

University of Pittsburgh
Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures
RUSS 1430: Fourth Year Russian 2
Russian Translation. Theory and Practice.

Spring 2011 Class meets: Mondays, Wednesday, Fridays 12:00-12:50 PM, CL 242

Instructor: Yuliya Basina

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Office: Cathedral of Learning 1421

Office Hours:

M, W 1:30-2:30 PM (or by appointment)

Course Description:

The fourth-year Russian 2 course will explore the theory and practice of translation and interpretation from Russian to English and English to Russian as both a craft and an art with its own standards and obligations. Theoretical investigations will consider translation as a sociolinguistic activity: i.e., as an act of mediated communication with the understanding of cultural norms, expectations, and social context of the source and target languages. We will examine various genres of oral and written texts with the focus on specific structural features of Russian and English grammar, morphology, and syntax fundamental to producing successful translations. During the semester, each student will participate in group projects and present a number of individual projects. There won't be any tests or exams in this course. The final grade will be based on individual and group work (see Evaluation of Grades). By the end of each week, the instructor will email you the next week syllabus and assignments.

Objectives:

By the end of the course students will be able to

*identify and locate the tools required to carry out non-literary and literary translations from Russian to English and English to Russian;

*recognize and apply the basic theoretical principles (especially linguistic) involved in textual translation;

*execute non-literary translations from Russian to English and from English to Russian with a substantial lexical, syntactical, and semantic accuracy;

*translate literary texts from Russian to English and to defend judgments about the quality of such literary translations based on relevant linguistic and literary norms;

*perform short and long consecutive interpreting (CI) from Russian to English and English to Russian with a substantial accuracy and speed.

Required Materials:

Andrews, Edna and Maksimova, Elena. Russian Translation. Theory and Practice. London and New York: Routledge, 2010.

Recommended Materials:

- Visson, Lynn. *Where Russians Go Wrong in Spoken English: Words and Expressions in the Context of Two Cultures*. Moscow: R. Valent, 2003. (PDF file is available)
- Wade, Terence. *A Comprehensive Russian Grammar*. 2nd edition. Oxford: Blackwell Publishing, 2005.
- Wade, Terence. *A Russian Grammar Workbook*. Oxford: Blackwell Publishing, 2005.

Web Materials:

Онлайн словарь МультиТран": www.multitrans.ru

Evaluation and Grades:

| | |
|---|-----|
| Class attendance, participation and homework: | 20% |
| 2 group interpretation projects (5% each) | 10% |
| 2 group translation projects (5% each) | 10% |
| 2 individual interpretation projects (10% each) | 20% |
| 2 individual translation projects (10% each) | 20% |
| Final individual translation project | 20% |

TOTAL: 100%

The following grading standards will be used in assigning grades in this course:

| | | | | | |
|--------|----|-------|----|--------------|----|
| 93-100 | A | 80-82 | B- | 68-69 | D+ |
| 90-92 | A- | 78-79 | C+ | 65-67 | D |
| 88-89 | B+ | 73-77 | C | 64-54 | E |
| 83-87 | B | 70-72 | C- | 53 and below | F |

Attendance and absences:

This class meets three times a week. Students are expected to attend all classes and be on time. Students will receive daily grades for each meeting of the course. Attendance will be recorded each class. Attendance is mandatory for all class sessions. The instructors will not review or re-teach material to students who were absent from class.

Academic Integrity:

By remaining enrolled in the course, you not only agree to abide by the stipulations of this course overview, but also understand that we will follow rigorously the rules spelled out in the Handbook on Integrity regarding cheating, plagiarism, etc. It is your responsibility to familiarize yourself with these rules and observe them. Any infraction will be penalized accordingly.

Plagiarism:

As "Student Obligations and Adjudication" (University Policy 02-03-03) states, "students have an obligation to exhibit honesty, and to respect the ethical standard of his (their) chosen profession in carrying out (their) academic assignments". According to the University of Pittsburgh's policy, a student "violates this obligation" if he/she: "a) presents as one's own, for academic evaluation, the ideas, representations, or works of another person or persons without customary and proper acknowledgement of sources; b) submits the work of another person in a

manner which represents the work to be one's own; c) knowingly permits one's work to be submitted by another person without the instructor's authorization".

The penalties for academic misconduct like plagiarism can be very severe. The immediate consequence of plagiarism will be receiving a grade zero for the particular assignment and can lead to an F for the course.

For the references, please, check the Academic Integrity Code, School of Arts and Sciences on line: <http://www.fcas.pitt.edu/academicintegrity.html>

Disability

If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and Disability Resources and Services, 140 William Pitt Union, 412-648-890 or 412-383-7355 (TTY) as early as possible in the term. DRS will verify your disability and determine reasonable accommodations for this course.