

BALTIC STATES

RUSSIAN/ENGLISH/LATVIAN INTERNSHIPS 2025



Riga is the capital city of Latvia and a thriving metropolis situated on the Baltic Sea. Owing partly to its history as a republic of the former Soviet Union, Latvia is home to a sizable Russian-speaking population. This concentration of Russian speakers in a city in Russia's near abroad makes for an excellent location for students to carry out Russian- and Latvian-speaking internships and take in a beautiful slice of Europe. Latvia belongs to the Eurozone and as such offers visa-free travel. Its proximity to other major European capitals likewise makes for an attractive hub. Foreign language students attend classes twice a week at the Baltic Center that focus on developing advanced language proficiency and carry out internships in the target language that correspond with their various disciplines and professional interests. English language students can earn credit that counts towards their respective major.

DATES

Winter 2025: 11-12 January – 5-9 April

Sp/Su 2025: 10-11 May – 2-6 August

Fall 2025: 13-14 Sept. – 6-10 December

Students may remain in the Schengen Treaty Zone (most of Western Europe) for up to ninety days without a visa.

HOUSING

Students will live in an apartment and are responsible for providing their own meals. Accommodations include a refrigerator, dishwasher, and cooking and laundry facilities.

COURSES

Students are required to enroll in a minimum of 12 credit hours per semester (this means 6 credit hours per term of spring-summer combined). Interns may choose from the following courses according to language skills:

RUSS 321 & 322 Third-year Grammar and Composition, Parts 1&2 (3 credit hours/each)

RUSS 421 & 422 Fourth-year, Parts 1 & 2 (3 credit hours/each)

In addition, students are required to register for the following courses:

RUSS 399R International Internship (3 credit hours)

IAS 380R Proofs of Cultural Immersion (3 credit hours)

Participants may not take any other courses on this program, including BYU Online courses, without approval by the program director and ISP.

COST

Cost for full-time students: \$5,900–6,400

Included: BYU Latter-day Saint undergraduate tuition, Baltic Center tuition, housing, internship placement, and international health insurance coverage

Not included: airfare, personal expenses, meals

Cost for accompanying spouses: \$2,500–3,000

Included: BYU Latter-day Saint undergraduate tuition for 3 credits, Baltic Center tuition, housing, internship placement, and international health insurance coverage

TRAVEL

Students are responsible for purchasing their own airfare to and from the program. Airfare reservations must be made through BYU Travel. Students should contact a BYU Travel agent at: BYU Travel | 801-422-6293 | travel@byu.edu | 280 HRCB

PREPARATION

Students do not need prior experience in Latvian or Russian to do an internship in Riga.

Students are required to participate in the prep course, IAS 369R, during the second block of fall semester for the winter program, and during the second block of winter semester for the summer and fall programs. Part-time BYU students and non-BYU students pay an additional \$300 (approximately) tuition fee for enrolling in the required pre-departure class. Passports must be valid for at least six months beyond the end of the program and have at least two blank pages. All US citizens must obtain a quick online document known as ETIAS (European Travel Information and Authorization System) <https://www.schengenvisainfo.com/etias/> before entering any of the EU/Schengen member countries. Accompanying spouses need to be credit-bearing participants on the program. Spouses also will need to apply online and take the preparation course.

International study programs are physically, emotionally, and mentally taxing and you must be in good health to participate. These programs often take place in international locations that do not have the same level of safety and services in terms of transportation, living conditions, residential accommodations, food, public behavior, and policing that you may be used to on campus. If you have further questions or concerns on this, please see <https://kennedy.byu.edu/isp-travel-policy>.

FUNDING SOURCES

Regular BYU tuition scholarships and Federal Insured Student Loans may be applied to international programs. Pell Grants may be applied to fall, winter, and sp-su semesters. Students who submit the financial aid section of the ISP application, and who have a current FAFSA form on file at the Financial Aid Office (A-41 ASB), will be considered for a Study Abroad scholarship. Academic departments and colleges may assist with scholarships and grants. Private grants and scholarships outside of BYU may also assist (see kennedy.byu.edu/scholarships). Students majoring in the Humanities who complete the preparation course and register for 3 hours of RUSS 399R qualify for a College of Humanities program discount that ranges from \$1500–3000, depending on one's FAFSA score. Students minoring in the Humanities who fulfill the aforementioned requirements receive half support. Contact Dr. Brown for details.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Students must be adults 18 years-of-age or older. Complete the online application at kennedy.byu.edu/isp-apply. The application requires a \$35 fee. Students will be notified via e-mail of their acceptance into the program. Applicants will be interviewed once the application is complete. The first payment is due upon acceptance. Please refer to the 2024 Payment Information document (see kennedy.byu.edu/isp-forms/ISPPayments2022.pdf).

Deadlines: Winter: 15 October 2024; Sp-Su: 1 February 2025; Fall priority deadline: 1 February 2025; Fall final deadline: 1 August 2025

FACULTY DIRECTOR

Tony Brown, Professor of Russian
3113 JFSB | (801) 422-7012 | tony_brown@byu.edu

INTERESTED STUDENTS SHOULD CONTACT

International Study Programs | 101 HRCB | isp@byu.edu | kennedy.byu.edu/isp

PROGRAM ADJUSTMENTS

International Study Programs (ISP) reserves the right to cancel this program, revise its offerings, or make any adjustments to the preliminary cost. If it becomes necessary for ISP to cancel a program, all program payments made to BYU ISP will be refunded to the student's BYU financial account. ISP is the only office authorized to cancel any of its programs.