

Introduction to Russian Language and Culture II (RUS 1131, sec. 42CA) – Summer B 2016 Course Syllabus

Time: MTWR 4-5 (12:30 – 3:15) Office hours: F 1:45-2:35
F 4 (12:30-1:45) Office: 381 Dauer Hall
Place: 2305 Turlington Hall Phone: (352) 273-3798
Instructor: Dr. Alexander Burak E-mail: alburak@ufl.edu

Course goals and content:

This course is the second in a two-semester sequence of beginning Russian. It covers the fundamentals of the Russian language while introducing some important aspects of Russian life and culture. By means of a “four-skills” communicative approach (speaking, listening, reading, and writing), the course will help you to produce and comprehend spoken and written Russian in a variety of situations. By the end of the course you will also command most of the principal elements of Russian grammar (noun/adjective declension, verb conjugation, etc.).

Course textbook and materials:

1. Lekich, Davidson, Gor, *Russian Stage One: Live from Russia!* (Volume Two), **Second edition** (Kendall/Hunt, 2008) [ISBN# 9780757558412]. The entire package includes (1) the textbook; (2) a DVD containing the film for the textbook; (3) a workbook; (4) a CD with audio material for the workbook exercises;
2. I will supply photocopies of the film script and answer keys to selected workbook exercises as needed;
3. I will set homework assignments as we progress through the course;
4. Supplementary materials are available online at: www.livefromrussia.org.

Course requirements:

1. Regular class attendance and active participation in all class activities (see also “Attendance policy,” below).
2. Thorough, accurate and punctual completion of all assignments, both written and oral, in and outside of class;
3. Completion of five weekly exams [“контрольные работы”], combining written & oral tasks, to be drawn from all course material (textbook, workbook, lectures, discussions and any/all other activities or assignments). The exams will take place in our regular classroom (2305 Turlington Hall) during our regular class periods.

Grading criteria: Final course grades will be based on the following percentages*:

1. **Course attendance** (number of class meetings attended) [see “Attendance policy,” below]. **20%**
2. **Course participation** (active engagement & participation in all class activities; thorough, timely and accurate completion of all homework assignments). **10%**
3. **Five in-class review exams** (“контрольные работы”) to be submitted for evaluation. **50%**
4. **Final exam** combining listening, reading, writing and oral tasks
(on the final day of classes – August 5, Firiday. **20%**

Final course grades will be assigned according to the following scale: **A** = a final course percentage of 93-100; **A-** = 90-92; **B+** = 87-89; **B** = 83-86; **B-** = 80-82; **C+** = 77-79; **C** = 73-76; **C-** = 70-72; **D+** = 67-69; **D** = 63-66; **D-** = 60-62; **E** = less than 60. U.F.’s grade “point” scale is viewable online at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Attendance policy: Because regular practice is essential for progress in any foreign language, everyone is expected to attend all class meetings and to arrive in class on time. Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with UF policies (see catalog: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>). Although there is no penalty for officially excusable absences (as defined by university policy), *PLEASE NOTE* that *the “course attendance” score will equal the percentage of meetings actually attended.* Thus if a class is missed, even for officially acceptable reasons, an attendance point will not be given for that day.

Make-up policy: The schedule of in-class exams is firm. Except in the case of a certified illness or other UF-accepted excuse, there will be no make-up option for missed exams. In the case of a certified illness or other UF-accepted excuse, a make-up exam should be arranged in person with me *prior* to the anticipated (approved) absence. In cases of illness, please contact me immediately before or on the first missed day due to the illness. **Students requesting alternate classroom accommodation** must first register with the Dean of Students Office (202 Peabody Hall). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then deliver it to me when requesting accommodation. For more information, see the DSO pages at: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/>.

Schedule of Classes and Exams

The schedule below indicates our weekly assignments and exam dates. ***PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL EXAM DATES ARE FIRM***, so *be sure to be in class on those days!* All homework assignments (which I will set at the end of each class) — whether readings, viewings, workbook exercises, or other—must be completed by the beginning of the next class. Thus, for example, on Tuesday, June 28, you should come to class having already completed all the assigned textbook and/or workbook exercises from “Unit 6, Russian Stage One, Days 1 and 2.” In most cases you will be asked to complete only a selected number of all the exercises for a given Unit. For each exam paper, I will assign a general evaluation of either “Exc./VG” (complete, thorough and with few or no errors); “Good” (complete, but with a significant number of errors); or “Pass” – “somewhat-less-than-Good” (incomplete and/or rich with errors). You will need to earn at least a “Pass” grade for the exam to count as 10 points toward your final grade. Any exam paper that is less than 60% correct will be graded pro-rata, i.e. 9, 8, 7 and so on points.

WEEK 1 (27-30 Jun.; 1 Jul.):

Unit 6. Russian Stage One.

Exam 1.

WEEK 2 (5-8 Jul.):

Unit 7. Russian Stage Two.

Exam 2.

WEEK 3 (11–15 Jul.):

Unit 8. Russian Stage Two.

Exam 3.

WEEK 4 (18-22 Jul.):

Unit 9. Russian Stage Two.

Exam 4.

WEEK 5 (25-29 Jul.):

Unit 10. Russian Stage Two.

Exam 5.

WEEK 6 (1-5 Aug.):

Unit 11. Russian Stage Two.

Final Exam.