

A level Russian

This is a course for either complete beginners or for those who already have GCSE Russian. The vast majority of our students are complete beginners.

Why study Russian?

- You enjoy communicating with others.
- You want to learn more about other cultures, including films, TV and literature.
- You might like to work abroad in the future
- You wish to increase your employability: language specialists usually get preference over other candidates of identical ability who don't have a language.
- Whatever you decide to do as a career, it is highly likely that you will one day find yourself working for a multinational company or for a firm with connections abroad: in Russia or Eastern Europe.
- The demand by companies for executives, management, scientists and sales people to be multilingual is ever increasing. Employers say they want people with skills such as engineering, law, chemistry, etc, who can also speak a foreign language.



Why study Russian at Solihull Sixth Form College?

We are unique in offering you the chance to study Russian from scratch with no prior knowledge. You can also study Russian with a GCSE (or equivalent).

You will develop language skills in a wide variety of ways, making full use of our two Multi-Media Language Labs and drawing on a range of sources from course books to Internet and satellite TV. In class you will carry out a lot of pair and group work designed to build up your communicative skills. Our VLE also has a range of interactive exercises including vocabulary learning and listening work. Each week, in addition to mainstream lessons, you will have contact with our Russian native speaker through small group conversation sessions.

By the end of Year 12 you will be able to study short off-air news items in Russian, and make brief summaries. You will also watch and analyse a Russian film and read a book in Russian.

Case Study

Among the recent successful students to have taken this course is **Nick Delaney**. He joined the College from Lode Heath School to study A levels, achieving all A* grades in German, Russian and Law.

Nick is continuing his languages studies at the University of Cambridge, where he is reading Asian and Middle Eastern Studies at Churchill College.



“Learning Russian was such a challenge but I enjoyed every minute of it. Beverley and Elena are such amazing teachers who helped with everything.”

- student Natasha Care



Course Outline

There are 3 components:

Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Translation: Comprehension recordings and texts based on authentic material, translation into English.

Paper 2: Writing and Translation: 2 essays in Russian on a book and a film, translation into Russian.

Paper 3: Speaking: 21-23 minute discussion with examiner including 5 minute preparation time.

Assessment

No Coursework

Examination (100%)

Examining Board – EDEXCEL.

All students will take the A level at the end of Year 13.

Special Entry Requirements

- Beginners: There is no requirement for Modern Foreign Language experience at GCSE.
- Post-GCSE applicants: Grade 5 higher level in Russian is required, although most students have at least grade 6.
- These requirements are in addition to our standard A level entry requirements - www.solihullsfsc.ac.uk/courses/entry-requirements.

Prohibited Options

Languages can be combined with any subject at A level. Studying two languages is a particularly good option.

What do our students go on to do?

Most students go on to take a degree involving languages. Joint degree combinations are very popular, for example combining Russian with another language, or Law, English, Business, Tourism, or indeed a wide range of other disciplines. Students going on to employment or training progress into areas such as retail and leisure and tourism.

Cost Implications

Approximately £15 for a good bilingual dictionary. You will also need to buy the set text in Russian (approx. £10).

Complementary Subjects or Enrichment Courses

We run a beginners' short course in Spanish.

Examination Results

In the past three years, there has been great success for students on this course, including consistent 100% pass rates. The full breakdown of A Level results is as follows:

Year	Entry	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U	A-E%
2018	9	3	4	1	1	0	0	0	100.0%
2019	3	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	100.0%
2020	5	1	1	1	2	0	0	0	100.0%

Contact

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