

Russian

The study of Russian involves the study of the language, literature and culture of the Russian-speaking people. Russian is the official language of the Russian Federation, with some 150 million speakers, and is still a *lingua franca* amongst the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States. It is a language with a significant modern literature. The 19th century boasts such writers as Pushkin, Tolstoy, Dostoevsky and Chekhov, and there have been five winners of the Nobel Prize for Literature in the 20th century who wrote in Russian: Brodsky, Bunin, Pasternak, Sholokhov and Solzhenitsyn.

The Russian program provides a comprehensive range of subjects within the general area of Russian language, literature and culture. Students are also able and encouraged to take subjects in Russian and East/Central European history and political science as part of their major. It is also possible to undertake a linguistic study of another Slavic language (currently Czech) at a higher level.

The School of Languages, Cultures and Linguistics at Monash University also offers a wide range of undergraduate and postgraduate subjects in Slavic languages, literatures and cultures which can be taken on a complementary course basis by Melbourne University students as part of their degree. The languages offered at Monash University are Ukrainian and Polish.

Time commitment to study

As well as scheduled contact hours for lectures, tutorial and seminars a considerable additional time commitment is needed to complete the academic requirements of each subject.

A subject-specific time commitment to study will be provided by your lecturer or tutor at the beginning of semester to help you schedule your workload and successfully manage your time during the semester. In addition, general estimates of the total time commitment required to study a 12.5-point single semester subject in the Faculty of Arts can be found on page 1.

Language study streams

The department offers two streams of Russian:

Beginners

The beginners stream is for students who have little or no knowledge of Russian. It is available to students at both first and second year, although students intending to complete a major in Russian will normally need to commence their language study in the first year.

Post-VCE

The post-VCE stream is usually only available to students who have obtained a pass in VCE Russian, or an approved equivalent.

Diploma in Modern Languages (Russian)

The Diploma in Modern Languages (DML) enables students to gain a diploma in language study while completing an undergraduate degree at the University of Melbourne.

The DML involves a three-year sequence of language study, totalling a minimum of 100 points. It adds one year to the duration of an ordinary degree course.

The DML (Russian) is offered in beginners and post-VCE streams. Russian subjects are taken alongside the degree subjects in an integrated sequence of study. This must be approved by a faculty course adviser and the Head of the Russian Program. See *Diploma in Modern Languages (p.14)*.

Requirements for a major

A major in Russian usually consists of 125 points comprising:

- four first-year subjects in Russian (37.5 points); and
- second-year subjects in Russian (37.5 points); and
- third-year subjects in Russian (50 points).

A major must include the following subjects:

- 126-158 Advanced Russian A
- 126-159 Advanced Russian B

Structuring a major

A major usually takes one of the following forms:

Beginners stream

First year	Points
126-150 Beginners Russian A (p.2)	6.25
126-151 Beginners Russian B (p.2)	12.5
126-152 Beginners Russian C (p.2)	6.25
126-153 Beginners Russian D (p.2)	12.5

Second year	Points
126-154 Intermediate Russian A (p.2)	6.25
126-155 Intermediate Russian B (p.2)	12.5
126-156 Intermediate Russian C (p.2)	6.25
126-157 Intermediate Russian D (p.3)	12.5

Third year	Points
126-158 Advanced Russian A (p.3)	12.5
126-159 Advanced Russian B (p.3)	12.5

Two optional subjects (25 points). This may include Slavic subjects taken at Monash University. Students wishing to take these subjects should seek advice from the Department of Slavic Studies at Monash University and a course adviser in the Faculty of Arts.

Post-VCE stream

First year	Points
126-154 Intermediate Russian A (p.2)	6.25
126-155 Intermediate Russian B (p.2)	12.5
126-156 Intermediate Russian C (p.2)	6.25
126-157 Intermediate Russian D (p.3)	12.5

Second year	Points
126-158 Advanced Russian A (p.3)	12.5
126-159 Advanced Russian B (p.3)	12.5

Third year
Four optional subjects (50 points). This may include Slavic subjects taken at Monash University. Students wishing to take these subjects should seek advice from the Department of Slavic Studies at Monash University and a course adviser in the Faculty of Arts.

Optional subjects

Second/third-year	Sem.
Russian	
126-160 Russian Linguistics A (p.3)	N/A
126-161 Russian Linguistics B (p.3)	2
126-162 Reading Russian for Social Scientists A (p.3)	N/A
126-163 Reading Russian for Social Scientists B (p.3)	N/A
126-210 Russian C19th Literature and Society (p.3)	N/A

History	
131-031 The Crisis Zones of Europe (p.7)	1
131-050 The Russian Revolution 1890-1924 (p.9)	1
131-082 Age of Stalin 1924 - 1953 (p.11)	2
131-083 The Decline & Fall of the Soviet Empire (p.11)	N/A

Political science	
166-030 Transitions in Central & Eastern Europe (p.5)	N/A

Third/fourth-year	Sem.
Russian	
126-421 Advanced Topics in Russian Grammar A (p.4)	1
126-422 Advanced Topics in Russian Grammar B (p.4)	2
126-423 Introduction to Czech through Russian (p.4)	N/A
126-424 Reading Course in Slavic Studies (p.4)	1 rep 2

Fourth-year/postgraduate	Sem.
Political science	
166-540 The Changing Nature of War (p.11)	2
166-541 Aspects of Post-Communism (p.12)	2

For further details please contact the Department of Slavic Studies at Monash University and a course adviser in the Faculty of Arts.

Honours entry

Students will normally enter a combined honours degree in Russian with another area of study in the Faculty of Arts at the University of Melbourne.

For information on how to apply see *Applying for Honours (p.13)*.

The prerequisites for entry to fourth-year honours in Russian are:

- completion of all the requirements for the BA; and
- completion of a major in Russian; and
- (in the case of combined honours) completion of a major in the combined area of study; and
- an average grade of H2B or higher over the second/third-year subjects within the major.

Students undertaking combined honours in Russian and another area of study must complete:

- 126-516 Russian Thesis (37.5 points)
- and*
- two honours subjects in Russian (25 points); and

- three honours subjects in the combined area of study (37.5 points); and *or*
- honours thesis in the combined area of study (37.5 points); and
- two honours subjects in the combined area of study (265 points); and
- three honours subjects in Russian.

Studying overseas

Students are encouraged to take in-country studies in Russian. Credit may be granted for subjects approved prior to the studies being undertaken. Melbourne Abroad Scholarships are available on a competitive basis through the School of Languages for such study trips.

Career opportunities

Graduates of the Bachelor of Arts who have majored in Russian have found employment in teaching, the media, the theatre, the public service, diplomacy and tourism. In addition, when combined with another or a higher degree, Russian equips graduates for careers in academia, international law, and international business. Commercial dealings between the West, including Australia and Russia are also increasing.

For more information

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Language subjects

126-150 Beginners Russian A

Availability: 1st, 2nd and 3rd year

Credit points: 6.25

Coordinator: Dr Robert Lagerberg

Corequisites: Students must be concurrently enrolled in 126-151.

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures per week (*Semester 1*).

Description: This is a beginners subject covering the basic grammatical system of Russian. The subject teaches students to translate simple texts from Russian into English and vice versa and should provide students with an active knowledge of around 500 words and a passive knowledge of a further 200 words.

Assessment: A 1.5-hour exam 75% (at the end of semester) and written work totalling 500 words 25% (due throughout the semester).

Prescribed texts: E Stepanova et al, *Russky yazyk dlya vsekh (Russian for Everybody)*, (6th ed) or later.

126-151 Beginners Russian B

Availability: 1st, 2nd and 3rd year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Dr Robert Lagerberg

Corequisites: Students must be concurrently enrolled in 126-150.

Contact: Three 1-hour lectures and a 1-hour tutorial per week (*Semester 1*).

Description: This is a beginners subject covering all areas of the language, ie. reading, writing, aural comprehension and oral skills, and including use of computer-aided language learning. This subject covers the basic grammatical system of Russian; teaches students to translate simple texts from Russian into English and vice versa; and should provide students with an active knowledge of around 500 words and a passive knowledge of a further 200 words (all from the textbook). The subject should enable students to conduct elementary conversation on a limited number of basic topics (eg. family, weather, travel, studies); and introduces students to Russian society and culture.

Assessment: A 1-hour test 25% (mid-semester), written work totalling 2500 words 62.5% (due throughout the semester) and a 10-minute oral exam 12.5% (at the end of semester).

Prescribed texts: E Stepanova et al, *Russky yazyk dlya vsekh (Russian for Everybody)*, (6th ed) or later.

126-152 Beginners Russian C

Availability: 1st, 2nd and 3rd year

Credit points: 6.25

Coordinator: Dr Robert Lagerberg

Corequisites: Students should be concurrently enrolled in 126-153.

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures per week (*Semester 2*).

Description: This is a beginners subject covering the basic grammatical system of Russian. The subject teaches students to translate simple texts from Russian into English and vice versa; and should provide students with an active knowledge of around 1200 words and a passive knowledge of a further 500 words.

Assessment: A 1.5-hour exam 75% (at the end of semester) and written work totalling 500 words 25% (due throughout the semester).

Prescribed texts: E Stepanova et al, *Russky yazyk dlya vsekh (Russian for Everybody)*, (6th ed) or later.

126-153 Beginners Russian D

Availability: 1st, 2nd and 3rd year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Dr Robert Lagerberg

Corequisites: Students should be concurrently enrolled in 126-152.

Contact: Three 1-hour lectures and a 1-hour tutorial per week (*Semester 2*).

Description: This is a beginners subject covering all areas of the language, ie. reading, writing, aural comprehension and oral skills, including use of computer-aided language learning. The subject covers the basic grammatical system of Russian; teaches students to translate simple texts from Russian into English and vice versa; and should provide students with an active knowledge of around 1200 words and a passive knowledge of a further 500 words. The subject should enable students to conduct elementary conversation on a limited number of basic topics (eg. family, weather, travel, studies). Students will also be introduced to Russian society and culture.

Assessment: A 1-hour test 25% (mid-semester), written work totalling 2500 words 62.5% (due throughout the semester) and a 10-minute oral exam 12.5% (at the end of semester).

Prescribed texts: E Stepanova et al, *Russky yazyk dlya vsekh (Russian for Everybody)*, (6th ed) or later.

126-154 Intermediate Russian A

Availability: 1st, 2nd and 3rd year

Credit points: 6.25

Coordinator: Dr Robert Lagerberg

Corequisites: Students should be concurrently enrolled in 126-155.

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures per week (*Semester 1*).

Description: This subject involves consolidation of basic Russian grammar, formal grammar exercises, and use of computer-aided language learning. By the end of the subject, students should be able to demonstrate a solid control of the basic grammatical system; show an active or passive knowledge of the relevant vocabulary from the textbook and texts; and translate from Russian into English simpler texts without a dictionary and texts of medium difficulty with the help of a dictionary.

Assessment: A 1.5-hour exam 75% (at the end of semester) and written work totalling 500 words 25% (due throughout the semester).

Prescribed texts: E Stepanova et al, *Russky yazyk dlya vsekh (Russian for Everybody)*, (6th ed) or later. • S Khavronina, *Russian as We Speak It*.

126-155 Intermediate Russian B

Availability: 1st, 2nd and 3rd year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Dr Robert Lagerberg

Corequisites: Students should be concurrently enrolled in 126-154.

Contact: Three 1-hour lectures and a 1-hour tutorial per week (*Semester 1*).

Description: This subject involves consolidation of basic Russian grammar, formal grammar exercises, and use of computer-aided language learning. By the end of the subject, students should be able to demonstrate a solid control of the basic grammatical system; show an active or passive knowledge of the relevant vocabulary from the textbook and texts; translate from Russian into English simpler texts without a dictionary and texts of medium difficulty with the aid of dictionary; conduct conversation and write compositions on a limited number of basic topics (eg. family, weather, travel, studies); and gain an introductory knowledge of Russian society and culture.

Assessment: A 1-hour test 25% (mid-semester), written work totalling 2500 words 62.5% (due throughout the semester) and a 10-minute oral exam 12.5% (at the end of the semester).

Prescribed texts: E Stepanova et al, *Russky yazyk dlya vsekh (Russian for Everybody)*, (6th ed) or later. • S Khavronina, *Russian as We Speak It*.

126-156 Intermediate Russian C

Availability: 1st, 2nd and 3rd year

Credit points: 6.25

Coordinator: Dr Robert Lagerberg

Corequisites: Students should be concurrently enrolled in 126-157.

Contact: Two lectures per week (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject involves a more detailed study of Russian grammar and formal grammar exercises. By the end of the subject, students should demonstrate a good knowledge of the basic grammatical system; show an active or passive knowledge of the relevant vocabulary from the textbook and texts; and translate from Russian into English simpler texts without a dictionary and texts of medium difficulty with the help of a dictionary.

Assessment: A 1.5-hour exam 75% (at the end of semester) and written work totalling 500 words 25% (due throughout the semester).

Prescribed texts: S Khavronina, *Russian As We Speak It*. • P Davis and D Opredek, *Making Progress in Russian*, (2nd ed) 1997.

126-157 Intermediate Russian D

Availability: 1st, 2nd and 3rd year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Dr Robert Lagerberg

Corequisites: Students should be concurrently enrolled in 126-156.

Contact: Three 1-hour lectures and a 1-hour tutorial per week (*Semester 2*).

Description: Students completing this subject will have developed their knowledge of grammatical structures and vocabulary; improved their reading knowledge through translation of authentic Russian texts involving a reader-response approach; improved their aural comprehension through multimedia and audio-visual material; and have deepened their knowledge of Russian society and culture. At the end of the semester students should be able to communicate effectively and accurately in both spoken and written Russian.

Assessment: A 1-hour test 25% (mid-semester), written work totalling 2500 words 62.5% (due throughout the semester) and a 10-minute oral exam 12.5% (at the end of the semester).

Prescribed texts: S Khavronina, *Russian As We Speak It*. • P Davis and D Opredek, *Making Progress in Russian*, (2nd ed) 1997.

126-158 Advanced Russian A

Availability: 2nd, 3rd and 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Dr Robert Lagerberg

Contact: A 1-hour lecture, a 1-hour seminar and two 1-hour language classes per week (*Semester 1*).

Description: This subject involves advanced grammar, translation in both directions, composition, and close study of literary texts. By the end of the subject, students should demonstrate a very solid control of the grammatical system; demonstrate a fairly large active and passive vocabulary, sufficient for translating medium-difficulty texts (Russian to English) without a dictionary and difficult ones with a dictionary; be able to write and converse in Russian on relatively serious topics (eg. social or political issues); understand normal spoken Russian (eg. lectures, broadcast talks) on any general topic; and understand the content and literary structure of selected literary texts (by commenting and translating). Students should also develop a deeper knowledge of Russian society and culture.

Assessment: A 2-hour exam 40% (at the end of the semester), a 10-minute oral exam 10% (at the end of the semester) and written assignments totalling 1000 words for second/third-year, 2000 words for 4th-year 50% (due throughout the semester).

Prescribed texts: S Khavronina, *Russian As We Speak It*. • P Davis & D Opredek, *Making Progress in Russian*, (2nd ed) 1997.

126-159 Advanced Russian B

Availability: 2nd, 3rd and 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Dr Robert Lagerberg

Contact: A 1-hour lecture, a 1-hour seminar and two 1-hour language classes per week (*Semester 2*).

Description: This subject involves advanced grammar, translation in both directions, composition, and close study of literary texts. By the end of the subject students should demonstrate a very solid control of the grammatical system; demonstrate a fairly large active and passive vocabulary, sufficient for translating medium-difficulty texts (Russian to English) without a dictionary and difficult ones with a dictionary; be able to write and converse in Russian on relatively serious topics (eg. social or political issues); understand normal spoken Russian (eg. lectures, broadcast talks) on any general topic; and understand the content and literary structure of selected literary texts (by commenting and translating). Students should also develop a deeper knowledge of Russian society and culture.

Assessment: A 2-hour exam 40% (at the end of the semester), a 10-minute oral exam 10% (at the end of the semester) and written assignments totalling 1000 words for second/third year, 2000 words for 4th year 50% (due throughout the semester).

Prescribed texts: S Khavronina, *Russian As We Speak It*. • P Davis & D Opredek, *Making Progress in Russian*, (2nd ed) 1997.

Optional subjects

Second/third-year subjects

126-160 Russian Linguistics A

Availability: 2nd and 3rd year

Credit points: 12.5

Semester: Not Offered

Description: This subject builds on the knowledge students already have of Russian and introduces them to many of the main linguistic features of the modern language. It stresses both a theoretical knowledge of (Russian) linguistics as well as the practical application of that knowledge for the purposes of improving students' Russian. The following areas are covered: varieties of language register (eg. colloquial versus 'higher' register, Russian dialects); problems of meaning (eg. homonyms, paronyms); problems of translating from English to Russian; language and everyday life (eg. measurements, numbers, names of countries and nationalities); verbal etiquette (eg. forms of address); and Russian morphology (inflection of nouns, adjectives and verbs).

126-161 Russian Linguistics B

Availability: 2nd and 3rd year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Dr Robert Lagerberg

Semester: Semester 2

Description: This subject builds on the knowledge students already have of Russian and introduces them to many of the main linguistic features of the modern language. It stresses both a theoretical knowledge of (Russian) linguistics as well as the practical application of that knowledge for the purposes of improving students' Russian. The following areas are covered: vocabulary and idiom (eg. loanwords, neologisms, proverbs); word formation (eg. prefixes, suffixes); prepositions and the cases they govern; syntax (eg. use of cases, use of aspects); phonetics and phonology.

Assessment: Weekly assignments totalling 2000 words 50% and a 2-hour exam 50% (at the end of semester).

126-162 Reading Russian for Social Scientists A

Availability: 2nd and 3rd year

Credit points: 12.5

Semester: Not Offered

Description: This subject introduces students with no prior knowledge of Russian to Russian social science texts (texts on current affairs, history, politics, sociology, geography etc.). It provides students with the basic grammatical tools and vocabulary needed to gain a passive knowledge of Russian in order for them to be able to read such texts with the aid of a dictionary. By the end of the subject, students should be able to read, understand and translate into English Russian texts of moderate difficulty with the aid of a dictionary.

126-163 Reading Russian for Social Scientists B

Availability: 2nd and 3rd year

Credit points: 12.5

Semester: Not Offered

Description: This subject introduces students who have completed Reading Russian for Social Scientists A (or at least the equivalent) to more advanced social science texts (texts on current affairs, history, politics, sociology, geography etc.). By the end of the subject, students should be able to read, understand and translate into English advanced Russian texts with the aid of a dictionary.

126-210 Russian C19th Literature and Society

Availability: 2nd and 3rd year

Credit points: 12.5

Prerequisites: Usually first-year European studies, see *Prerequisites (p.1)*.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: This subject is an introduction to Russian culture and society in the 19th century through the study of literary texts against a background of Russian and European artistic and intellectual movements (Romanticism, Realism, 'Nihilism', 'new art' at the turn of the century). Students who complete the subject should have become familiar with selected major texts of the

19th century Russian literary canon, and be able to critique these through contemporary critical theory and in an interdisciplinary context which draws on philosophy and the arts in European culture in general. The texts are studied in English, but students specialising in Russian language read specified texts in the original.

131-031 The Crisis Zones of Europe

See full subject details on page 7.

131-050 The Russian Revolution 1890-1924

See full subject details on page 9.

131-082 Age of Stalin 1924 - 1953

See full subject details on page 11.

131-083 The Decline & Fall of the Soviet Empire

See full subject details on page 11.

166-030 Transitions in Central & Eastern Europe

See full subject details on page 5.

Third/fourth-year subjects

126-421 Advanced Topics in Russian Grammar A

Availability: 3rd and 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Dr Robert Lagerberg

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures and a 1-hour tutorial per week (*Semester 1*).

Description: This is a post-advanced language-acquisition subject, in the course of which students should be able to enhance their capacity to use correct, idiomatic Russian both in written and spoken form; acquire the ability to understand and translate messages of a sophisticated level of complexity occurring in a variety of styles and contexts; and develop a conceptual understanding of the language through a linguistic study of language functions.

Assessment: Weekly assignments totalling 1500 words for 3rd year, 2500 words for 4th year 50%, a 10-minute oral exam 10% (at the end of semester), a 1-hour language exam 20% (at the end of semester) and a 1-hour literature exam 20% (at the end of semester).

126-422 Advanced Topics in Russian Grammar B

Availability: 3rd and 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Dr Robert Lagerberg

Contact: Two 1-hour lectures and a 1-hour tutorial per week (*Semester 2*).

Description: This is a post-advanced language-acquisition subject which builds on the knowledge gained in 126-421. Students who complete it should be able to enhance their capacity to use correct, idiomatic Russian both in written and spoken form; acquire the ability to understand and translate messages of a sophisticated level of complexity occurring in a variety of styles and contexts; and develop a conceptual understanding of the language through a linguistic study of language functions.

Assessment: Weekly assignments totalling 1500 words for 3rd year, 2500 words for 4th year 50%, a 10-minute oral exam 10% (at the end of semester), a 1-hour language exam 20% (at the end of semester) and a 1-hour literature exam 20% (at the end of semester).

126-423 Introduction to Czech through Russian

Availability: 2nd and 3rd year

Credit points: 12.5

Prerequisites: Permission of the coordinator.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: This subject is a contrastive linguistic study, involving both theory and practice, of Russian and Czech. By the end of the subject students should have a basic understanding of Czech, especially in contrast to Russian; be able to read any Czech texts with the help of a dictionary; be able to pronounce Czech reasonably well; be in a position to continue independently learning to use Czech at all levels.

126-424 Reading Course in Slavic Studies

Availability: 3rd and 4th year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Dr Robert Lagerberg

Prerequisites: Approval of the subject coordinator.

Contact: Regular meetings with the supervisor (*Semester 1, repeat 2*).

Description: Students studying Slavic studies, including Russian, may be permitted to take this individual reading subject. After consultation with an appropriate member of staff who agrees to act as a supervisor, students wishing to take this subject should submit to the coordinator details of their proposed topic for approval, including bibliography and a proposed schedule of assignments. Approval may not be given if there is substantial overlap between the proposed topic and the content of an existing subject. Students may enrol in this subject only if they have already completed all other optional subjects available.

Assessment: Two 2000-word essays 50% each (one due mid-semester and one at the end of semester) for 3rd-year students, a 2000-word essay and a 3000-word essay for 4th-year students 50% each.

Fourth-year subjects

126-516 Russian Thesis

Availability: 4th year

Credit points: 37.5

Coordinator: Dr Robert Lagerberg

Prerequisites: Admission to fourth-year combined honours in Russian.

Contact: Regular meetings with supervisor over two consecutive semesters of enrolment (*Semester 1, repeat 2*).

Description: Research into Russian language or literature on a selected topic approved by the head of Russian in coordination with the thesis supervisor.

Assessment: Students must write a thesis of 10,000 words in Russian or 12,000 words in English on an approved topic 100% (due before the end of the second semester of enrolment).