Why Study Russian?

Russian is the most widespread language across Eurasia, and it is the most popular of all Slavic languages with over 260 million speakers. Russian is considered the international language of space, and learning Russian is part of cosmonaut training! Some of the most enduring literature comes from Russian authors such as Dostoyevsky, Tolstoy, and Chekov. Russian is an important language in the study of international relations and history.

At MIT, are you considering a MISTI internship in Russia or Kazakhstan? Coursework in Russian language and culture is strongly recommended.

Assessing your level:
Contact the Maria Khotimsyky to assess your level and advise on course placement.

For more information:
http://mitgsl.mit.edu/academics/russian-studies
email: languages@mit.edu
student.mit.edu/catalog/m21Gq.html
Visit Global Languages HQ in 14N-305

2020–2021
CONCENTRATION OPTIONS

A. Russian I or II through Russian IV
B. Russian III and two subjects beyond
C. Russian IV or above, plus two more subjects
   − One subject allowed in English from 21G.077, .085, .086, or .087

Concentration Proposal approval must be obtained by the first week of classes second term junior year.

Concentration Advisor:
Maria Khotimsky, Sr. Lecturer
khotimsk@mit.edu, 14N-224, 5-5385

MINOR in Russian and Eurasian Studies

Intended for students seeking an interdisciplinary program of study centered on Russia and Eurasia. The program is regional in spirit, meaning that students can take subjects about a wide range of countries of Eastern/Central Europe, the Slavic states, and Central Asia.

- 6 subjects arranged in 4 areas of study:
  - Area I, Language
    - 21G.613, 21G.614
  - Area II, Humanities & Arts
  - Area III, Social Sciences
  - Area IV, Historical Studies
- 5 of the 6 subjects can be counted to the 8-subject HASS Requirement
- 1 of these 5 can count towards the HASS Distribution (H, S, or A) requirement
- Appropriate subjects at Harvard or Wellesley can be applied to minor

Minor Advisor:
Elizabeth Wood, Professor of History
elizwood@mit.edu, E51-282, 3-3255

FALL 2020 Russian Schedule

21G.085 Imperial and Revolutionary Russia: Culture and Politics, 1700-1917
Analyzes Russia's social, cultural, and political heritage in the 18th and 19th centuries, up to and including the Russian Revolution of 1917. Compares reforming and revolutionary impulses in the context of serfdom, the rise of the intelligentsia, and debates over capitalism. Focuses on historical and literary texts, especially the intersections between the two. HASS-H
TR, 1-2:30, E. Wood

21G.611 Russian I
Emphasizes the development of communicative and cultural competence, as well as mastery of the foundations of Russian grammar and vocabulary. Using video, internet resources, and varied cultural materials, students work on developing speaking, reading, and writing skills. Conducted in both Russian and English. Designed for students with no knowledge of Russian. HASS-H
MTRF, 4-5, M. Andrianova

21G.613 Russian III
Includes comprehensive review and expansion of grammar and vocabulary. Emphasizes the development of speaking, reading, and writing skills. Examines adapted and authentic literary texts, media resources, and film. Develops communicative skills necessary for personal and professional interaction in a Russian-language environment. HASS-H
MTRF, 3-4, M. Khotimsky

21G.S01 Special Topics in Russian: Russian for Scientists and Engineers
Introduces basic vocabulary in different fields of science and engineering (math, physics, chemistry, biology, aerospace, internet technologies), as well as the foundational skills of professional communication. Explores contributions of Russian scientists and inventors, from periodic law, first space flight, Tetris and Google to recent award-winning discoveries in mathematics and physics. Enables students to create a video of a mini-lesson or lab, and to make a presentation on a topic of professional interest. Course materials combine readings, interviews, TEDex talks by Russian scientists, and project-based tasks. Taught in Russian. Open to advanced students of Russian and heritage speakers.
TBD, M. Khotimsky

LOOKING AHEAD

Spring 2021
21G.014 Intro to Russian Politics and Society, First-Year Discovery
21G.077/618 Introduction to the Classics of Russian Literature, HASS-H
21G.612 Russian II, HASS-H
21G.614 Russian IV, HASS-H

STUDY and INTERN ABROAD

MISTI
- MIT-Russia
- MIT-Kazakhstan

Most Global Languages classes are held in Bldg 14N or the 6th floor of Bldg 16. Check the online catalog for up-to-date room assignments and schedule information.