

Summer 2020 Online Program

POLITICS & PUBLIC DIPLOMACY IN CONTEMPORARY RUSSIA PROGRAM

American Councils is pleased to offer the Politics & Public Diplomacy in Contemporary Russia (PPD) summer 2020 coursework by way of distance learning. Students will attend daily, remote regional studies and language instruction, film viewings and discussion clubs, and take part in a variety of virtual cultural activities.

Host Institution

Moscow International University, Moscow, Russia

Academic Structure Overview

The academic program will feature daily online, synchronous and asynchronous instruction designed to provide participants new insights into Russian politics and diplomacy through an exploration of its history, economics, arts, societal issues, mass media, religion, and contemporary education. All content courses will be taught in English. Participants will supplement their regional studies coursework with Russian language instruction, taught at any level. Participants will complete regular assignments that supplement and expand upon content covered in online classes.

Instruction will be approximately 24 academic hours per week. Class size for the language component will be one to four students depending on language level. Participants can expect 8-10 hours per week of live, synchronous instruction conducted Monday through Friday supplemented by asynchronous assignments, readings, and recordings. Discussion opportunities will follow each weekly assignment.

Core Course Offerings

- **Russian Policy and Politics**
Seminars and discussion sessions to introduce participants to Russian political culture, patterns of Russian policy making, political structures in the former Soviet Union, Perestroika, and major trends and events of Putin's presidency.
- **Russian Economics**
An overview of Russian macroeconomics, management models, and economic developments in the 2000s, providing insight into Russia's energy sector and energy policy, as well as corporate governance and foreign economic relations.
- **History of Post-Soviet Russia**
This course examines the historical context of the last days of the Soviet Union from Gorbachev's political reforms to Yeltsin's years in office and the collapse of the Soviet Union. Further, participants will explore Putin's domestic and foreign policy, the birth of the Russian oligarchs, their battle for power, and the role of the various security structures in Russian politics. The course will conclude with the most current crises in Ukraine.
- **Contemporary Russian Mass Media**
Russian mass media plays a crucial role in contemporary Russian politics. This seminar will assist students in exploring the forces that influence and control the mass media in Russia, and its relationship with the Putin's government. A comparison with the American mass media will further participants' understanding of the contemporary political environment in Russia.

Cultural Activities

American Councils will offer two to three hours per week of virtual cultural activities and excursions to places of historical and cultural importance throughout Moscow and St. Petersburg. The virtual activities and excursions will be conducted in English by local faculty and staff.

Potential virtual activities and excursions include:

- Virtual host family visits
- Virtual tours of city sights and local museums
- Virtual visit to a Russian neighborhood
- Interviews and conversations with students, journalists, and community leaders

Total Contact Hours

Combining the academic program, language instruction, and virtual activities, participants will complete a total of 90-100 contact hours over the duration of the four-week program.

Academic Credit

Participants will receive academic credit (8 undergraduate credit hours or 10 graduate credit hours) from Bryn Mawr College for successful completion of the program.

1. RUSS 335 / Contemporary Russian Culture (1.0 Unit*) for undergraduate students
RUSS 535 / Contemporary Russian Culture (1.0 Unit*) for graduate students
2. RUSS 354 / Politics and Economics in Post-Soviet Russia (1.0 Unit*) for undergraduate students
RUSS 554 / Politics and Economics in Post-Soviet Russia (1.0 Unit*) for graduate students

**One Bryn Mawr unit is equivalent to four undergraduate or five graduate semester hours.*

Time Difference

As teachers are based in Moscow, American Councils will schedule the academic program and cultural activities to find an agreeable and reasonable time for both participants and teachers. American Councils will request information about your time zone for the summer online program during the acceptance process.

Dates

Classes will start on **Monday, June 29, 2020** and continue for four-weeks through **Friday, July 24, 2020**.

Cost

The Politics & Public Diplomacy in Contemporary Russia Program Summer 2020 online program fee is **\$2,800**.

Financial Aid

American Councils has several scholarships available for students applying to the PPD Summer 2020 Online Program. Applicants can apply for financial aid in the program application.



To Apply

Applications will be accepted through **Wednesday, June 10, 2020** with admission and consideration for financial aid offered on a rolling basis as soon as an application is complete. Please visit our [online application portal](#) to begin the application process.

Questions?

Please direct any questions about the Politics & Public Diplomacy in Contemporary Russia Summer 2020 Online Program to Chris Muller (muller@americancouncils.org).