Why Learn A World Language?

♦ In an increasingly globalized world, knowledge of a world language becomes an indispensable skill important not only for personal enrichment, but also for broadening employment opportunities.

♦ According to a study from the University of Chicago, knowledge of a world language helps you boost decision-making skills.

♦ Students who study world languages score higher on standardized tests, as a study from York University in Toronto showed.

Students who study a world language for at least one year score an average of 38 points higher on the SATs.

♦ Knowledge of a world language increases your chances of landing a good job, as demonstrated in a recent poll of The Economist.

An MIT study shows that people who know two or more languages earn an average of $128,000 more over their lifetimes.

♦ Learning a second language has compelling health benefits, as suggested by a study from York University in Toronto that connects prevention of the onset of dementia with foreign language learning.

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For more information regarding Majors, Minors, courses, and other available resources in this language:

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Why Study Russian?

Russian will fit your needs, whether you are in academia, arts, law, medicine, public interest, business, or politics.

- **Social Services:** As U.S. citizenry continues to grow and diversify, so does the need for social agents with advanced transcultural and translinguistic competence to facilitate communication across such domains as medicine, housing, education, law enforcement, and the court system.

- **International Commerce:** International commerce and economic development is another sector where the need for proficient Russian language is incessantly acute.

- **National Security:** In January 2006, President Bush announced the National Security Language Initiative, an inter-agency effort coordinated by the White House to dramatically increase the number of U.S. residents learning, speaking, and teaching critical-need foreign languages. Russian has been continuously supported through initiatives, such as Fulbright, Gilman, Intensive Summer Institutes, and Flagship programs.

- **Scholarship and Research:** Russian is a major language for scientific publication (in chemistry, physics, geology, mathematics, and biology). Russia remains the third on the list - after China and India - among countries supplying intellectual immigrants in the U.S. and Europe.

- **Internet:** Russian is the second most popular language on the Internet with 6% of all webpages written in it.

- **Personal Enrichment:** Russia's rich culture and history offer a unique perspective on life and humanistic values. Literature, theater, cinema, ballet, music, and visual arts are just some of the areas in which Russia has great traditions and continues to produce outstanding works.

Who speaks Russian?

Currently, around 150 million people speak Russian as their first language. This number climbs to 260 million when including those in Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Ukraine, Moldova, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, and former participants of the Eastern Bloc. Russian is an official language in Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan. It is also one of the six official languages of the United Nations.

Learn these everyday phrases!

- **Hi:** Привет (preevet)
- **Bye:** Пока (paka)
- **Good afternoon!**: Добрый день (dobrye den)
- **May I...?**: Можно (mozhna)
- **How do you say it in Russian?**: Как по-русски (kak pa-ruskii)
- **Excuse me:** Извините (eezveeneete)
- **Thank you:** Спасибо (spaseeba)

**Famous People of Russian Descent**

- **Isaac Asimov** - a Russian-born American science-fiction author
- **Irving Berlin** - born in Siberia, is the author of the “God Bless America” song
- **Sergey Brin** - born in Moscow, became a co-founder of Google
- **Igor Stravinsky** - born near Saint Petersburg, a famous composer named by Time magazine as one of the 100 most influential people of the century
- **Vladimir Zvorykin** - born in Murom, is well known as the engineer and inventor of television technology

Indiana University is home to as many as 70 world languages!