

Why Study Russian?

1. There are an estimated 258 million Russian speakers worldwide, with approximately 154 million being native speakers. Join the 104.3 million others who speak Russian as a second language.
2. Russian is the official language of Russia, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, and Kazakhstan. It is the unofficial lingua franca in Azerbaijan, Estonia, Georgia, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan. There are substantial numbers of Russian speakers in Finland, Hungary, the Balkans, Mongolia, Poland, China, and the U.S.
3. Russian is the 3rd most common Internet language.
4. The U.S. government has designated Russian as a critical language for American citizens due to the increasingly global economy. Critical languages are considered essential for national security and the globalized economy.
5. CAREER OPPORTUNITIES: Russian continues to be one of the most in-demand languages among employers in the U.S. Department of Agriculture [USDA], Department of Commerce, Department of Defense, Department of Energy, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Homeland Security, Department of Labor, and Department of the Interior. There are an estimated 3,000 annual U.S. government positions that require Russian language skills.
6. COMMUNITIES of Russian speakers stretch across two continents, from Eastern Europe to Central Asia. Russian is a global diaspora language, making it relevant on an even wider geopolitical stage. You will hear Russian spoken all over the world, from San Francisco and New York to Berlin and Buenos Aires. If you wish to travel to Eastern Europe, knowing Russian will help you navigate other Slavic languages
7. SCIENCE: If you are interested in scientific research, cybersecurity, computer science, energy, geology, mathematics, chemistry, and more, learning Russian will be highly advantageous. Russian is the second most common language for scientific publications, and it will give you access to primary sources
8. CULTURE: Learners of Russian gain unfiltered access to culture, films, literature, music, and the arts. Did you know that Russian is the 'language of the novel' and can teach you a lot about creative writing? Russian proficiency allows you to read Dostoevsky, Tolstoy, Chekhov, and Bulgakov in the original.
9. Studying a rich language like Russian enhances critical thinking, analytical skills, listening skills, and memory.
10. Russian is a beautifully expressive and deeply lyrical language.