

**Essay Topics for Applicants to Main Educational BACHELOR and SPECIALIST DEGREE Programmes
for Competitive Selection of Applicants to
Government-Funded Places Allocated to SPbU in 2018
and Specified by the Government of the Russian Federation in Decree No. 891 as of October 8, 2013 "On
Establishing an Education Quota for Foreign Nationals and Stateless Citizens in the Russian Federation"**

Main field of study title	Programme title	Areas of specialisation (if any)	Essay topics
01.00.00 MATHEMATICS AND MECHANICS — BACHELOR STUDIES			
01.03.01 Mathematics	Mathematics		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prime and composite numbers. Prime factor decomposition. Criteria for divisibility. 2. Inequality solution procedures. 3. Coordinate systems and conversion between them.
01.03.02 Applied Mathematics and Informatics	Applied Mathematics and Informatics		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prime and composite numbers. Prime factor decomposition. Criteria for divisibility. 2. Inequality solution procedures. 3. Coordinate systems and conversion between them.
01.03.02 Applied Mathematics and Informatics	Applied Mathematics, Fundamental Informatics and Programming		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The role of pure mathematics in informatics and informatics in applied mathematics 2. Applied mathematics in Russia, China and the USA 3. Mathematics as the queen of sciences. And what about applied mathematics? 4. Great masters of applied mathematics in the world
01.03.03 Mechanics and Mathematical Modelling	Mechanics and Mathematical Modelling		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Forces of inertia. 2. The effect of viscosity on fluid flow. 3. Application of Hooke's law in mechanics.
01.00.00 MATHEMATICS AND MECHANICS — SPECIALIST DEGREE STUDIES			
01.05.01 Fundamental Mathematics and Mechanics	Fundamental Mathematics		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prime and composite numbers. Prime factor decomposition. Criteria for divisibility. 2. Inequality solution procedures. 3. Coordinate systems and conversion between them.
01.05.01 Fundamental Mathematics and Mechanics	Fundamental Mechanics		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Forces of inertia. 2. The effect of viscosity on fluid flow. 3. Application of Hooke's law in mechanics.
02.00.00 COMPUTER AND INFORMATION SCIENCES — BACHELOR STUDIES			
02.03.01 Mathematics and Computer Sciences	Mathematics and Computer Sciences		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Main inventions in information technology. 2. Operating system. The purpose and methods of construction. 3. Programming languages. Why do we need more than one language? 4. Can the machine think? 5. Mathematical model - algorithm - programme. The general and the differences. 6. Problems of information storage and retrieval 7. Information security problems and their present-day solutions

02.03.02 Fundamental Informatics and Information Technology	Programming and Information Technology		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Main inventions in information technology. 2. Operating system. The purpose and methods of construction. 3. Programming languages. Why do we need more than one language? 4. Can the machine think? 5. Mathematical model - algorithm - programme. The general and the differences. 6. Problems of information storage and retrieval 7. Information security problems and their present-day solutions
02.03.03 Information Systems Administration and Mathematical Support	Software and Administration of Information Systems		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parallel sorting algorithms 2. Functional programming languages. 3. Data presentation and data storage systems.
03.00.00 PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY — BACHELOR STUDIES			
03.03.01 Applied Mathematics and Physics	Engineering-Oriented Physics		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The most important discoveries in physics. 2. Physical phenomena in nature. 3. Physics as a science dealing with nature. 4. Physics and engineering.
03.03.01 Applied Mathematics and Physics	Applied Physics and Mathematics		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The most important discoveries in physics. 2. Physical phenomena in nature. 3. Physics as a science dealing with nature. 4. Physics and information technology.
03.03.02 Physics	Physics		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The most important discoveries in physics. 2. Physical phenomena in nature. 3. Physics as a science dealing with nature.
03.03.03 Radiophysics	Electromagnetic and Acoustic Processes		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The most important discoveries in physics. 2. Physical phenomena in nature. 3. Physics as a science dealing with nature. 4. Electromagnetic waves and information transfer
03.00.00 PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY — SPECIALIST DEGREE STUDIES			
03.05.01 Astronomy	Astronomy		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Principles of measuring time in astronomy. The calendar. 2. Double stars: research methods, evolution characteristics. 3. The space-time scale of the Universe. Methods of measuring it.
04.00.00 CHEMISTRY — BACHELOR STUDIES			
04.03.01 Chemistry	Chemistry		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Place of chemistry among the natural sciences. 2. Dependence of elements' properties and their compounds on their position in the periodic table. 3. Chemistry of transition elements. General characteristics of d-elements. 4. Alexander Butlerov's theory of organic compounds' chemical structure. 5. Main mechanisms of organic reactions, electronic effects. 6. Protein structure and biological role.
04.03.02 Chemistry, Physics and Material Mechanics	Chemistry, Physics and Material Mechanics		
05.00.00 EARTH SCIENCES — BACHELOR STUDIES			
05.03.01 Geology	Geology		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mineral deposits of your region 2. Groundwater in human life support system. 3. Main oil-and-gas provinces on the Earth

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Anthropogenic and natural sources of biosphere pollution 5. The Earth's fiery breath – boon or bane?
05.03.02 Geography	Geography		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Earth's geographical environment, its boundaries, structure and properties. 2. The world ocean and its composition. Properties of the world ocean's waters: temperature, salinity, movement of water masses. 3. Main forms of the Earth relief and common factors of their distributions.
05.03.03 Cartography and Geoinformatics	Cartography and Geoinformatics		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The maps of your region. 2. Usage of maps and GIS. 3. Methods of cartographic imaging and their present-day modifications
05.03.04 Hydrometeorology	Hydrometeorology		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Greenhouse effect: the history and current state of the issue. 2. Atmospheric fronts. Types and conditions for development 3. Local winds on the Earth. Types and causes of formation 4. The currents of the World Ocean and their role in the formation of climate in different regions of the Earth 5. Natural resources of the World Ocean
05.03.06 Ecology and Nature Management	Ecology and Nature Management		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Modern problems of environment protection and nature management 2. Types of anthropogenic impact on the natural environment 3. The natural resource potential of the territory 4. Specially protected natural sites and complexes
06.00.00 BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES — BACHELOR STUDIES			
06.03.01 Biology	Biology		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the difference between plant and animal organisms? 2. How is the cell structured? 3. How can biology help in protecting the environment? 4. How can biology help in solving the medical problems of mankind? 5. What area of biology are you interested in most and why?
06.03.02 Soil Science	Soil Science		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The role of the soil in the biosphere. 2. Soil as a special natural body.
09.00.00 INFORMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE — BACHELOR STUDIES			
09.03.03 Applied Informatics	Applied Informatics in Arts and Humanities		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The role of information technology in the contemporary society 2. Information technology and cultural heritage
09.03.04 Software Engineering	Software Engineering		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Algorithms of sorting. 2. Numerical systems and their application in informatics. 3. Programming languages and their classification
21.00.00 APPLIED GEOLOGY, MINING, PETROLEUM ENGINEERING AND GEODESY — BACHELOR STUDIES			
21.03.01 Petroleum Engineering	Petroleum Engineering		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Main oil-and-gas provinces on the Earth. 2. Current issues in petroleum geology. 3. Ecology of oil and gas extraction complexes.
21.03.02 Land Use and Cadastres	Real Estate Cadastre		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Land as a resource and as an object of economic relations. 2. Land resources as the main wealth of the country.

			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. History of land and property relations. 4. Land management and cadastre as the tools of land policy.
31.00.00 CLINICAL MEDICINE — SPECIALIST DEGREE STUDIES			
31.05.01 General Medicine	General Medicine		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why I want to graduate as a doctor from St Petersburg University. 2. Is medicine a profession or a mission? 3. Is it easy to be a doctor?
31.05.03 Dental Medicine	Dental Medicine		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Which problems do dentists help people solve? 2. Aesthetics in dentistry: myths and reality 3. Bad doctors as a threat to civilisation
37.00.00 PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCES — BACHELOR STUDIES			
37.03.01 Psychology	Psychology		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why will I become a good psychologist? 2. Psychology is the science of the future. 3. Which branch of psychology is of the utmost importance in the modern world and why? 4. The role of psychology in scientific and technological progress.
37.03.02 Conflictology	Conflictology		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The role of philosophy in present-day society. 2. Personal fulfillment through the creative process 3. Intercultural communication as a global problem of present-day mankind.
37.00.00 PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCES — SPECIALIST DEGREE STUDIES			
37.05.01 Clinical Psychology	Clinical Psychology		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The role of psychology in human life. 2. The significance of psychology in an ever-changing world. 3. Why do I choose the profession of a clinical psychologist?
38.00.00 ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT — BACHELOR STUDIES			
38.03.01 Economics	Economics		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Economic efficiency and market failure. 2. Economic efficiency and social justice. 3. GDP and social welfare.
38.03.01 Economics	Economics (with Advanced Studies in Chinese Economy and Language)		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Employment and unemployment. Economic and social consequences of unemployment 5. The economic functions and duties of government. 6. Economic stabilisation policy in market economy. 7. Globalisation of financial markets and its implications for national economy
38.03.01 Economics	Economic and mathematical methods		
38.03.02 Management	International Management (in English)	Business in Europe and North America	<p><i>Essay and motivation letter should be written in English</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Role of leadership in the management of organization (discussion with examples). 2. Functional areas of management: specificity of management decision-making (discussion on the example of one functional area) 3. Financial and non-financial performance indicators of a company. 4. Entrepreneurship: allowing you to be a successful entrepreneur.
		Business in Northeast Asia (with Additional Chinese / Korean / Japanese Language Training)	
38.03.02 Management	Management		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The role of leadership in organisation management (on examples) 2. Functional areas of management (marketing, finance, personnel management, etc.): specificity of management decision-making (discussion on the example of one functional area). 3. Financial and non-financial performance indicators of a company. 4. Entrepreneurship: allowing you to be a successful entrepreneur.

38.03.03 Personnel Management	Personnel Management		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Correlation between management and personnel management 2. Economic efficiency and social justice. 3. Employment and unemployment. Economic and social consequences of unemployment 4. Social policy in a market economy. 5. Trends in labour market development in Russia
38.03.04 Public and Municipal Administration	Public Administration		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The role of leadership in organisation management (on examples) 2. Functional areas of management (marketing, finance, personnel management, etc.): specificity of management decision-making (discussion on the example of one functional area). 3. Financial and non-financial performance indicators of a company. 4. Entrepreneurship: allowing you to be a successful entrepreneur.
38.03.05 Business Informatics	Business Informatics		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Economic efficiency and market failure. 2. Economic efficiency and social justice. 3. The effect of digital technology on business 4. Big data as the driving force for the development of companies 5. Information systems in a company
39.00.00 SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL WORK — BACHELOR STUDIES			
39.03.01 Sociology	Sociology		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Post-industrial society: the characteristics of social culture. 2. Youth subcultures and social movements in modern Russian society. 3. Social policy of the state: history and modernity. 4. Globalisation and global problems of our time. 5. The civilised approach and the history of mankind. 6. Civil society and the state: the conflict and social order.
39.03.01 Sociology	Social Research in Digital Society		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Post-industrial society: the characteristics of social culture. 2. Youth subcultures and social movements in modern Russian society. 3. Social policy of the state: history and modernity. 4. Globalisation and global problems of our time. 5. The civilised approach and the history of mankind. 6. Civil society and the state: the conflict and social order.
39.03.02 Social Work	Social Work		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Post-industrial society: a consumer society or a leisure society. 2. Youth subcultures and social movements in modern Russian society. 3. Family in modern society. 4. The standard of living and quality of life. 5. Social policy of the state: history and modernity. 6. Charity in modern society.
40.00.00 LAW — BACHELOR STUDIES			
40.03.01 Law	Law		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the difference between law and other social norms? 2. How are the higher bodies of state authority in the People's Republic of China composed? 3. Human rights in the modern world. 4. Constitution in the hierarchy of regulatory legal acts of the state. 5. The operation of international norms (universally recognised principles and norms, international treaties of the state) in the national legal system.
40.03.01 Law	Law (with Advanced Studies in Chinese Language and Law)	Law (with Advanced Studies in Chinese Language and Law)	
	Law (with Advanced Studies in	Law (with Advanced	

	Japanese Language and Law)	Studies in Japanese Language and Law)	
41.00.00 POLITICAL SCIENCE AND REGIONAL STUDIES — BACHELOR STUDIES			
41.03.04 Political Science	Political Science		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Politics and society 2. Institutes of modern politics 3. Political parties in modern political life 4. The role of political elites in the modern political process
41.03.05 International Relations	International Relations		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Priorities of Russia's foreign policy at the present stage. 2. The role of international intergovernmental organisations in contemporary international relations. 3. The Russian Federation and the United Nations. 4. The cultural dimension of modern international relations. 5. The Cold War: history or modernity.
42.00.00 MASS MEDIA AND INFORMATION LIBRARIANSHIP — BACHELOR STUDIES			
42.03.01 Advertising and Public Relations	Advertising and Public Relations		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An unusual friend of mine. 2. Some interesting episodes of my family history. 3. An interesting topic in the newspaper or on TV. 4. My favourite word in my native language. 5. Youth subculture and my identity. 6. The hero of our time on screen. 7. Man in the world of nature. 8. The best city on Earth
42.03.02 Journalism	Journalism		
42.03.02 Journalism	International Journalism		
43.00.00 SERVICES AND TOURISM — BACHELOR STUDIES			
43.03.02 Tourism	Tourism		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The importance of tourism for the economy of a country or a region. 2. World natural and cultural heritage as a factor of tourism development. 3. National problems of tourism development
43.03.02 Tourism	Organisation of Tourist Activities (with Additional Chinese Language Training)		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The role of tourism in the socio-economic development of the country. 2. Tourist resources of Russia 3. World heritage sites in Russia. 4. The role of socio-economic development in shaping the tourist needs of the population.
45.00.00 LINGUISTICS AND LITERARY STUDIES — BACHELOR STUDIES			
45.03.01 Philology	Russian Philology (Russian Language and Literature)	Russian Philology (Russian Language and Literature)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The image of Russia in the works of Russian authors 2. Languages in the present-day dialogue of cultures 3. Language in the system of intercultural communication 4. The image of St Petersburg in literature 5. Styles and genres in fiction 6. Text and context: methods of literary work analysis
	Classical Philology (Old Greek and Latin; Ancient Literature)	Classical Philology (Old Greek and Latin; Ancient Literature)	
	Foreign Literatures, Foreign Language (Spanish)	Foreign Literatures, Spanish Language	
45.03.01 Philology	English Language and Literature		

45.03.02 Linguistics	Applied, Computer and Computational Linguistics (English)	Applied, Computer and Computational Linguistics	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The image of Russia in the works of Russian authors 2. Languages in the present-day dialogue of cultures 3. Language in the system of intercultural communication 4. The image of St Petersburg in literature 5. Styles and genres in fiction 6. Text and context: methods of literary work analysis
	Theoretical and Experimental Linguistics (English)	Theoretical and Experimental Linguistics	
	Theory and Practice of Intercultural Communication (English)	Theory and Practice of Intercultural Communication	
	Translation Theory and Cross-Linguistic Communication	English	
		German	
		French	
	Foreign Languages	Albanian	
		English	
		Hungarian	
		Danish	
Spanish			
Italian			
Lithuanian			
German			
Dutch			
Polish, English			
French			
Czech, German			
General and Applied Phonetics	General and Applied Phonetics		
Theory and Methods of Teaching Foreign Languages and Cultures (English)	Theory and Methods of Teaching Foreign Languages and Cultures		
45.03.02 Linguistics	Languages of the Bible	Languages of the Bible	
45.03.02 Linguistics	Russian as a Foreign Language	Russian as a Foreign Language	

46.00.00 HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY — BACHELOR STUDIES

46.03.01 History	History		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Old Rus'. The 9th–13th centuries. 2. Peter the Great as a reformer of Russia 3. Catherine the Great: her domestic and foreign policies 4. Why were the Russian reforms of the 1860s – 1870s called "Great"? 5. The Russian Revolution of 1917: its global meaning. 6. The Great Patriotic War of the USSR against the Fascist Germany: the main events and results. 7. "Perestroika" in the USSR and its global meaning.
46.03.01 History	Archaeology		

47.00.00 PHILOSOPHY, ETHICS, AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES — BACHELOR STUDIES

47.03.01 Philosophy	Philosophy		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The role of philosophy in present-day society. 2. Personal fulfillment through the creative process 3. Intercultural communication as a global problem of present-day mankind.
47.03.03 Religious Studies	Religious Studies		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The role of philosophy in present-day society. 2. Personal fulfillment through the creative process 3. Intercultural communication as a global problem of present-day mankind.
50.00.00 ART STUDIES — BACHELOR STUDIES			
50.03.01 Arts and Humanities	Liberal Arts and Sciences		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Art in the contemporary city 2. Problems of screen adaptation of Russian literary works 3. The Russian language in the contemporary world 4. The main global scientific discovery of the 20th century 5. Music in contemporary human life
50.03.03 History of Arts	History of Arts		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Old Rus'. The 9th–13th centuries. 2. Peter the Great as a reformer of Russia 3. Catherine the Great: her domestic and foreign policies 4. Why were the Russian reforms of the 1860s – 1870s called "Great"? 5. The Russian Revolution of 1917: its global meaning. 6. The Great Patriotic War of the USSR against the Fascist Germany: the main events and results. 7. "Perestroika" in the USSR and its global meaning.
51.00.00 CULTURAL STUDIES AND SOCIOCULTURAL PROJECTS — BACHELOR STUDIES			
51.03.01 Cultural Studies	Cultural Studies	Chinese Culture (with Additional Chinese Language Training) German Culture (with Additional German Language Training)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The role of philosophy in present-day society. 2. Personal fulfillment through the creative process 3. Intercultural communication as a global problem of present-day mankind.
51.03.04 Museology and Conservation of Cultural and Natural Heritage Sites	Museology and Conservation of Cultural and Natural Heritage Sites		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Old Rus'. The 9th–13th centuries. 2. Peter the Great as a reformer of Russia 3. Catherine the Great: her domestic and foreign policies 4. Why were the Russian reforms of the 1860s – 1870s called "Great"? 5. The Russian Revolution of 1917: its global meaning. 6. The Great Patriotic War of the USSR against the Fascist Germany: the main events and results. 7. "Perestroika" in the USSR and its global meaning
52.00.00 PERFORMING ARTS AND LITERARY ACTIVITY — SPECIALIST DEGREE STUDIES			
52.05.01 Acting	Acting	Stage and Film Actor	Presentation of creative projects
53.00.00 MUSICAL ART — BACHELOR STUDIES			
53.03.03 Vocal Performance	Vocal Performance	Academic Singing	Presentation of creative projects
54.00.00 FINE AND APPLIED ARTS — BACHELOR STUDIES			

54.03.01 Design	Graphic Design	Graphic Design	Presentation of creative projects
54.03.01 Design	Environmental Design	Environmental Design	Presentation of creative projects
54.03.04 Restoration	Restoration	Restoration of Applied Art Objects	Presentation of creative projects
54.00.00 FINE AND APPLIED ARTS — SPECIALIST DEGREE STUDIES			
54.05.02 Painting	Painting	Film and TV Designer	Presentation of creative projects
54.05.02 Painting	Painting	Painter (Easel Painting)	Presentation of creative projects
58.00.00 ASIAN AND AFRICAN STUDIES — BACHELOR STUDIES			
58.03.01 Asian and African Studies	Asian and African Studies	Arabic Philology	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Man and personality in Oriental culture 2. Russia and the Orient: the dialogue of cultures. 3. Tradition and innovation in Oriental culture 4. Historical sources and old texts in Oriental culture
		Burmese Philology	
		Vietnamese and Chinese Philology	
		Hebrew Studies (Hebrew, Arabic and Aramaic)	
		Egyptology (Languages, History and Culture of Ancient Egypt)	
		Indo-Aryan Philology (Hindi and Sanskrit)	
		Iranian Philology	
		History of Caucasus (Armenia, Armenian, Persian and Georgian Languages)	

		History of China (Chinese and Japanese Languages)
		History of Thailand (Thai and Chinese Languages)
		History of Japan (Japanese and Chinese Languages)
		Korean Philology
		Turkic Philology
		Languages and Cultures of East Africa (Hausa Language)