

Spring 2021 Online Program - Part-Time Track

ADVANCED RUSSIAN LANGUAGE AND AREA STUDIES RLASP PROGRAM

American Councils is offering a great opportunity for online language and culture learning during the spring 2021 semester with its Part-Time Advanced Russian Language and Area Studies Program (RLASP). With the Part-Time Track, students will attend weekly, remote language instruction, meet with virtual conversation partners, and take part in a variety of virtual cultural activities that are normally offered as part of RLASP, but with fewer weekly hours to accommodate a variety of schedules.

Faculty

Native speaking teachers from Russia and Eastern Europe

Academic Structure Overview

The academic program will feature weekly online (synchronous and asynchronous) instruction that focuses on developing language skills in speaking, reading, listening, grammar, and writing. Participants also complete regular assignments outside of class that expand upon the activities covered in online classes.

Live instruction is approximately six academic hours per week, with class sizes of two to six students depending on language level. Participants can expect each class session to meet for at least one hour in length and not to exceed two hours in a session. Additional academic hours per week will be delivered in an asynchronous (recorded) format. **The total number of live instruction hours will be 84 hours during the semester.**

American Councils will administer pre- and post-program testing with an Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) to measure participants' language gains.

Conversation Partners

To provide opportunities for informal Russian language practice and connections with locals, participants are paired with conversation partners. Participants and their conversation partners meet remotely for approximately an hour every week to provide additional contact hours in Russian throughout the semester.

Cultural Activities

American Councils will arrange virtual cultural activities and excursions to places of historical and cultural importance throughout the host country. The virtual activities and excursions are conducted in Russian by local alumni and staff, who share different aspects of local culture or traditions in order to increase cultural understanding on a local level. There will be a total of 14 hours of cultural activities over the semester.

Potential virtual activities include: host family visits, tours of city sights and local museums, cooking lessons, music and dance lessons, holiday celebrations, discussion groups with local students.

Total Contact Hours

Combining the academic program, conversation partners, and virtual activities, participants will have approximately 112 contact hours in the target language over the course of the semester. Participants can expect to spend eight hours per week across all program components.

Academic Credit

Upon successful completion of the online program, participants will receive academic credit equivalent to 8 undergraduate credit hours or 10 graduate credit hours from Bryn Mawr College as follows:



RUSS 350 Advanced Conversation, Phonetics, and Intonation (for undergraduate students)
RUSS 550 Advanced Conversation (for graduate students)

RUSS 360 Advanced Grammar and Lexical Study (for undergraduate students)
RUSS 560 Advanced Grammar and Lexical Study (for graduate students)

Time Difference

As teachers are based overseas, classes and activities are scheduled to find an agreeable and reasonable time for both participants and teachers. American Councils will request information about your time zone for the fall online program during the acceptance process.

Dates

Classes will start on **Monday, February 1, 2021** and continue through **Friday, May 14, 2021**.

Cost

The Part-Time RLASP Spring 2021 online program fee is **\$3,900**.

Financial Aid

American Councils has several scholarships available for students applying to the Part-Time RLASP Spring 2021 online program. Applicants can apply for financial aid in the program application.

To Apply

Applications will be accepted through **Monday, December 28, 2020**. Please visit our [online application portal](#) to begin the application process.

Questions?

Please direct any questions about the Part-Time RLASP Spring 2021 online program to Chris Muller (cmuller@americancouncils.org).