



MSU: Russia's most time-honored university

RUSSIAN Empress Elizabeth inaugurated the establishment of Moscow State University on Jan. 25, 1755. At that time, the university had three departments: philosophy, medicine and law.

Moscow State University was renamed after its founder Mikhail Lomonosov in 1940 and was then known as Lomonosov Moscow State University (MSU).

New campus buildings were constructed on Lenin Hills in 1953. A 32-story main building with a 55-meter spire and a star is 240 meters high. Each of the two 18-story lateral wings incorporates a nine-meter-diameter clock.

MSU includes 43 faculties, over 370 departments, and 15 research institutes. It hosts 5,000 teachers, 40,000 Russian students, and 10,000 foreign students. It has set up four museums, launched six satellites, established four supercomputer complexes and one medical research and education center.

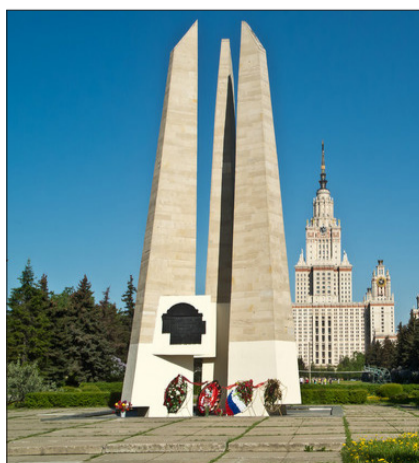


MSU graduates take a group photo.

neering and technology, 67th; linguistics, 24th; physics and astronomy, 29th; mathematics, 34th; according to the top 50 QS World University Rankings by Subject. The Times Higher Education World University rankings 2020, released on April 22, indicates that MSU is ranked in the top 15 in terms of industrial cooperation, application innovation and infrastructure facility development.

International cooperation

MSU has in-depth and substantial cooperation with world-famous universities, and the academic and student exchange is frequent. The university houses UNESCO International has set up demography and hydrologic schools, the International Research Center for Biochemical Technology, and the International LASER Center. Additionally, MSU provides courses on Russian as a foreign language. In 1991, MSU together with foreign partners established the French University College, the Russian-American University and the Russian-German Institute of Science and Culture. The university has awarded honorary degrees to more than 60 scientists, statesmen and politicians from abroad. Many prominent university scholars and scientists in return hold honorary degrees from foreign academies and universities. Through the cooperation between the universities with over 700 prestigious colleges across 70 countries, MSU's undergraduates and postgraduates have opportunities to gain diverse international study and exchange experiences.



Lomonosov Moscow State University.

Graduates' employment and career development

MSU provides career counseling and comprehensive support to students and graduates regarding employment. Students work at the faculties and other departments of MSU as laboratory assistants, tutors, engineers, secretaries, course coordinators, etc.

Students and Ph.D. students can be employed in all faculties. For example, many students of the Faculty of Biology participate in research projects. The graduates interested in further employment in science may stay in the laboratories or research groups where they performed their thesis. Students of the Faculty of Philology are actively involved as temporary collaborators in grant projects. After graduation many students resume scientific and pedagogical careers at MSU faculties and research institutes.

The faculties actively collaborate with recruiters, business and public bodies, research institutions, and laboratories to provide professional employment skills for students and graduates. Students receive the necessary professional skills and employment opportunities in the framework of practical training, pre-graduation practice and industrial placement. Students carry out training, production, research and creative tasks in state, commercial and public organizations: the State Duma, the Federation Council, the Analytical Center for the Government of the Russian Federation, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Defense, the Ministry of Economic Development, the Ministry of Sports, the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the Government of Moscow, the Public Chamber, and the Federal Antimonopoly Service, as well as in State Corporations such as Ростех, Росатом, Рособоронэкспорт, and news agencies: TASS, Россия сегодня, Известия, Russia Today, etc.

Career and Employment Centers at the faculties offer career counseling, acquaint students with new vacancies, provide assistance in preparation for interviews and testing, and conduct seminars on CV writing. Students regularly receive newsletters on var-

ious job offers and internships. Such centers associated with the Faculty of Mechanics and Mathematics, the Faculty of Biology, the Higher School of Public Administration, the Faculty of Law, the Faculty of Foreign Languages and Regional Studies, the Faculty of Journalism, and other educational subdivisions are very popular. The CEOs and representatives of the top Russian and international employing companies regularly hold presentations at the faculties, telling about career prospects and open vacancies.

Many MSU graduates are employed in the institutes of the Russian Academy of Sciences, leading research centers and laboratories, government agencies, ministries and departments, technology companies and the IT sector, banks and auditing, on television, in media holdings and PR agencies, etc.

Red diplomas

The MSU grading system is based on a five-point scale, which is traditional for the Russian education system. One to two points denotes fail. Three points and above denotes passed. Students who attend classes and have active participation can pass the exams. Four points means good. Five points denote excellent.

In order to obtain a red diploma, a student must not get any three points during the entire study period, and the total percentage of "excellent" marks must not be less than 75 percent within the designated timeframe. Also, marks for the thesis and the state exam must be "excellent."

Students honored with red diplomas possess strong studying capacity and solid professional knowledge. They will be prioritized over other students in the eyes of recruiters. Although red diplomas and blue diplomas are treated equally in foreign countries, the red diploma holders can apply for the government scholarships for international students if they continue to pursue a master's degree in Russia. During the study period, the red diploma holders will receive 10 months of scholarships from the government per year. Similarly, postgraduates with red diplomas can apply for Ph.D. scholarships.



A graduate shows her red diploma.



Mikhail Lomonosov

Campus facilities

The university covers over 100 hectares with some 1,000 buildings. The total length of roads on the campus is 300 kilometers. Its eight dormitories, including two-room, three-room and four-room houses of students, cater to more than 16,000 students.

MSU has one of the largest libraries in Russia, which contains about 9 million books with 2 million of them in foreign languages. Readers of the library, average 55,000 yearly, use 5.5 million books a year.

The main building's facilities include a concert hall, a theater, a museum, various administrative services, a library, a swimming pool, a police station, a post office, a laundry, a hairdresser's salon, several canteens, bank offices and ATMs, shops, cafeterias, etc. In addition to the management institutes and the Earth Science Museum, it also houses four major faculties.

The World rankings

MSU is the largest and oldest higher education university in Russia. Its alumni include government officials, experts in high-tech fields, etc. Scientists graduating from the university have made world-famous achievements in mathematics, physics, biology, geography, chemistry and so on. There are 11 Nobel Prize laureates, and around 300 academicians from the Russian Academy of Sciences.

In QS World University Rankings 2021, MSU ranked 74. Its natural science, 21st; humanities, 53th; social science and management, 55th; engi-