International Study Centres

Shape your future
Why do the Russia ISC

Study at one of the largest and leading universities in Russia

Visit the media company Russia Today

Gain a better understanding of Russia, past and present

Experience two cities, Moscow and St Petersburg
The programme

Topic: EXPLORING RUSSIA: FROM THE PAST OF ST PETERSBURG TO MODERN MOSCOW

Explore the rich history and culture of Russia through lectures and visits exploring the following topics:

- History
- Politics
- Media
- Economics
The two weeks I spent in Russia are amongst the best of my life so far, and it was certainly a highlight of my time at University. As well as the fascinating lectures, the chance to experience a culture very different from that which I am used to allowed me to grow not only my skills as a student, but as a person too, and this was compounded by the excellent group of peers who travelled with me.”

Tom, Economics

The opportunity to partake in lectures at the Higher School of Economics was certainly a highlight of the trip for me. The Higher School of Economics is considered to be one of Russia’s leading universities and therefore the quality of the lectures and the teaching was exceptional. Not only this, but the lecture topics were varied and covered social, political and economic aspects of Russia both old and new.”

Caitlin, History
Excursions

The lectures are complemented with visits to sites around the cities. For example:

- Peterhof
- The Hermitage
- Russia Today – media company
- Church of the Spilled Blood
- Red Square
- Boat trips

[Note: some visits are subject to ticket availability as it is not always possible to book far in advance.]
**Student feedback**

“Whilst the lectures were incredibly informative, as much was learnt from the educational visits to cultural icons, museums, and other places of interest.”

Tom, Economics

“The ISC also taught me that I should seize every opportunity I get, and it really is a life experience that transcends any single academic qualification.”

Rhian, History of Art

“Before the trip I had a preconceived idea of the political nature of Russian society, but my experience and exposure to academics, students and the public shook this notion to the core.”

Jayh, History

“The ISC to Russia was a phenomenal experience that I have learned so much from and will treasure for a long time. Russia is a country that I am fascinated with Russia, its history and culture and to experience it first hand was incredible.”

Rachel, History
Accommodation

Accommodation will be provided. This is likely to be a combination of student accommodation and hotels.

You will share a room with at least one other student.

Visa requirements

- Students will require a student visa to enter Russia, which includes an application centre visit (to London, Edinburgh or Manchester).

- For the current cost of the visa please visit the below website http://ru.vfsglobal.co.uk/

- A recent clear HIV certificate is needed for the student visa application.

- The cost of a visa, application centre visit, and HIV certificate is not included in the programme cost.
What will it cost?

- Participation in the 2019 ISC programme costs £2,250 per student.
- A non-refundable acceptance fee of £250 is necessary to secure your place on an ISC.
- A payment plan of two further £1,000 instalments is then implemented to allow you to spread the programme participation cost.
- You must pay in full before the departure date. Failure to pay will result in you being withdrawn from the programme.

What is included in the cost:

- International flights
- Tuition fees
- Transfer to and from airport in host country
- Travel insurance
- Entry tickets
- Accommodation
- Some meals

What is not included in the cost:

- Visa
- Spending money and extra for meals
- Travel to and from airport in the UK
- Vaccinations
- HIV certificate
Bursaries

- Each year there are a limited number of bursaries you can apply for towards the cost of the Study Centre.

- These are highly competitive and will be distributed on a needs basis. They are evaluated by a bursary case submitted as part of your application.

- Previous award amounts have been between £500 and £2000.

- Bursary offers will be made at the same time as offers on the programme (see application and deadlines).

Admission criteria

- International Study Centres are open to all York students, including final year, masters, postgraduates and distance learners.

- You do not need any prior knowledge of the topic and it doesn’t need to be linked to your degree. It is a chance to learn something from a different perspective, something completely different, and/or about a country that interests you.

- Students must be of good academic standing.

- A reference is requested from your supervisor as part of the application process.
Application and deadlines

■ The application is online at york.ac.uk/globalyou via the How to Apply tab.

■ Applications for 2019 close on Wednesday 6 February at 1pm.

■ The application is a number of personal statement type questions. We recommend that you write your answers to these questions in a Word document before you copy them into the application.

■ Shortlisted applications will be invited for a 10 minute interview. (Skype or phone interviews will only be offered to distance learners or students on placements).

■ Interviews will take place between 20 and 26 February 2019, with a first pre-departure workshop on Wednesday 6 March.
There are three pre-departure workshops scheduled in the spring and summer term, where you will be told all the information you require for the trip. They are mandatory and will be held on Wednesday 6 March, 1 and 8 May (all in the afternoon).

Topics will include (amongst others) vaccinations, visas, free insurance provided by the University, flight details and group risk assessment.

You will also have a chance to meet the rest of the group going on the trip and the York team leader who will also accompany the group.

A Languages for International Mobility (LFIM) course in Russian will be offered weeks 8-9 of the summer term as part of the programme. This will include language and cultural preparation.
For more information

- Contact summer-abroad@york.ac.uk

- Speak to our peer advisor Emily who has been on an ISC global-peer-advisors@york.ac.uk

- Visit one of the following events to speak to us in person:
  - International Study Centre information session – Wednesday 14 November, 1.15-2.15pm, Derwent (D/L/047)
  - Summer Opportunities Fair – Wednesday 23 January, 1-4pm, James Hall