St. Petersburg University is famous for its traditions combined with its openness to innovation. SPbU is the first Russian university; it was founded by Peter the Great in 1724. Today, SPbU is the leading traditional university in Russia, ranking among the world's best universities.

Many prominent figures in science and culture studied and worked at SPbU, including the following Nobel Prize winners: the physiologist Ivan Pavlov, the biologist Ilya Mechnikov, the physicist and chemist Nikolay Semenov, the physicists Lev Landau and Aleksandr Prokhorov, the philosopher and economist Wassily Leontief, the mathematician and economist Leonid Kantorovich.

SPbU is one of the leading university centres in Russia: over 30,000 undergraduate and post-graduate students get knowledge here every year; the University has 24 faculties and 13,000 employees, including 5,000 teachers and lecturers. The teaching staff of the University includes 1,500 professors with second doctoral degrees, almost 3,000 lecturers with first doctoral degrees, and over 40 members of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

Graduates of Bachelor’s degree and Specialist degree programmes may continue their education on Master’s degree courses at SPbU, choosing one of the 132 educational programmes open in 2014. Master’s degree courses are divided into five consolidated groups covering all the principal areas existing in modern science and traditionally taught at universities:

1. Mathematics and Natural Sciences
2. Engineering, Technology and Industrial Science
3. Social Science
4. The Humanities
5. Art and Culture

The period of study at Master’s degree programmes is 2 years.

In accordance with the Federal Law on the Special Status of SPbU and MSU, adopted in 2009, St. Petersburg University has attained the right to develop its own educational standards and issue university-customised diplomas to its graduates (in Russian and English).

The SPbU Strategic Plan 2020 approved by the Russian Government emphasises six priority fields of research and academic development:

1. Nanotechnology and Materials Science
2. Biomedicine and Human Health
3. Ecology and Sustainable Use of Natural Resources
4. Information Systems and Technology
5. Human Resource Management and Technologies
6. Research of Social Processes and Technologies

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ADVANTAGES OF STUDYING AT SPbU

- an active role of our students in the educational process
- maximum of opportunities for achieving your potential
- student workload and learning outcomes measured in accordance with the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS)
- a modular approach to course development
- advanced study of the English language (fluency in conversation, ability to participate in debates and discussions, good writing and reading skills)
- student exchange programmes with foreign partner universities and international academic mobility programmes
- practical training and internships in leading Russian and foreign companies
- access to unique scientific resources, technologies and databases
- modern educational technologies: use of such learning management systems as Blackboard, Sakai@СПбГУ, etc.

SPbU has an extensive partner network with over 300 universities from more than 70 countries of the world. The largest number of our partner universities is from the USA, Germany, France, Finland, Japan, the Republic of Korea, and China.

In 2014, SPbU offers the following Master’s degree programmes taught in English:

- Corporate Finance
- Game Theory and Operation Research
- Global Communication and International Journalism
- International Relations
- International Trade System
- Legal Translation & Interpreting
- Management
- Political Governance and Public Policy
- Sociology
- Executive MBA (EMBA) programme

Programs taught in other foreign languages:

- Innovative Technologies in Translation: French / Spanish / Italian
- Intercultural Communication: German-Russian Dialogue / Interlinguale Kommunikation als Kulturdialog (taught in German)
- Theory and Practice of Verbal Communication: German / Theorie und Praxis verbaler Kommunikation: Deutsch (taught in German)

25 international summer and winter schools are held at SPbU each year.

SPbU participates in the following international student exchange and internship programmes: Erasmus Mundus External Cooperation Window, Finnish-Russian Cross Border University, Finnish-Russian Student Exchange Program, Santander Universities, TEMPUS and others.
ADMISSION

Admission is competitive, with the results of admissions tests being the major criterion. Some admissions tests involve assessment of the applicants’ portfolios.

You can find information on SPbU Master’s degree programmes open in 2014, as well as the list of admissions tests and their syllabi, on the website of the Admissions Committee Information Center: www.abiturient.spbu.ru

Accommodation at the student hostel is provided for non-resident applicants and students.

Information on the University Open Days for those who wish to enroll in a Master’s degree course can be found on the main page of our website www.spbu.ru in the section SPbU Open Days.

The following organisations have entered into long-term partner agreements with the University:

• constituent entities of the Russian Federation: St. Petersburg, Leningrad Region (Leningradskaya Oblast’), the Sakha Republic (Yakutia); the Republic of Bashkortostan;
• the largest government and non-government companies: Gazprom, Interros, Sberbank of Russia, VTB254, JSFC Sistema, Novolipetsk Steel, JSC Severstal, JSC Russian Railways;
• foreign companies: IBM, Carl Zeiss, Microsoft, Leica, Sun Microsystems, Intel, Adobe;
• mass media: the St. Petersburg Vedomosti newspaper; ITAR-TASS news agency;
• government departments and agencies: EMERCOM (Ministry of the Russian Federation for Affairs for Civil Defence, Emergencies and Elimination of Consequences of Natural Disasters); Central Election Committee of the Russian Federation; Rossotrudnichestvo (the Federal Agency for the Commonwealth of Independent States, Compatrons Living Abroad and International Humanitarian Cooperation).

Education received at SPbU is highly valued at the international employment market. Our graduates are employed by the largest Russian and international companies, while the strong partnership existing between the University and the leading companies enables our former students to choose the best employer.

CONTACTS
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Tel: +7 (812) 328 94 55, 328 32 91
E-mail: admission@spbu.ru
Information Center of SPbU Admissions Committee

For full details please visit the official SPbU website: www.spbu.ru or the website of the Admissions Committee: www.abiturient.spbu.ru

The sources listed above are the only official sources of information on admissions at SPbU and the work of the Admissions Committee.