COURSE DETAIL

SLAVIC PHILOLOGY 1
Country Italy
Host Institution University of Bologna
Program(s) University of Bologna
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Slavic Studies History
UCEAP Course Number 145
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title SLAVIC PHILOLOGY 1
UCEAP Transcript Title SLAVIC PHILOLOGY 1
UCEAP Quarter Units 6.00
UCEAP Semester Units 4.00

Course Description

This course is part of the Laurea Magistrale degree program and is intended for advanced level students. Enrollment is by permission of the instructor. The course provides students with notions of comparative grammar, which allows them to recognize the main differences between east-Slavic (Russian in particular), west-Slavic (Polish) and south-Slavic (Bulgarian) languages. The course also provides an accurate knowledge of Slavic medieval history, within the broader context of European and Mediterranean culture and civilization. Students will acquire the knowledge and skills to read and comprehend short Slavonic texts.

In Fall 2025, the course concerns the figure of Michael Trivolis, a Greek monk who lived between the end of the 15th and the middle of the 16th century, known in Russia as ‘Maximus the Greek’ (*Maksim Grek*). Born in Arta, in the Epirus region of Greece, pupil of John Lascaris in Corfù and Florence, collaborator of Aldo Manuzio in Venice, at the service of the court of Mirandola, once again in Florence as Dominican monk, Michael Trivolis trained at the school of Italian humanism. When he was about 35 years old, he returned to his fatherland and entered the Vatopedi monastery on Mount Athos. After 12 years, in 1518, he was sent to Muscovy with the task of correcting the church-Slavonic translations which were in use there (with particular reference to the Psalter). In the Rus’, the first half of the 16th century was a time characterized by the struggle against heresies on one hand, and by an harsh debate on church properties on the other. Maximus the Greek’s friction with the political and ecclesiastical power earned him imprisonment and ostracism: up until the moment of his death, which took place almost 40 years later, he has never been allowed to leave the Rus’. It’s been written that Maximus “had been prepared for a mission to Muscovy, but Muscovy was not yet ready for him”. Nevertheless, besides being one of the most prolific writers in the entire Slavic Middle Ages, Maximus the Greek has been read and loved by many people, to the point that he became very soon worthy of veneration (but the Russian Church canonized him only in 1988).

Language(s) of Instruction

Italian

Host Institution Course Number
32599

Host Institution Course Title
FILOLOGIA SLAVA 1 (LM)

Host Institution Course Details
https://www.unibo.it/it/studiare/insegnamenti-competenze-trasversali-moocs/inse...

Host Institution Campus
BOLOGNA

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree
LM in MODERN, POST-COLONIAL AND COMPARATIVE LITERATURES

Host Institution Department
MODERN LANGUAGES, LITERATURES, AND CULTURES

Course Last Reviewed
2025-2026

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