**015435 Russian**

The aims of the academic course are:

- to develop and enhance foreign students' skills and abilities in oral and written communication within a Russian language environment;

- to adjust existing language and speech knowledge and skills;

- to overcome linguistic and cultural interference, which in turn contributes to the formation of linguistic, communicative, socio-cultural and discursive competencies in general, socio-cultural and educational spheres of the Russian language functioning.

**057625 Russian for Intercultural Communication**

The aims of the academic course are:

- to form understanding of the basics of intercultural communication and Russian and other cultures;

- to enhance knowledge about the features of speech and communicative behavior of representatives of Russian culture;

- to introduce the difficulties representatives of different cultures encounter in building intercultural understanding and ways to overcome them.

Objectives of the course:

 - to introduce traditional Russian culture and its place in the system of modern culture;

- to trace the relationship between traditional and modern cultures;

- to give students an idea of the everyday culture of Russian people;

- to demonstrate how traditional culture and etiquette influence the communicative behavior of Russians;

- to develop the ability to consider the whole complex of cultural and historical elements in the analysis of individual phenomena and facts of Russian culture;

- to cultivate a culture of tolerance and respect for other national cultures too;

- to learn how to apply the acquired skills and abilities in cross-linguistic and intercultural communication;

 - to introduce the peculiarities of communicative behavior in different countries and different spheres of public life;

- to develop the knowledge of the national peculiarities of speech and communicative behavior of representatives of different cultures (European, Eastern, American and Russian).

**057624 Academic Russian**

The course is designed to provide the formation and improvement of language and socio-cultural competence of the students through the study of the fundamentals of history, culture, geography, and political characteristics of the Russian Federation.

The main objectives of the course are:

- to provide basic knowledge of the history, geography and political structure of Russia;

- to overcome language difficulties hampering the reception of information pertaining to area studies;

- to improve the skills of monologic speech, the ability to express one’s thoughts using a variety of language tools;

- to activate skills of listening comprehension and speaking on social and political topics;

- to develop skills of using lexical units and syntactic constructions of journalistic style;

- to show the need to use operational news information from different types of media;

- to introduce different points of view of modern Russian political scientists.

When mastering this course, interactive forms of training (such as round table discussions and working in mini-groups) are used.

The programme includes the basic requirements for the knowledge of language and communicative competence in the field of grammar and speaking, guidelines for the organisation of the educational process and the final control. The development of the programme allows the student to form a communicative competence provided by own standard of St Petersburg University.