finding sources of external funding for their projects and provides advice in the development of proposals. OSP maintains a reference library of publications from both the public and private sectors listing funding sources for sponsored projects. In the recent past, graduate students have received research support from prominent agencies, corporations and organizations such as the Fulbright Commission, the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Science Foundation, the American Political Science Association, the American Chemical Society and the American Association of University Women.