

Title: The Prototype AP[®] Russian Score Report: Program Results and College-level Placement
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The Prototype AP[®] Russian Examination is intended for secondary school students, both non-heritage and heritage learners, who have completed academic work in Russian language and culture equivalent to advanced-level college-level Russian courses. The exam is designed to provide a set of measures of functional proficiency in Russian for use as a predictive assessment for continued language study and as a placement tool by American colleges and universities for entering freshmen with prior study of Russian. In order to set the target level for the AP Russian examination, data available from ACTR study abroad program records were used to estimate the typical proficiency-based performance levels of university students at different points in their university educations, more specifically at post-second and post-third year students of Russian at American colleges and universities.

Supported by funding from the U.S. Government (Title VI and the National Security in Education Program), Prototype AP[®] Russian examination has been in development and field-tested for the past five years. In order to maintain the comparability between AP proficiency scores, exam grades, and performance in a comparable college course, ACTR field-tests exam items among college-level American students of Russian. The data collected from the field-tests and full test administrations are analyzed using classical test analyses in order to address item performance, test reliability and issues of validity. This paper will present the results from Prototype AP[®] Russian online exam administration with a focus on trends and prospects for placement into college-level Russian programs.