VASSAR IN ST. PETERSBURG
RUSSIA
ST. PETERSBURG

The Vassar St. Petersburg program is conducted in partnership with the State Hermitage Museum. The program is unique in allowing our students virtually unlimited access to the Hermitage with a collection of art that is rivaled only by such famous sites as the British Museum or the Louvre. Our students are granted equally unrestricted access to the Russian Museum, a treasure-trove of Russian art ranging from medieval icons to the avant-garde and beyond. Classes are held under the tutelage of Hermitage curators, senior associates of the Russian Museum, and Vassar College faculty of the department of Russian Studies. Conditions for our students are truly exceptional, enabling them to visit the museum’s storage facilities and examine parts of its enormous collection not available to the general public. The program offers a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity both for Russian majors and students interested in art history.

- No previous knowledge of Russian language required.
- Offered every fall semester.
- Open to undergraduate students, as well as graduate and special students.
- Students live with host families in private homes located in central St. Petersburg.

CURRICULUM

Students enroll in courses in Art History, Russian Culture, and Russian language study.

175 The Hermitage Collection Through History – A survey of the major collections of the Hermitage Museum’s paintings and prints, presented in the context of the history of their acquisition, exhibition, and appreciation. Lectures plus extensive viewing of art in the Hermitage Museum. Art History majors see 275.

176 Icons to Avant-Garde: Russian Art – A historical survey, based on the exhibits of Russian art in several museums of St. Petersburg. Lectures plus extensive viewing of art in the Russian Museum. Art History majors see 276.

275 & 276 [Options for advanced students] – Same lectures as 175 & 176; individualized research projects in addition to regular coursework. May be counted toward Art History major requirements.

166 St. Petersburg in Russian History and Culture – Architectural, literary, musical, theatrical, and other notable expressions of Russia’s creative spirit and the country’s imperial capital.

Elementary, Intermediate, or Advanced Russian – Five to six hours of instruction per week, plus oral practice. All students are required to study Russian language at the appropriate level.
DEVELOPING LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY AND INTERCULTURAL AWARENESS THROUGH:

DIRECT ACCESS
to world renowned Russian museums

HOUSING
with local, Russian-speaking hosts

FIELD TRIPS
and cultural activities

FACULTY RESIDENT DIRECTOR
and professional on-site staff

Vassar

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