Russian Courses (Asian and Slavic Languages and Literatures) (RUSS)

This is a list of Russian courses. For more information, see Asian and Slavic Languages and Literatures.

RUSS:1000 First-Year Seminar  1 s.h.
Small discussion class taught by a faculty member; topics chosen by instructor; may include outside activities (e.g., films, lectures, performances, readings, visits to research facilities). Taught in English. Requirements: first- or second-semester standing.

RUSS:1030 Conversational Russian I  3 s.h.
Basic elements of Russian for travel and business; for adult learners.

RUSS:1031 Conversational Russian II  3 s.h.
Continuation of RUSS:1030; basic elements of Russian for travel or business; for adult learners.

RUSS:1050 Russian for Travelers and Business People  2 s.h.
How Russian culture continues to shape current geopolitical and sporting events (e.g., World Cup Soccer 2018); emphasis on learning basic survival Russian phrases, cultural etiquette and norms. Taught in English.

RUSS:1082 Youth Subcultures After Socialism  3 s.h.
Examination of youth subculture (i.e., distinct style and identity, beliefs, value system, fashion and favorite music) on the territory of post-communist Europe and its relations with the mainstream culture; how young people of Russia express their individuality after years of dullness and monotony. GE: Values and Culture.

RUSS:1111 First-Year Russian I  5 s.h.
Basic language skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing Russian; fundamentals of Russian grammar. GE: World Languages First Level Proficiency.

RUSS:1112 First-Year Russian II  5 s.h.

RUSS:1131 Introduction to Russian Culture  3 s.h.
Development of cultural history in Russia from middle ages to present; painting, music architecture, literature viewed against their political, historical, and social settings. Taught in English. GE: Values and Culture.

RUSS:1132 Russia Today  3 s.h.
Contemporary Russia, with focus on prevailing social, political, economic, ethnic, environmental conditions; attention to historical evolution of problems, current factors; what these factors might portend for the future. Taught in English. GE: International and Global Issues; Values and Culture.

RUSS:1500 Ukraine, a Country at the Crossroads: An Interdisciplinary Seminar on Ukrainian History and Culture  3 s.h.
Cultural specificity of Ukraine as a large multicultural European country; vital background information for analysis of present-day political events; strategic location between East and West; centuries-long history and culture; all readings in English, no knowledge of Russian or Ukrainian required. Same as CL:1500.

RUSS:1531 Slavic Folklore  3 s.h.
Introduction to culture, history, and art of eastern European peoples; pagan, dualistic, and animistic beliefs and their coexistence with Christian faith in eastern Europe. GE: Historical Perspectives; Values and Culture.

RUSS:1532 Religion and Culture of Slavs  3 s.h.
Early and medieval Slavic history, with focus on Russian art, literature, and religion from 10th through 17th century. GE: Historical Perspectives; Values and Culture.

RUSS:1600 The Cult of Power in Russian History  3 s.h.
Characteristic patterns in cultures associated with some of history's well known authoritarian figures: Ghengis Khan, Ivan the Terrible, Peter the Great, Lenin, Stalin, and, most recently, Putin; content divided chronologically into six sections — Russia's Tatar-Mongol sociocultural heritage, Ivan the Terrible and imperial expansion and special police, Peter the Great and forced Westernization, Lenin and the "dictatorship of the proletariat", Stalin's control of the arts and cinema, and state power and the age of information technology; readings in English.

RUSS:2100 Secrets of Russian Mentality  3 s.h.
Deeper insight of Russian mentality through philosophical, historical, cultural, and practical developments that have shaped Russian behavior and thought. GE: Values and Culture.

RUSS:2111 Second-Year Russian I  4 s.h.

RUSS:2112 Second-Year Russian II  4 s.h.

RUSS:2122 Cult Films of the Last Soviet Generation  3 s.h.
Political and cultural circumstance of one of the world’s most volatile and powerful regions; how life within what was considered an “Evil Empire” from 1960s to 1980s was far from primitive; how creative intelligentsia continued producing and enjoying excellent motion pictures despite multiple bans and regulations; implications for contemporary life; wider understanding of Russian aesthetics.

RUSS:2131 Women in Russian Society  3 s.h.
Historical developments that have shaped women's role in contemporary Russian society; readings in cultural history, political science, autobiographical and fictional literature, contemporary film. Taught in English.

RUSS:2232 Romani (Gypsy) Cultures of Eastern Europe  3 s.h.
Aspects of culture shared by most Roma (Gypsies) around the world; samples of folklore from Europe; impact of Roma on European literature, music, and culture; readings in English; no previous knowledge of Russian or Romani required. GE: Diversity and Inclusion. Same as CL:2700.
RUSS:2531 Topics in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies
Topics in Russian literature and culture. Same as CL:2531.

RUSS:2600 Issues in Russian Identity: Nationalism
Development of the Russian national identity in the works of three 19th-century Russian authors: Alexander Pushkin, Leo Tolstoy and Fyodor Dostoevsky; how major historical events such as Russia's wars with Poland, Sweden, France, England, and Turkey are portrayed in Pushkin's Boris Godunov and Poltava, Tolstoy's War and Peace and Sevastopol Sketches; how Western Europe is viewed in Dostoevsky's Winter Notes on Summer Impressions, Notes From Underground, and The Idiot. Prerequisites: RHET:1030. Requirements: ENGL:1200. Same as CL:2600.

RUSS:3100 West and East: Women in the Slavic World
Roles of women in two Slavic countries—Islamic Republic of Dagestan in Russia, and the Czech Republic—using approaches from the social sciences and humanities; Christian/Catholic traditions in the western Slavic country (i.e., Czechoslovakia/Czech Republic) and Islamic influences in eastern parts of Russia; analysis of women's egalitarian roles in socialist societies of 1980s, the impact of the major political, economic, and social transitions on women's lives in 1990s.

RUSS:3111 Third-Year Russian I
Advanced Russian grammar, reading, conversation, and written skills through oral reports, compositions, conversation. Requirements: RUSS:2112.

RUSS:3112 Third-Year Russian II
Advanced Russian grammar, reading, conversation, and written skills through oral reports, compositions, conversation. Requirements: RUSS:3111.

RUSS:3113 Beginning Composition and Conversation I
Russian oral and aural skills developed through idiomatic usage, stylistics, phonetics, intonation, grammar review; supplemented by short stories, newspaper texts. Taught in Russian. Requirements: RUSS:1112.

RUSS:3114 Beginning Composition and Conversation II
Russian oral and aural skills developed through idiomatic usage, stylistics, phonetics, intonation, grammar review; supplemented by short stories, conversation handbooks, current periodicals. Taught in Russian. Requirements: RUSS:2112.

RUSS:3115 Russian for Heritage Learners
Linguistic problems (grammar and vocabulary), communicative problems (understanding of written and oral advanced Russian speech), cultural problems (similarities and differences between cultures); for Russian heritage speakers.

RUSS:3116 Russian for Heritage Learners II
Continuation of RUSS:3115.

RUSS:3122 Tolstoy and Dostoevsky
Tolstoy's War and Peace and Anna Karenina; Dostoevsky's Crime and Punishment, The Demons, and short stories. Taught in English. Same as CL:3122.

RUSS:3124 Invitation to Nabokov
Nabokov's works and his writings on Russian literature. Same as CL:3124.

RUSS:3131 Health Care and Health Reforms in Russia
Societal changes and their continuing effect on the Russian health care system since 1991; guest lectures from public health, nursing, medicine, cultural anthropology. Same as GHS:3131.

RUSS:3202 Russian Literature in Translation 1860-1917
Survey of major works, figures, and trends of 19th and early 20th-century Russian literature; age of the Russian novel; works of Turgenev ( Fathers and Sons), Tolstoy (Confession), Dostoevsky (The Idiot, The Brothers Karamazov), and Chekhov (plays). Same as CL:3302.

RUSS:3990 Special Readings
Russian-language materials determined by student and instructor. Requirements: 16 s.h. of Russian language instruction.

RUSS:4111 Fourth-Year Russian I
Perfecting spoken Russian and aural comprehension of native speech. Taught in Russian. Requirements: RUSS:3112 or three years of college-level Russian.

RUSS:4112 Fourth-Year Russian II
Perfecting spoken Russian and aural comprehension of native speech. Taught in Russian. Requirements: RUSS:4111 or three years of college-level Russian.

RUSS:4990 Independent Research
Directed study.

RUSS:4995 Honors
Honors project with a faculty member.