

Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies
Resolution 2012-13G
Resolution to approve Major in Russian, in Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Languages

Recommended by the Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies:	April 8, 2013
Approved by University Council:	April 15, 2013
Approved by the President:	April 29, 2013
Effective:	Fall 2013

WHEREAS, the *Plan for a New Horizon 2012-2018* identifies support for international experiences and foreign-language competency for undergraduate and graduate students as a principal strategy to achieve goals related to the life of the mind; and

WHEREAS, Russian is identified as a critical language by the federal government and is a targeted language by the National Security Education Program, a program designed to enhance the national security of the U.S. by increasing the nation's capacity to deal effectively with foreign cultures and languages; and

WHEREAS, students who complete a Russian major within the Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Languages degree will be prepared for careers in various capacities in the federal government, including foreign service and the intelligence community, in non-governmental organizations, domestic and international law, and other private entities that serve Russian-speaking populations; and

WHEREAS, the Russian major supports the mission of Virginia Tech's ROTC programs to build skills in a critical language for the future officer corps of the United States military; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures has increased its faculty in Russian to support a major as recommended in the Task Force Report on Language Competency of August 2007; and

WHEREAS, the current enrollments in Russian courses and the Russian minor demonstrate a robust interest in a Russian major;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Major in Russian be approved for addition to the Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Languages effective Fall 2013 and the proposal forwarded to University Council for approval.