

the Gregorian calendar but the tradition to celebrate Old New Year remained. Many Russians stay at home on this day. They invite friends and relatives, have a festive supper, have fun and set off fireworks.

In conclusion, it is important to add that the Russians attach great importance to traditions and customs. Russia is indeed a unique country, which, along with highly developed modern culture carefully preserves the national traditions deeply rooted not only in the Orthodox religion but also in paganism.

Some Challenges in Modern Russian Engineering Education

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*Develop a passion for learning.
If you do, you will never cease to grow.
Anthony J. D'Angelo*

Nowadays the problem of engineering training becomes increasingly important. After Russia's accession to the Bologna process, national educational system faces with new challenges, there appeared new requirements which have to be met.

Undoubtedly, modern engineering education must be in compliance with international standards, degrees and qualifications. Thus current Russian engineering curriculums are aimed at education fundamentalization, innovative thinking shaping, special technology training.

To achieve these goals, the following technologies and approaches are used in engineering training:

- professional, personal, business-training activities;
- project-oriented teaching methods;
- interdisciplinary teaching approaches;
- contextual teaching approaches;
- experience approaches;
- case-study methods;

- technologies of teaching in a team.

Hence, after graduating from the university, students must acquire the ability:

- to apply scientific, mathematical and engineering knowledge;
- to plan and carry out an experiment;
- to design a system and its components;
- to define and solve problems;
- to perceive professional and ethical duties;
- to communicate effectively;
- to demonstrate a wide-ranging erudition;
- to demonstrate deep knowledge and understanding of ecological consequences of their engineering activity.

Taking all the aforesaid into consideration we should note that current engineering programs are developed to train global specialists who are able to join theory and practice; work in an international team; speak a foreign language in their professional sphere; generate new ideas and learn their life long.

The Shamanist Tradition of the Buryats (Siberia)

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Beliefs and traditions are a very important part of every nation culture and reflect a deep understanding and respect for nature. The stories, dances, songs, art and spiritual rituals have a great deal of meaning and symbolism for everyone in the nations.

The objective of this paper is to describe the shamanist tradition of the Buryats.

At the beginning we must say a few words about Buryatia and Buryats. The republic of Buryatia is located in the heart of Siberia along the eastern shore of Lake Baikal. Most of its territory is covered with rivers, forests, the green shores and clear waters of Baikal, the world's deepest freshwater lake. The beautiful landscapes leave visitors