CU Summer Global Seminar 2017 in St. Petersburg, Russia

Russian Language – 6 credits

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TOPICAL OUTLINE

This course is devoted to the intensive study of Russian Language at St. Petersburg State University, St. Petersburg, Russia. Language classes, comprised of two to seven students, are held four to five hours daily. The program includes classes in phonetics, conversation, grammar, and emphasizes the development of oral skills. Students are assigned to language classes according to their level of proficiency.

Phonetics

This course presents a systematic exploration and analysis of the Russian sound system (with its phonetic transcription), including separate phonemes, sound combinations, and modification in normal speech, as well as intonation patterns. Special attention is given to correcting individual pronunciation errors.

Conversation

The course is designed to increase active vocabulary, further the student's control of idiomatic Russian, and develop all the basic skills of oral expression. The major focus of the course is directed on conversation organized thematically. Attention is also given to speech situations of special practical use to Americans in Russia. Course discussions cover family life, student life, getting around the city, field trips, Russian culture, art, and current events.

Grammar
The purpose of this course is to activate student's knowledge of modern Russian. This is accomplished through oral and written drills in class, and written compositions and exercises outside of class. Topics of the study include: the simple sentence, verbs of existence, verbs of motion, verbs of transitive action, the compound and simple predicate, the imperative, reflexive verbs, participles, the "simple compound" sentences, and impersonal sentences.

FORMAT

Students attend classes and program-related cultural excursions and activities five days a week. Classes are typically held four days a week, with Wednesdays and weekends used for cultural and social activities. Classes are 90 minutes in length.

Attendance at classes is mandatory. Tutorials and informal meetings are also part of the program. Students attend tutorial sessions if they need help, or as assigned. All courses are taught in Russian.

The faculty of St. Petersburg University on the basis of student proficiency assigns required readings.

EVALUATION

Grades are assigned using the Russian grading scale of one to five, which are converted to U.S. letter grade equivalents. Plus and minus grades are also assigned. Grades are determined by a combination of in-class participation, short quizzes, written assignments, and exams.

**Required Text:** Any English-Russian, Russian-English Dictionary with no less than 3,000 words.