What to do with a degree in Russian

Studying Russian will not only give you an opportunity to acquire one of the world’s languages and to gain systematic knowledge of its history and structure — it will also introduce you to Russia, a country with glorious and tumultuous history, fascinating culture and traditions, great literature that crosses national borders and transcends times; a country with major political influence in the world, both in the past and in the future.

Key Skills & Knowledge

Understand Russian language: Comprehensive knowledge of the Russian language: grammar and vocabulary; ensuring accuracy, conciseness and clarity of written information.

Language: Aptitude for language and acquisition; understanding of phonetics and ability to imitate sounds; command of grammar and syntax; understanding of language structures; understand historical language change.

Editing skills: Seeing patterns in written information; extracting salient points.

Synthesis and analysis: Critical and analytical thinking: observation and decision-making; interpretation; literary analysis.

Research skills: Information retrieval, presenting material in clear and easy to read written format; data collection; process and synthesize vast amounts of data and apply where relevant; clearly explain research results.

Cross cultural communication: Intercultural awareness; knowledge and appreciation of other cultures; multi-cultural appreciation.

Public speaking and communication skills: Ability to influence and persuade others.

Organization: Organize and memorize detailed information; able to meet deadlines.

Some of these roles may require further training, certification or education.

Sample Job Titles

Alumni Programs Coordinator  Bilingual Coding Specialist  Broadcaster  Buyer  Certified Translator  Communications Officer  Community Interpreter  Conference Interpreter  Court Interpreter  Customs Inspector / Officer  Diplomat  Editor  ESL Teacher  Foreign Services Officer  Health Administrator  Heritage Interpreter  Hotel Manager  Immigration Inspector / Officer  Import / Export Manager  Information Specialist  International Business Consultant  International Centre Coordinator  International Student Advisor  International Trade  Interpreter  Language Consultant  Legal Terminologist  Librarian  Market Research Officer  Policy Analyst  Proofreader  Researcher  Sign Language Interpreter  Teacher / Professor  Technical Writer  Terminologist  Textbook Publisher  Tourism Officer  Translator  Travel Agent  Website Designer

Formal Career Assessments like the Strong Interest Inventory and the Myers Briggs Type Indicator can be helpful tools for your career development. Request an assessment via CareerLink.

Need help deciding what to do?
Associations & Professional Development

Associations provide an opportunity for continued professional development. Many also offer networking opportunities and other events for their members.

- Association of Translators and Interpreters of Alberta: www.atia.ab.ca/
- Canadian Association of Applied Linguistics: www.aclacoal.org/
- Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers: www.caslt.org/
- Canadian Translators, Terminologists & Interpreters Council: www.cttic.org
- Classical Association of Canada: cac-scec.ca/wordpress/
- International Federation of Translators: www.fit-ift.org/
- Modern Languages Association: www.mla.org
- The American Association of Language Specialists: www.taals.net
- Translation Agencies Database: www.translatorscafe.com

Potential Industries

Advertising / Marketing Agencies
Airlines, Airports, Cruise Ship Lines
Broadcasting Companies Business Communications Consulting Firms Cultural Organizations Culture & Recreation Education Financial Institutions Fundraising Firms

Government Departments
Immigration
International Agencies
International Business
Language Schools
Linguistics
Market Research Firms
Media (radio, television, magazines, newspapers)
Museums & Heritage
Non-Profits & NGOs
Oil & Gas
Policy & Planning

Post-Secondary
Private Sector
Public Relations
Publishing Companies
Theatre
Translation & Interpretation
Travel & Tourism

Career Services

Your Future Starts Here

- Career Planning
- Job Search Support
- Resume Reviews
- Career Workshops
- Online Job Postings
- Career Fairs
- Networking Events
- Information Sessions & much more!

Connect with us:
MacEwan Student Centre, Room 188
T: 403.220.8020
E: csstdnt@ucalgary.ca
CareerLink: ucalgary.ca/careers

Facebook: ucalgarycareers
Twitter: @HireUCalgary

Job Boards

Indeed: https://ca.indeed.com/
Translators Café: www.translatorscafe.com/cafe/
MultilingualVacancies.com: www.multilingualvacancies.com
Eluta.ca: http://www.eluta.ca
FSWEP Program: http://jobs-emplois.gc.ca/fswep-pfte/index-eng.htm
CareerLink: careerlink.ucalgary.ca

Additional Resources

Careers for Foreign Language Aficionados Other Multilingual Types by H. Ned Steeyle
Careers in Foreign Languages by Blythe Camenson
Careers in International Affairs by Lisa Gihring
Great Jobs for Foreign Language Majors by Julie DeGalan

Faculty Contact
Cragie Hall D 310
T: 403.220.5300
E: sllc@ucalgary.ca
W: illc.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/russian
W: ucalgary.ca/admissions/programs

Student Clubs
Russian Speaking Student Association:
www.facebook.com/RussianSpeakingStudents

Aligned Majors:
History, International Relations, Political Science