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Coronavirus / COVID-19

1. How will 2022 courses change in light of COVID-19?

As of January 2022, our team in cooperation with the University's administration, have prepared a document, outlining the measures and guidelines concerning our 2022 courses.

Our Information Sheet on our Energy 2022 in-person courses:

Our team will continue to work closely with all members of the Academy, whether it is online or in-person – we are trying to ensure that those who are able to join us in Saint-Petersburg, have a safe and enjoyable time. Changes may also be made to this document as the situation progresses, as we are following the advice of the World Health Organisation and local authorities.

For the most up-to-date information, please visit –
<https://english.spbstu.ru/education/admissions/entering-rf-territory-2021/>

2. How can I stay up to date?

Please, continue to check the website and your email as our team usually notifies prospective participants of any changes.

3. Can I change my course dates to later in the year?

Yes – please contact us immediately to arrange a change in dates. If you already paid your tuition fee – we will freeze it until your arrival and make a refund. If you haven't paid yet, please, contact our team so that we could put your name on the waiting list for the next session.

We would be really glad to be notified about these matters beforehand as we are booking everything in advance.

4. Do you offer online courses?

Energy Academy 2022 is held in 2 different formats – remote learning and blended. Students can choose either of the courses. Lectures and the cultural course will be held online for those, who cannot visit Saint-Petersburg. Blended courses – lectures are still held online, however, the cultural curriculums are planned as typical outings and tours.

Application and Policies

1. How to apply for the Course?

The easiest way to apply for the course is through the official Energy Academy's website (<http://energyschool.spbstu.ru/>). All you need is to fill in the requested information and create a personal cabinet that will make it easier to communicate with coordinators of the Course and stay updated.

2. What is the difference between the 4 sessions of the Course?

Energy Academy is held four times a year – the main difference is the amount of Credits ECTS and modules to study:

- Energy Summer/Winter Course's length is 2 weeks. 4 ECTS credits with 2 options – remote and blended. 8 educational modules
- Energy Spring/Autumn Course's length is 1 week. 3 ECTS credits with 2 options – remote and blended. 1 educational module – Hydrogen Energy

3. Are there any educational requirements for the Course?

- The Course accepts participants with different academic levels and there are no requirements but a basic knowledge of Engineering.
- Concerning English language level requirements, we recommend CERF level B2 for the Course. This level suggests a good command of English and an understanding of both conversations and Course material.

4. When will I receive more details on the Course?

Our team will be in touch with lots more information before the start of your course, this will include details of your accommodation, payment, arrival, course description and where to go on your first day.

5. Does the Energy Academy offer any scholarships or bursaries?

Unfortunately, at this time we do not offer any scholarships or bursaries for our Energy Course. We can provide more information or funding options on request.

6. If I have to cancel due to some reasons, how much will you refund?

If you've been accepted to the Energy Academy, we will be able to refund the Participation Fee.

What to Expect During your Course?

1. When should I arrive? And leave?

All arrival and departure information is sent to you at least 4 weeks before you begin your course. Students usually arrive one or two days before the start of the Academy. Arrival is coordinated for the students.

For all courses, students must arrive no earlier than 2 days before the course, as the dormitories cannot give access to the rooms before Saturday 12.00noon.

As for leaving, consider the expiration dates of your visa and buy the return ticket accordingly. Usually, almost all courses end on Friday and students have 2-3 days to pack and finish the sightseeing etc. When it is time to leave, you will need to hand back your room keycard and leave the site by 12.00noon.

Please note, we cannot accommodate students outside of their course dates unless students are participating in consecutive courses with us.

2. How much of my own money will I need during the Course?

To plan the trip budget, please, note: Academy cannot provide meals, so you might need to purchase some products to store in the dormitory's fridge and cook in the kitchen. Our team will send you a list of places where you can buy takeaways or eat out.

As for other costs, please, check the [Cost of Living in Saint Petersburg](#). The website provides a list of average prices for different products, services etc.

3. What should I bring with me?

We will send you information closer to your course with details of the types of things you will need to bring depending on the course you are doing. Most important are your travel documents, chargers for your devices and a range of clothing to suit the variable weather we can experience over your chosen season. Please, read the instructions concerning clothes carefully – the weather of Saint-Petersburg is quite unpredictable due to the closeness to the Baltic Sea and the Gulf of Finland.

4. What is on offer when I am not studying?

As well as the visits and trips to the Center of Saint-Petersburg, we also run a range of workshops for you to take part in. The course includes Russian Workshops with some speaking phrases, lectures on the most interesting aspects of Russian History, International Festival, etc. A more detailed list of extra-curriculums will be sent to you closer to the beginning of your course.

5. What kind of places will I get to go to on the Cultural Course's Trips?

If you chose to come to Saint-Petersburg, you will be able to participate in all extra curriculums. Typical outings include The Hermitage, State Russian Museum, Kazan Cathedral etc.

6. How much spare time will I have?

You'll be expected to spend a few hours each day preparing/revising notes and working on a case study. There are plenty of organised (optional as well as programmed) activities most days. This still leaves time to explore and relax. Giving you an opportunity to choose when to study and when to relax is part of the Academy's ethos and experience. Have a look at our example weekly timetables for a clearer idea.

7. How long is the day?

Apart from weekends, when it is a more relaxed schedule, lectures start at 10 am and end around 2 pm Moscow Time. Lectures are held online as well as Cultural Course. Live-discussions and additional seminars on case studies are after lectures between 2 pm - 3 pm. Extracurricular activities like Cultural Course and Live-chats are held at 3 pm - 4 pm and most of the material can be rewatched as a recording.

While on the blended programme, the daily timetable is a busy one, as the Cultural Course consists of trips and outings with the Team.

8. Who are the Energy Team members?

Energy Team members are organisers, coordinators and tutors. Every member is trained according to the needs and aims of the Academy. They may be students, teachers or working staff - anyone can join our forces! Tutors and coordinators are the ones our participants will be in touch with the most. They can be your module's prefects and coordinate you through the case study and preparations or be your tour guides through the centre of Saint-Petersburg.

Travel & Insurance

1. Can you book my flights and airport transfers?

We don't book flights or airport transfer for our students although we do offer a meet & greet. Please note that this service is scheduled in advance, so information about your arrival should be provided beforehand.

2. What kind of tickets can I buy or book?

We recommend that you book/buy tickets that can be returned or refunded. When deciding on the route, do not forget that sometimes there are no direct flights to Saint-Petersburg. Try to book tickets that have a transfer (for instance, in Moscow) from one plane to another, without leaving the airport. We do not have any representatives in Moscow, so we cannot provide you with instructions and directions.

3. Do you arrange visas?

Our University does not provide visas. However, our International Department can issue an invitation for students to apply for studying visas. For that to happen, students need to send needed documents via email.

4. Do I need medical/travel insurance?

Yes, all students can apply for standard medical insurance in their country. It is required to cover emergency expenses.

5. Can I travel to other cities in my spare time?

Along with the educational course, there are many extracurricular activities. However, during the weekends, cultural course outings include visits to nearby cities (Vyborg, Pushkin, Gatchina). Many students choose to visit Moscow at the end of the course before departure home.

Teaching & Educational Outcomes

1. What certificate do I gain by completing the Course?

Your ECTS certificate will be issued by the University and will state your name, subject, syllabus and course dates. It will be signed by the Secretary, Director of the Program and Rector of the International Department. It will also state the amount of ECTS credits. Additional documents/letters can be given upon request.

2. How should I prepare for the Course?

You will be sent a welcome pack in the weeks before you arrive, which may include a course outline and recommendations for preparation. Do be aware your coordinator may set pre-reading or other assignments to do before the course due to the included case-study projects. In a welcome pack do find a Students Handbook with technical requirements and/or advice for on-site/remote option of study.

3. Do I gain credits at my school/university for completing the Course?

According to ECTS policies, the credits students receive for the course can be transferred to their home university. Students should request for the appropriate form from their mobility/exchange departments and then submit to the Academy's administration for the further procedures.

4. Where does the educational part of the Course take place?

Whether it is a remote or on-site option – all lectures are held online (information valid March 2022).

However, on-site options can also include studying groups and lectures.

On-campus Accommodation

1. How can I book accommodation on Campus?

You can book a room in the dormitory during your registration process. Please check the current prices on our website.

2. Can I live outside Campus as a non-resident?

Students are allowed to live outside Campus. Please note we do not cover expenses for public transport, however, after receiving your student card, you can use a student monthly pass.

3. What's different about being non-residential during the Course?

Only where you sleep! If you choose to join us as a non-residential student, you still will participate in a full range of planned activities. However, it is important to follow the established schedule. It's really important that you can adhere to these timings, so that you get the full experience of your course, integrate fully into the group, and – vitally – so that we can account for you and your safety at all times.

4. Can I be accommodated in a room next to my friend?

We will take your request into consideration, but we can't guarantee it.

Safety & Student Privacy

1. What measures do you take to care for the safety of all students?

We take the well-being and safety of our students extremely seriously. Our team is carefully selected, well trained and given 24/7 support to ensure that our students have the best experience possible.

During the on-site option, we hold an orientation meeting to help students to get accustomed and informed about the whereabouts and safety rules like traffic and pedestrian laws etc.

2. Are students allowed to go out on their own during the Course?

Not only is Saint-Petersburg famous for its cultural sights, it is also a gastronomic centre, a city of unusual museums, buskers, independent shops, unique bookshops and a huge range of bakeries. There is enough free time to visit a lot of places, our team usually joins in to show you around and serve as interpreters in some cases.

3. How will you use my data?

The only information used by us and the international department that oversees your visa & stay procedures is name, age, passport details (only for invitation procedure) and information about your home university.

4. Will you take my photograph?

We usually create different sorts of media for marketing purposes and we may take pictures of our students during some activities. We provide a link for an online storage disk to save photos and memorable snaps. Our team puts all gathered media on our website and social media which we believe is reassuring and enjoyable for both our prospective students and our alumni.