

Summer 2020 Online Program

ADVANCED RUSSIAN LANGUAGE AND AREA STUDIES PROGRAM: RUSSIA

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

Host Institutions

The summer 2020 online Advanced Russian Language and Area Studies Program (RLASP) is taught jointly by faculty based at:

- Moscow International University – Moscow, Russia
- Russian State Pedagogical University (Herzen Institute) – St. Petersburg, Russia

Academic Focus

The academic program features daily online (synchronous and asynchronous) instruction that focus on developing language skills in speaking, reading, listening, grammar, and writing, and through regional studies coursework on history and culture. Participants also complete regular assignments outside of class that expand upon the activities covered in online classes. Live instruction is approximately 14 academic hours per week, with class sizes of two to six students depending on language level. Participants can expect at least two hours per day of synchronous instruction conducted Monday through Friday. Additional academic hours per week will be delivered in an asynchronous (recorded) format.

Academic Courses

- Online Interactive: **Russian Grammar**
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: **Conversational Practice**
Weekly conversation practice sessions and structured speaking activities with your language group and instructor (3 hours in class / 2 hours asynchronous and preparation)
- Online Interactive: **Word Formation**
Expanding knowledge of Russian vocabulary with a focus on prefixes and word-building (1 hour in class / 1 hour of asynchronous and preparation)
- Online Interactive: **Phonetics and Intonation**
Students model native phonetic and intonational patterns and strengthen self-monitoring skills through interactive small-group sessions (2 hours in class / 1 hour asynchronous and preparation)
- Online Interactive: **Political History of Russia**
Geared towards developing vocabulary and listening and reading comprehension through understanding of Russian historical and political events (1 hour in class / 2 hours asynchronous and preparation)
- Online Interactive: **Russian Geography**
Focus on vocabulary building and development of spoken Russian and grammatical concepts through understanding of Russian Geography (1 hour in class / 1 hour asynchronous and preparation)

- Online Interactive: **Russian Video and Film**
Deepen base knowledge of spoken Russian grammatical concepts and develop listening comprehension by way of Russian cinema (2 hours in class / 3 hours asynchronous and preparation)
- Online Interactive: **Arts and Culture of Russia**
Develop an understanding and appreciation for Russian culture and the interdependence of language and culture (1 hour in class / 2 hours asynchronous and preparation)

Conversation Partners

To provide opportunities for informal target language practice and connections with locals, participants will be paired with conversation partners. Participants and their conversation partners will 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 Russian culture or traditions in order to increase cultural understanding on a local level.

Potential virtual activities and excursions include:

- Virtual host family visits
- Virtual tours of city sights and local museums
- Cooking lessons
- Music and dance lessons
- Virtual holiday celebrations
- Discussion groups with local students

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 Russian Conversation (1.0 Unit*)
RUSS 515 / Intensive Russian Conversation (1.0 Unit*)
2. RUSS 330 / Intensive Russian Grammar (1.0 Unit*)
RUSS 525 / Intensive Russian Grammar (1.0 Unit*)

**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 will 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 Russia Summer 2020 Online Program to Chris Muller (cmuller@americancouncils.org).