

History and Culture of Russia (A005854)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 4.0

Study time 120 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2026-2027

A (semester 2)	Dutch, Russian	Gent	lecture	0.0h
			independent work	0.0h

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Van Poucke, Piet

LW22

lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027

	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Russian)	4	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Russian)	4	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Russian)	4	A
Exchange Programme Applied Language Studies	4	A
Linking Course Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication: a combination of at least two languages	4	A
Linking Course Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages	4	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Interpreting: a combination of at least two languages	4	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication: a combination of at least two languages	4	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages	4	A

Teaching languages

Russian, Dutch

Keywords

Russian; Cultural history

Position of the course

"History and culture of Russia" gives an overview of the history of Russia, providing students with broad background knowledge on the country, its society, institutions and culture. This study unit takes into account the language skills acquired in the first three semesters and prepares students for other culture-related units (Literature and Area Studies).

Contents

The course unit "History and Culture of Russia" consists of two parts.

The first part (weeks 1-6) provides a global political, socio-economic and cultural overview of Russian history, from the foundation of the Russian state in the 9th century to the present day. It covers the following historical periods: the "Kiev-Rus" and Mongol occupation; Muscovia; the Russian Empire; the Golden Age of Russia; the Russian Revolution and the Soviet period; Perestroika and Glasnost; Russia in the 21st century.

The second part (weeks 7-12) focuses specifically on modern Russian art (painting, sculpture, music and film) of the 20th and 21st centuries.

Initial competences

The final objectives of the different Russian study units of the first bachelor year.

Final competences

- 1 Having knowledge and understanding of the cultural, historical and institutional context of the Russian language area. (B.1.5.; assessed)
- 2 Having knowledge and understanding of the intercultural relations within the language area studied and between the Russian language area and other cultural areas. (B.1.5.; assessed)
- 3 Approaching current events in the language area from a cultural and historical perspective. (B.1.5.; assessed)
- 4 Having a critical understanding of the sources, heuristic methods and relevant instruments for research into the area of Russian cultural history. (B.2.2.; not assessed)
- 5 Having an understanding of the instruments needed to look up specific information on Russian cultural history. (B.2.2.; not assessed)
- 6 Having a command of the academic register in the foreign language. (B.2.3.: not assessed)
- 7 Answering examination questions in correct Russian. (B.6.3; assessed)

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods

Lecture, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

The independent work consists of watching a number of classical Russian films. Class recordings are only made available to students with special status or in cases of force majeure.

Study material

Type: Slides

Name: slides and complementary documents

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : Other

Available on Ufora : Yes

Online Available : Yes

References

- Bezemer, J.W. (2001). *Een geschiedenis van Rusland. Van Rurik tot Gorbatsjov*. Amsterdam: Uitgeverij G.A. van Oorschot.
- Galeotti, M. (2020). *A Short History of Russia: From the Pagans to Putin*. Hanover Square Press.
- Malfliet, Katlijn (2004). *Rusland na de Sovjet-Unie. Een normaal land?* Tiet: Lannoo Campus.
- Rosefielde, Steven (2005). *Russia in the 21st Century. The Prodigal Superpower*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Course content-related study coaching

Individual support on demand

Assessment moments

end-of-term assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Oral assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Oral assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

First session : oral examination (100%)
Second session : oral examination (100%)

Calculation of the examination mark

First session : oral examination (100%)
Second session : oral examination (100%)

Facilities for Working Students

Possibility to be exempted from attendance.
Possibility to re-schedule examination to another date during the academic year.
Feedback can be given on request.