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**SUMMER SCHOOL OF LATVIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE 2018**

**FOR DIASPORA YOUTH**

**with no or little knowledge of Latvian (A1+ or A2)**

**July 11 – July 24, 2018**

For the fourth year, the University of Latvia in collaboration with the Latvian Language Agency organizes "Summer School of Latvian Language and Culture" for students and everyone who wants not only to learn or improve their Latvian language skills, but also to expand their knowledge of Latvian history, art and folklore.

**It is the first time the University of Latvia in collaboration with the Latvian Language Agency and the Ministry of Education and Science organizes summer school for diaspora youth. The summer school is funded by the budget programme “State Language Policy and Administration” administered by the Ministry of Education and Science.**

We offer:

* **intensive, modern and interactive Latvian language course** (grammar, reading, writing, speaking, 64 academic hours), which includes such topics as human personality, experience, knowledge and skills, friendly contacts and time spent in Latvia, versatile and unique Riga, city tour and orientation, daily life and holidays in Latvia, Latvian traditional and modern culture, current events in Latvian media, Latvia’s and Latvians’ success stories in the world;
* **afternoon** **discussion of Latvian history and politics**, getting acquainted with modern Latvian history and political situation in Latvia;
* **afternoon** **discussion of Latvian culture and art**, getting acquainted with its historical development and key figures, especially, in the visual arts and architecture;
* **afternoon** **discussion of Latvian folklore: customs and traditions**, getting acquainted with one of the most interesting forms of folklore - Latvian folk songs or *dainas*, by singing and dancing;
* **guided tour of Riga**, visiting several museums (e.g., Museum of the Historyof Riga and Navigation or Museum of the Occupation of Latvia, Rainis and Aspazija House-Museum in Riga, Latvian National Museum of Art, Latvian Ethnographic Open-Air Museum);
* **a two-day trip to port city Ventspils**, sightseeing (e.g., the Seaside Open-air Museum with an opportunity to ride a narrow-gauge train Mazbānītis, Ventspils Crafts House, a boat tour aboard “Duke Jacob” (Hercogs Jēkabs) along the Venta River).

The attendees, having successfully completed the course, are awarded **4 credits (6 ECTS).**

**APPLICATION FOR SUMMER SCHOOL**

Application deadline **7 May 2018.**

Information on the decision taken will be sent to the applicant’s e-mail address by **14 May 2018**.

**Applicants shall submit their confirmation of the participation** in the summer school by e-mail to sagkursi@lu.lvby **May 28, 2018**.

**Documents to be submitted by the citizens of the EU Member States and other countries who do not need a visa:**

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* completed application form for participation in the summer school;
* a letter of motivation

The documents should be sent electronically to the e-mail sagkursi@lu.lv.

**Documents to be submitted by the citizens of the countries requiring a visa to enter the EU:**

* ****completed application form for participation in the summer school;
* a letter of motivation (a personal statement);
* statement / confirmation of the university

(shall be submitted only in case the applicant is a student)

* passport or identity card (ID) copy

The documents should be sent electronically to the e-mail [sagkursi@lu.lv](mailto:sagkursi@lu.lv).

**NB: Information for non-EU students.**

Students are responsible for their visa application and other related arrangements. Summer school organizer does not cover fees for visa services. The University of Latvia helps with visa arrangements only to international students whose higher education establishments have entered bilateral international cooperation agreements with the University of Latvia.

**NUMBER OF PLACES**

There are two groups planned - one group for participants without prior knowledge, the other group - with preliminary knowledge. The number of participants per group is limited to 13 people.

If the number of candidates exceeds the number of available places, the participants will be selected according to the following criteria:

• timely submitted application;

• all documents submitted;

• participant's motivation.

**PARTICIPATION FEE**

The participation fee is fully covered.



The participation fee - covers Latvian language classes, tours, study materials, participation in social and cultural events, a two-day trip to Ventspils (including accommodation, meals).

The participation fee **does not cover** accommodation and food in Riga.

**WITHDRAWAL POLICY**

If you want to cancel your participation, inform the summer school organizers in writing by sending an e-mail to sagkursi@lu.lv by **10 June 2018**.

**ACCOMMODATION**

Other summer school participants are offered accommodation in Riga at a surcharge:

UL Dormitories (detailed information is available on the website of the University of Latvia):

* Hostel (Riga, Reznas street 10C), a single bed (common kitchen area and a

shared bathroom):

* + in a triple room € 5.00 per night
  + in a double room € 8.00 per night
* Hostel "Prima"(Riga, Reznas street 10 k-1),a single bed:
* in a single room € 15.00 per night
  + in a double room € 10.00 per night

**INFORMATION**

More information about the summer school, fees, program, application procedure is available at the UL website:

https://www.latvianlanguage.lu.lv/for-latvian-diaspora/

**CONTACT US**:

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