

Summer 2020 Online Program

ADVANCED RUSSIAN LANGUAGE AND AREA STUDIES PROGRAM: ALMATY, KAZAKHSTAN

American Councils is pleased to offer the Advanced Russian Language and Area Studies Program (RLASP) Almaty summer 2020 coursework by way of distance learning. Students attend daily, remote language instruction, meet with virtual conversation partners, and take part in a variety of virtual cultural activities.

Host Institution

Al-Farabi Kazakh National University – Almaty, Kazakhstan

Academic Focus

The academic program addresses daily online (synchronous and asynchronous) instruction as well as interactive one-on-one discussions with program tutors, instructors and language partners. All program activities facilitate student progress in speaking, reading, listening, and writing in Russian and also include individualized training in phonetics and intonation, as well as grammar review, formative assessments, and weekly online meetings with an academic advisor. Designed to serve the needs of pre-Capstone Flagship students and other advanced Russian-language learners, online RLASP Almaty is estimated to require approximately 14 hours per week of course-related activities, and an equal number of hours for preparation and related independent work.

Course Offerings

- Online interactive: **Expressing Yourself in Russian Pt. I**
Weekly structured speaking activities with your faculty tutor, approximately 20-minute sessions three times per week (1 hour synchronous)
- Online interactive: **Expressing Yourself in Russian Pt. II**
Weekly conversation practice sessions with your language group and instructor, 4 one-hour sessions per week (4 hours in class / 4 hours asynchronous and preparation)
- Online interactive: **Practical Phonetics and Intonation**
Students model native phonetic and intonational patterns & strengthen self-monitoring skills through interactive small-group sessions (1 hour in class / 1 hour asynchronous and preparation)
- Online interactive: **Reading and Writing at the Advanced Level**
Reading for general meaning and for close analysis with exposure to a range of genres and text types, expository and artistic prose (2 hours in class / 4 hours asynchronous and preparation)
- Online interactive: **Grammar and Vocabulary in Context**
Focus on building your vocabulary in Russian and strengthening your control of the grammar (3 hours in class / 3 hours asynchronous and preparation)
- Online Interactive: **Kazakh History and Culture**
Seminars and discussion sessions to introduce you to Kazakh history and provide insights into contemporary Kazakh culture and daily life. (1 hour in class / 1 hour asynchronous and preparation)
- Online Interactive: **Russian Arts, Culture and Politics in Kazakhstan**
The arts, culture, and politics of Russia and Kazakhstan have been closely intertwined for more than 200 years. This seminar assists students in exploring a range of works, practices and political events from both a western and “Eurasian” perspective. (1 hour in class / 1 hour preparation)

Conversation Partners

To provide opportunities for informal target language practice and connections with locals, participants are paired with host country conversation partners. Participants and their conversation partners meet remotely for an hour every other week to provide an additional 4 hours of contact in the target language throughout the summer.

Cultural Activities

American Councils will arrange for two to three hours per week of 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.

Potential virtual activities and excursions include:

- Virtual host family visit
- Virtual tours of city sights and local museums
- Cooking lesson
- Music and dance lesson
- Virtual holiday celebration
- Discussion groups with local students

Academic Director and Online Advisor

Dr. Maria D. Lekic (American Councils)

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:

1. RUSS 320 Intensive Conversation (1.0 Unit*) for undergraduate students
RUSS 515 Intensive Conversation (1.0 Unit*) for graduate students
2. RUSS 330 Intensive Grammar (1.0 Unit*) for undergraduate students
RUSS 525 Intensive Grammar (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 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 summer online program during the acceptance process.

Dates

Classes start on **Monday, June 22, 2020** and continue for eight-weeks through **Friday, August 14, 2020**.



Cost

The RLASP Summer 2020 online program fee is **\$3,500**.

Financial Aid

American Councils has several scholarships available for students applying to the RLASP 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 RLASP Almaty Summer 2020 Online Program to Irakli Saralidze (isaralidze@americancouncils.org).