

Russian: Area Studies (A703320)

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

Credits 4.0

Study time 120 h

Course offerings in academic year 2024-2025

Lecturers in academic year 2024-2025

Van Poucke, Piet

LW22

lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2024-2025

crdts

offering

Teaching languages

Russian, Dutch

Keywords

Russian, area studies, politics, economy, culture.

Position of the course

The course unit "Russian: Area Studies" complements the course units "Russian: Cultural History" and "Russian: Literature", which give a general overview of historical and cultural processes in Russia.

The course elaborates on social structures and modern institutions in Russia, linking those to the country's historical roots.

Students learn to critically use reference works in order to individually gather information on a specified topic.

Contents

The course contents of "Russian: Area Studies" are thematically organized .

The following topics are covered: economy, (internal and foreign) (geo)politics, social evolutions, culture and ecology.

Students are required to compile a portfolio on a current Russian topic, which is further discussed in class.

Initial competences

The students:

- are familiar with important concepts and realia from the cultural history of the language area;
- can retrieve information about the language area's cultural history, drawing on appropriate sources;
- can frame the language area's current affairs in a cultural and historical context.

Final competences

- 1 Having a command of Russian at B2+ level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages for oral skills and C1 for vocabulary, listening and reading [MV11; MT11; MC11; assessed]
- 2 Having advanced knowledge of the cultural and institutional backgrounds of Russia [MC12; MT12; MV13; assessed]
- 3 Critically reflecting on social developments in Russia [MC12; MT12; MV13; assessed]
- 4 Critically reflecting on aspects of intercultural communication with Russia [MC12; MT12; MV13; assessed]
- 5 Critically applying theoretical models and models of analysis to complex problems [MC23; MT23; MV23; assessed]
- 6 Underpinning views in a scientifically justified manner and sharing these in a coherent and clear manner [MC32; MT32; MV32; assessed]

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Seminar, Lecture, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

The independent work consists of the collection of a dossier on a specific topic.
During the interactive seminars students present the results of their research.

Study material

None

References

Coudenys, Wim. 2014. *Het geheugen van Rusland. Een geschiedenis*. Leuven/Den Haag: Acco.
Figes, Orlando. 2002. *Natasha's dance. A cultural history of Russia*. London: Penguin books.
Maes, Francis. 1996. *Geschiedenis van de Russische muziek. Van Kamarinskaja tot Babi Jar*. Nijmegen: SUN.
Malfliet, Katlijn. 2004. *Rusland na de Sovjet-Unie. Een normaal land?* Tiel: Lannoo Campus.
Rosefield, Steve. 2005. *Russia in the 21st Century. The Prodigal Superpower*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
Studin, Irvin. 2018. *Russia. Strategy, Policy and Administration*. London: Palgrave Macmillan.
Зуев, М.Н. 2005. *История России. С древности до наших дней*. Москва: ОНИКС 21 век.

Course content-related study coaching

Individual support on demand.

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous 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

Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

First session: Oral examination and Assignment.
The assignment involves compiling and presenting a portfolio on a current Russian topic.

Second session: Oral examination and Assignment.
Students are required to submit a revised version of the portfolio. If the student gains a pass mark for the assignment component of the assessment, s/he can, but is under no obligation to, submit a new portfolio.

Calculation of the examination mark

First session :
Oral examination (80%)
Assignment (20%)

Second session:
Oral examination (80%)
Assignment (20%)

Facilities for Working Students

Exemption from class attendance is possible.
Examinations can be taken at other moments throughout the academic year.
Feedback on request.

