RUSSIAN

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

Taught in English:
RUS 78     Warrior Nations: Russia & US
RUS 85     Film Nation: Russia & Central Asia
RUS 92     Special Topics: Introduction to Russian Culture

Special Courses:
RUS 94/194 Directed Study/Adv Directed Study
RUS 199    Senior Honors Thesis

RUS 2: Elementary Russian
Section A  Aptekman   ARR   TR 10:30-11:45, F 10:30-11:20
Section B  Petrov     ARR   TR 9:05-10:20, F 9:30-10:20
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
Petrov      ARR   TR 10:30-11:45, F 10:30-11:20
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    F+FF   TR 12:00-1:15, F 12:00-12:50
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
For advanced Russia-language students, as well as for native and near-native speakers. Focus on changes in post-Soviet society. Topics include: Soviet and post-Soviet generations: new roles for men and women, moves from “democracy” back to oppression. A generation without fear: opposition and protests; controversial new laws to ban “unsanctioned meetings” and gay and lesbian “propaganda”; the relationship between the State and the Church. Course materials include literature, film, music, TV, pop culture and pulp fiction, as well as the Internet. Work includes readings and screenings, essays, oral reports, discussions and written presentations, and a final independent research project. All readings and discussions are in Russian. Prerequisite: Russian 122, 123, 125, or placement exam and permission of instructor.

**Taught in English:**

**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 & Nation: Russian & Central Asia**
Johnson  
ARR  
TR 4:30-7:00
After the breakup of the Soviet Union, Russia and several former Central Asian republics, now the independent countries of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan embarked on a nation-building project through cinema; topics considered: how ethnic and national identities were subsumed into a "Soviet" identity and then split apart in the post-Soviet period; constructions of new national identities, national spaces, heroes and myths in films ranging from the Russian mega-hits Brother and Company 9 to the international festival favorites, The Adopted Son (Kyrgyzstan) and The Hunter (Kazakhstan); influence of Hollywood and multi-national productions in historical action films such as Nomad and Mongol; changes in film styles and genres, as well as in the structure and economics of the film industry. No prerequisites. All films with English subtitles. Cross-listed with ILVS 86, CIV 85, and FMS 85.
RUS 92 Special Topics: Introduction to Russian Culture
Aptekman
H+ TR 1:30-2:45
A thousand years of Russian culture, exploring Russia as a country at the crossroads of Europe and Asia: folk beliefs and traditions, paganism and Christianity, national character and mythology, and both high and popular culture. An interdisciplinary, multi-media study of visual and performing arts, music, literature, and film. The mysteries of Russia unveiled! No prerequisites. In English.