

**University of Pittsburgh**  
**Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures**

Russian 0400: Advanced Russian I  
Fall 2014 (2151)

Class schedule

MWF 12:00-12:50 PM at 349 CL  
Instructor: Ellina Sattarova  
[els139@pitt.edu](mailto:els139@pitt.edu)

Office: 1417 CL  
Office hours: T 12:00 – 1:00 PM  
F 1:00 – 2:00 PM

Introduction

This course is for advanced level students who want to improve and master their vocabulary, pronunciation and language fluency as well as their grammatical accuracy of Russian to be able to use it in a variety of situations and to understand and appreciate Russian culture. The aim of the course is to present students with opportunities to perform in a range of authentic contexts by integrating all four skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing) while encouraging more precise and coherent language use.

Required Materials

Rosengrant, Sandra Freels. *Russian in Use: An Interactive Approach to Advanced Communicative Competence*. Yale University Press.

Recommended Materials:

Terence Wade, *Comprehensive Russian Grammar*. 2nd edition. Cambridge, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2000.

Course Format and Methodology

The course material is organized around the first three chapters of the textbook *Russian In Use*, a traditional language textbook concentrating on advanced grammar and vocabulary development. Students are encouraged to consult Terence Wade's *Comprehensive Russian Grammar* when/if they need to review some grammatical material. These two books will be supplemented with other authentic materials, such as newspaper and magazine articles, short literary texts, videos, that will be related to the content of the textbook.

## Requirements

1. Students are expected to converse only in Russian during all class sessions. As this is an advanced language course, the course will be conducted exclusively in Russian.
2. Students are required from the very first day of the course to be proficient in i) handwriting in Russian in properly formed Cyrillic letters and ii) keyboarding in Cyrillic on a computer. Unless otherwise specified by the instructor, all compositions are to be composed and printed with a computer, while all other homework must be neatly handwritten.
3. Attendance is mandatory for all class sessions. Instructor will not review or re-teach material to students who were absent from class. Instructor is not obligated to accept late homework due to an absence.
4. Tardiness will affect the student's participation grade. Let the instructor know in advance if tardiness will be caused by some unavoidable extenuating circumstances.
5. Participation in all aspects of the course is mandatory. This course is designed to develop all language skills and cannot accommodate students who wish to learn only the written language.
6. All phones must be switched off before coming to class. The use of all mobile devices during class is prohibited. Absolutely no text-messaging will be allowed. Deductions in the participation grade will be taken for each infraction.

## Grading and Evaluation

Attendance, class participation and homework:	20%
3 Oral presentations:	20%
3 tests	20%
3 Essays (first drafts 5%, final drafts 15%):	20%
Quizzes	10%
Final Exam	10%
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TOTAL:	100%

### **Attendance, class participation and homework**

Participation in classroom work will be evaluated on a daily basis and a grade will be assigned for each class session. Students will receive a grade of "0" for any class session missed unless excused. At the beginning of each week instructor will give the students a detailed schedule of assignments. Students should come to class fully prepared. Written homework must be turned in on the day it is due. Late homework will not be accepted.

### **Oral presentations**

Each student will have to give three short oral presentations (4-6 mins long) in the course of the semester. Students should discuss their presentation topics with the instructor at least one week before the presentation date. Students will not be allowed to use any notes while presenting.

## Quizzes

Occasional quizzes, announced or unannounced, will be given throughout the semester. No quiz may be made up for any reason.

## Essays

Students will have to write three essays in the course of the semester – one per each chapter. For each essay students will have to submit a draft first (25% of the essay grade) and then a final version (75% of the essay grade) that reflects the corrections and incorporates suggestions made by instructor on the first draft.

## Tests and Final Exam

There will be three written exams and one final exam given throughout the course. **All tests must be taken at the scheduled time.** If a student misses a written test or final exam due to his/her being seriously ill or due to a death in the family, the instructor must be informed no later than the day of the test and **the circumstances must be promptly documented** in order to have the zero removed from the record.

## Important Dates

September 12	Essay 1, first draft due
September 15, 17	Oral Presentation 1
September 19	Test 1
September 22	Essay 1, final draft due
October 14	Essay 2, first draft due
October 20, 22	Oral Presentation 2
October 24	Test 2
October 27	Essay 2, final draft due
November 10	Essay 3, first draft due
November 17, 19	Oral Presentation 3
November 24	Essay 3, final draft due
December 1	Test 3

## 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.

## 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- 7890 or 412-383-7355 (TTY) as early as possible in the term. DRS will verify your disability and determine reasonable accommodations for this course.

## Classroom Recording

Students may not use any electronic recording devices in the classroom without written verification from DRS that such recording is a necessary accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act.