

**Fall 2017**

**RUS 4000 (29BG) Advanced Russian 1**

**Instructor:** Dr./Prof. Alexander Burak (Александр Львович). **Email:** alburak@ufl.edu

**MWF, period 5 (11:45-12:35), Ustler Hall, room 0108**

**Take-home final exam to be submitted by email by 9:30 a.m. on December 14 (Thur), 2017**

**Office Hours:** Tuesday and Thursday: 7th period (1:55-2:45 p.m., room 254, Dauer Hall) or by appointment

### **Course Goals and Description**

This course is the first part of an intermediate-to-advanced Russian-language sequence designed to further students' knowledge of Russian language and culture through a variety of interactive methods. The course is built around four fundamental language skills—speaking, listening, reading, and writing—and integrates rich cultural content throughout. By the end of this course, students who attend class regularly, do audiovisual, oral and written assignments diligently, and participate actively in class activities can expect to be able to produce and comprehend both spoken and written Russian in a variety of complex communicative situations. Prerequisite: RUS 3400 or the instructor's permission.

#### **Grading:**

Attendance, class participation, homework - 50%

5 in-class written tests - 25%

Take-home final exam – 25%

#### **Attendance, Participation, Homework: 50%**

***Day-to-day preparation and performance is critical in any language course.*** Given their highly interactive nature, language classes cannot be "made up" if missed. Poor in-class performance, unexcused absences, tardiness, and late or ignored homework assignments will be noted and calculated into your final grade. If you have to miss class or an assignment, please contact me ahead of time to make arrangements; those who miss class are responsible for obtaining and completing daily homework assignments.

***Class time*** is your opportunity to practice speaking Russian. That means that I expect you to be prepared in class to ask and answer questions as well as to think creatively about the language you are learning. I will call on you and I will expect you to perform brief skits and situations in small groups in front of the class. I do not, however, expect you to speak perfect Russian...yet!

**Homework assignments** should be completed diligently and daily. Being unprepared in class slows up the whole class and is usually resented by those who well prepared. Additional assignments, if any, should be done by specified dates.

### **Tests (5): 25%**

These tests are designed to measure the degree to which you have mastered the material presented in each unit. Make-up tests may be arranged only if you provide me with legitimate explanation submitted, under normal circumstances, in advance of the regularly scheduled test.

### **Final exam: 25%**

The take-home final exam will be a cumulative measurement of your mastery of the material covered in the course of the semester.

The following scale will be used in calculating your overall grade for the course:

A = 93 – 100% (4 points)	B - = 82 – 80% (2.67 points)	D + = 69 – 67% (1.33 points)
A - = 92 – 90% (3.67 points)	C+ = 79 – 77% (2.33 points)	D = 63 – 66% (1.0 point)
B+ = 89 – 87% (3.33 points)	C = 76 – 73% (2.0 points)	D - = 62 – 60% (0.67 points)
B = 86 – 83% (3.0 points)	C - = 72 – 70% (1.67 points)	E = 59 – 0 (Failure)

**Note:** A grade of C- is not a qualifying grade for major, minor, Gen Ed, or College Basic distribution credit. For further information on UF's Grading Policy, see:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

<http://www.isis.ufl.edu/minusgrades.html>

### **Expected Class Demeanor**

Cell phones and gadgets: Please turn off your cell phone during class as a courtesy to us all. Since you will be doing a lot of talking in this class, I would also appreciate it if you would refrain from eating or chewing gum while the class is in progress. Please do not hesitate to contact me during the semester if you have any individual concerns or issues that need to be discussed.

### **Make-Up Quizzes or Tests**

A student will only be allowed to make up a missed quiz or test if s/he has a doctor's sickness note or other official documentation specifying valid reasons for missing the class. If any serious personal reasons preventing you from writing a test/quiz should arise, please, let me know about them before you miss the test/quiz so that we can work out an accommodation.

### **Academic Honesty**

Students are required to be honest in their coursework, may not use notes during quizzes or exams, and must properly cite all sources that they have consulted for their projects. Any act of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Dean of Students, and may result in failure of the assignment in question and/or the course. For University of Florida's honor code, see <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php>

### **Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. Contact the Disability Resources Center (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>) for information about available resources for students with disabilities.

### **Counseling and Mental Health Resources**

Students facing difficulties completing the course or who are in need of counseling or urgent help should call the on-campus Counseling and Wellness Center (352 392-1575; <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/>).

### **Online Course Evaluation**

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>.

**REQUIRED MATERIALS:**

*Russian: From Intermediate to Advanced.* By Olga E. Kagan, Anna S. Kudyma and Frank J. Miller. London and New York: Routledge/Taylor & Francis Group, 2015. ISBN 978-0-415-71227-9.

Note: We will focus on certain segments of each chapter and leave out some segments.

**Schedule of Classes****Weeks 1-3 (Aug. 27-Sept. 11):**

Chapter 1. Education and the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

**Weeks 4-6 (Sept. 14-Oct. 2):**

Chapter 2. Work and Life.

**Weeks 7-9 (Oct. 5-Oct. 23):**

Chapter 3. Free Time and Way of Life.

**Weeks 10-12 (Oct. 26-Nov.13):**

Chapter 4. Family and Family Relationships.

**Weeks 13-15 (Nov.16-Dec. 4):**

Chapter 5. City, Suburbs and Countryside.

**Week 16 (Dec. 7, 8, 9):**

Review of material.