RUSSIAN

Language Courses:
RUS 2 A-B  Elementary Russian
RUS 4  Intermediate Russian
RUS 22  Composition and Conversation
RUS 122  Advanced Russian
RUS 192-01  Adv. Special Topics: Contemporary Russian Media

Taught in English:
RUS 72/172  Contemporary Russian Culture
RUS 78  Warrior Nations: Russia & US
RUS 85  Film and Nation: Russia & Central Asia

Special Courses:
RUS 94/194  Directed Study/Adv Directed Study
RUS 198  Senior Honors Thesis

RUS 2: Elementary Russian
Section A  Petrov  F+FF  TR 10:30-11:45, F 10:30-11:20
Section B  Petrov  ARR  TR 1:30-2:45, F 1:30-2:20
Continued introduction to the fundamentals of Russian, with a focus on developing active speaking, reading, and listening skills. Students gain a solid understanding of Russian grammar and develop some basic writing skills. Upon completion of the course, students can talk about their families and hometowns, make purchases and order food, and talk about their biographies and plans for the future. Students learn about Russian culture through short readings, songs, and videos. An additional conversation section to be arranged on Mondays. Prerequisite: Russian 1 or placement.

RUS 4: Intermediate Russian
Aptekman  ARR  TR 10:30-11:45, F 12:00-12:50
Continued expansion of speaking, reading, writing, and listening skills, with an emphasis on vocabulary development. Attention is focused on more complex sentence structures that allow students to express their opinions on such topics as film, literature, leisure activities, and the Internet. Videos, recordings, and more extended readings enhance the student’s understanding of Russian culture. Students also develop their skills through compositions and oral presentations. Prerequisite: Russian 3 or placement exam and permission of instructor.
**RUS 22: Composition and Conversation**
Aptekman   E+EF   MW 10:30-11:45, F 10:30-11:20
Development of communication skills beyond the basics to achieve a more sophisticated competence in Russian. Readings in literature and/or non-fiction (newspapers and magazines), and films. Continued use of music videos and video clips. Expansion of vocabulary and stylistic ability through composition and discussion. Continuation of grammar review. Prerequisite: Russian 21 or placement exam and permission of instructor.

**RUS 122: Advanced Russian**
Gassel   ARR   MW 4:30-5:45, F 10:30-11:20
Reading and discussion of classical and/or modern literature, articles from magazines, newspapers and the internet, feature films and documentaries. Advanced concepts in grammar with focus on style and complex sentence structure. Topics include stereotypes of Russians and Americans and conceptions of East and West (social, cultural, and psychological differences). Classes conducted entirely in Russian. Students express their opinions in class discussion and in essays on readings and films. Prerequisite: Russian 121 or placement exam and permission of instructor.

**RUS 192-01 Adv. Special Topics: Contemporary Russian Media**
Gassel   M+   MW 6:00-7:15
Focus on advanced reading and writing skills. The impact of glasnost, perestroika, and the advent of the Internet on print media and television, and changes that occurred in post–Soviet media after 1991. Issues discussed will include the fluctuating status of freedom of expression in all media and the dangers of being a journalist in today’s Russia, especially in times of war or conflict; conceptions of the West and the US; representations of authority, particularly Putin/Medvedev and the Russian Presidency; portrayals of the oligarchs, and of the Orthodox Church. All readings and discussions are in Russian. Prerequisite: Russian 122, 123, 125, or placement exam and permission of instructor. Cross-listed as FMS 94-03.

**Taught in English:**
**RUS 72/172: Contemporary Russian Culture**
Aptekman   G+   MW 1:30-2:45
Exploration of Russian culture through literature, film, the media, and the arts from the era of "stagnation" to glasnost, perestroika, and the post–Soviet period. The destruction and reconstruction of cultural and political canons and myths: the Stalinist legacy and reevaluation of Soviet history; the revival of religion and nationalism; social dislocation: the problems of youth, the generation gap, and women's issues; the breaking of taboos and the dark side of freedom--violence, crime, pornography, and neofascism; the liberalization and commercialization of
art. All readings and films are in English. May be taken at 100 level with additional materials in Russian and an additional meeting time.

**RUS 78: Warrior Nations: Russia & US**
Carleton  
E+  
MW 10:30-11:45
Comparative study of how war is central to each nation’s identity and to the narratives in popular culture that help shape it. Focus is thematic, not chronological, with the course structured around topics, including shared myths of exceptionalism, points of triumph (how WWII is memorialized in both) and catastrophic defeat, when the myth of exceptionalism is shattered (Vietnam, Afghanistan). Other topics include civil war and the cold war. Attention is also directed to how post-1991 changes impact the connection between exceptionalism and militarism regarding wars today and the renewed tension between the two in the dynamics of competing hegemonies. Texts include film, fiction, and popular history. Course taught in English; no prerequisites. Cross-listed as ILVS 88.

**RUS 85: Film and Nation: Russia and Central Asia**
Johnson  
ARR  
TR 4:30-7:00 (incl. screening)
After the breakup of the Soviet Union, Russia and some former Central Asian republics, now the independent countries of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan embarked on a nation-building project through cinema. We will explore national identity, national space, new heroes and new national myths in films ranging from the Russian mega-hits Brother and Company 9 to the international art-cinema favorites, The Adopted Son (Kyrgyzstan) and The Hunter (Kazakhstan); we will also study recent multi-national productions such as the historical actions films Nomad and Mongol. No prerequisites. All films with English subtitles. Cross listed CIV 85-01, FMS 80 and ILVS 86.