

University of Pittsburgh
Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures
Russian 0400: Advanced Russian I
Fall 2019 (2191)

Course Number: 10464
Class Schedule: MWF 12:00pm-12:50pm
Classroom: 219 Cathedral of Learning

Instructor: Trevor Wilson
Email: trevorwilson@pitt.edu
Office hours: M 1-2:00pm; Tu 12-1pm

Course Description:

Welcome to Advanced Russian! This course is for students who have achieved the intermediate level of Russian proficiency and want to improve and master their vocabulary, pronunciation and language fluency as well as their grammatical accuracy to be able to use Russian in a variety of situations and to understand and appreciate Russian culture. The purpose 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. The objective of the course is to solidify students' intermediate language skills and begin the process of raising the students' proficiency to the advanced level, with "advanced" indicating the ability to effectively communicate about topics of general, public, and even global interest rather than just those of immediate personal interest.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will

- Acquire productive language skills of writing and speaking in Russian Intermediate High, according to ACTFL guidelines.
- Understand the main idea and key information in short, straightforward, informational and fictional texts and conversations.
- Understand the underlying message and most supporting details across major time frames in descriptive, informational texts and conversations, or the main story and most supporting details in fictional texts.
- Exchange information in conversations on familiar topics and some researched topics, creating sentences and series of sentences as well as asking a variety of follow-up questions.
- Interact with others to meet their needs in a variety of familiar situations, creating sentences and series of sentences as well as asking a variety of follow-up questions.
- Exchange preferences, feelings, or opinions and provide basic advice on a variety of familiar topics.
- Tell a story about their life, activities, events and other social experiences, using sentences and series of connected sentences.
- State their viewpoint about familiar topics and give some reasons to support it, using sentences and series of connected sentences.
- Give straightforward presentations on a variety of familiar topics and some concrete topics they have researched, using sentences and series of connected sentences.

Required Textbook:

Kagan, Olga, Anna S. Kudyma, and Frank J. Miller. Russian: From Intermediate to Advanced. NY and London: Routledge, 2015.

Textbook website: <http://www.russian.ucla.edu/AdvancedRussian/Welcome.html>

Supplementary materials will be supplied in class and via Courseweb.

Useful online dictionary/translation tool: www.multitran.ru

Course Methodology:

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 with only rare exceptions.
2. Students are required from the very first day of class to be proficient in Russian handwriting, in properly formed Cyrillic letters. **Unless otherwise specified by the instructor, all homework assignments must be neatly handwritten.**
3. **Attendance is mandatory for all class sessions.** The instructor will not review or re-teach material to students who were absent from class. The instructor is not obligated to accept late homework due to an absence. Students who face documentable extenuating circumstances that will cause absences should contact the instructor as soon as possible to determine a course of action.
4. Tardiness will affect the student's participation grade. Let the instructor know in advance if tardiness will be caused by 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. Students will frequently work in pairs or small groups and are expected to treat each other with friendly respect at all times. As personal and family topics naturally arise in the material we cover, students are welcome to avoid sharing personal information or to provide fictional answers as long as they stay in Russian and continue to participate in the communicative tasks of the exercise as appropriate. Likewise, when asked for a personal opinion, students are free to "play devil's advocate" and adopt a stance that is not their own. However, participatory language use across the range of topics in the course is essential to success in the course.
6. All phones and other technological devices must be switched off before coming to class. The use of all mobile devices during class is prohibited. Absolutely no text-messaging or laptop/tablet use will be allowed. Deductions in the participation grade will be taken for each infraction.

Instructional Approach:

This class is a communicative language class. We will spend much of our time talking in Russian, either in small groups/pairs or as an entire class. Because the majority of our in-class activities and discussions will be conducted in Russian, it is imperative that students read the assigned pages from the textbook, study the assigned grammar sections, do the corresponding grammar exercises in the

textbook/workbook, and prepare for oral discussions on previously assigned topics **before coming to class**. Class sessions are reserved for communicative language use. In other words, we will discuss and practice in Russian the material that you **have studied at home**.

Student-Instructor Communication:

If you have any questions or feel that you are falling behind in this course, please contact me as soon as possible so that I can help you.

I am available during my office hours on Mondays at 1:00-2:00pm and on Tuesdays at 12:00-1:00pm in 1235 Cathedral of Learning. We may also be able to schedule meetings outside of these hours if necessary. I will be able to respond to your email within 24-48 hours, and 48-72 hours over the weekend.

Please make sure to check the detailed gradebook located on Courseweb, in order to have a regular idea of your progress in class.

Evaluation and Grades:

Attendance, class participation, and homework	25%
Quizzes	5%
Compositions	10%
Chapter Tests (1-5)	20%
Oral Tests (2)	10%
Oral Final	10%
Final Written Exam:	20%
Total:	100%

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

93-100: 5 (A)	80-82: 4- (B-)	67-69: 2+ (D+)
90-92: 5- (A-)	77-79: 3+ (C+)	63-66: 2 (D)
87-89: 4+ (B+)	73-76: 3 (C)	60-62: 2- (D-)
83-86: 4 (B)	70-72: 3- (C-)	0-59: 1 (F)

1. Attendance, class participation and homework (25%)

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. Major deductions will be incurred for tardiness, distracted/distracting behavior, inattention due to sleepiness, disrespectful behavior towards peers, etc.

At the beginning of each week students will receive a detailed schedule of assignments. Students should come to class fully prepared. Written homework must be turned in on the day it is due in class. Assignments due by Courseweb or email must be submitted electronically before the start of the class on the day it is due. **Late homework will not be accepted.**

Class participation and homework are both evaluated on a scale from 0 to 5. The classroom participation grade reflects attendance, participation, and creativity.

“5” is given if you are well-prepared, have completed all assignments, and constantly participate on your own initiative.

“4” is given if you are prepared for the class, have completed the majority of assignments, and regularly participate, but mainly with the instructor’s encouragement.

“3” is given if you are not well prepared and participate randomly, only when the instructor calls on you.

“0” is given for a complete failure to prepare for or participate in class.

Homework and class participation grades are combined into weekly grades and recorded on Courseweb.

2. Quizzes (5%)

Students will take 5 vocabulary quizzes through the course of the semester. Vocabulary on the quizzes will be taken from the Memrise lists for that chapter. Other quizzes, both announced and unannounced, may be added at the instructor’s discretion. Missed quizzes may not be made up. However, quizzes missed due to absence will not count toward the total quiz grade.

3. Compositions (10%)

In each chapter, students will be required to write a short composition related to the chapter theme. Students will be evaluated according to their use of correct grammar and vocabulary in the composition, as well as their ability to accomplish the task required in the assignment. The instructor will occasionally permit a revision of composition assignments, in which case the student may fix errors and resubmit the assignment in order to receive a boost to the grade. When submitting revisions, the student must submit both the original and the revised copy of the composition.

4. Chapter tests (20%)

There will be a chapter test on listening, reading, writing, and grammar and vocabulary after each of the first four chapters. After the fifth chapter, the test will only cover grammar and vocabulary, since the other three skills will be tested on the final exam. All tests must be taken at the scheduled time. If a student misses a written test or final exam due to serious illness, death in the family, or another documentable extenuating circumstance **the instructor must be informed no later than the day of the test** and the circumstances must be promptly documented in order to schedule a make-up exam.

5. Oral tests (10%)

There will be two oral tests throughout the semester. Exam appointments will be scheduled during class and take place in the classroom. Students will sign up with a partner and receive the exam task upon arrival at the exam. There will be some time allowed to prepare together before the exam after receiving the exam task.

6. Oral final (10%)

The oral final will take place during the final week of classes. Students will randomly select a card with a topic for a 5-minute oral presentation. A list of possible topics will be distributed in advanced of the exam and students will be given the opportunity to prepare 5 notecards with key vocabulary — one for each chapter theme that we covered. After selecting their topic on their exam day, students will be given a few minutes to collect and organize their thoughts or edit their notecards, then will present to the full class. Students presenting on a given day will also be required to ask at least one question of the other presenters that is responsive to the content of their presentations. Only a few (3-5) students will present on any given day. The remainder of the class will be spent on activities in preparation for the final exam.

7. Final written exam (10%)

The final written exam will be comprehensive, but emphasize chapter 5, and will cover listening, reading, and writing.

8. Extra-credit opportunities

Throughout the semester, there might be some extra-curricular activities at the University of Pittsburgh, CMU, or in the local Russian community, in which you may participate for extra credit. If you need/would like to earn extra points on your participation grade in this class, you might be able to do it by attending these events and activities. We will notify you about upcoming events in advance.

University Policies:

Disability Policy

If a student has a disability that requires special teaching, testing accommodations, or other classroom modifications, he or she must notify the instructor and the Office of Disability Resources and Service as early as possible in the semester. The student may be asked to provide documentation of the disability to determine the appropriateness of accommodations. To notify, call to schedule an appointment. The office is located in 140 William Pitt Union, phone: Phone: 412-648-7890, video Phone: 412-228-5374.

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 and The Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts and Science’s

Academic Integrity Code at <https://as.pitt.edu/faculty/policies-and-procedures/academic-integrity-code> and the Guidelines on Academic Integrity at https://provost.pitt.edu/sites/default/files/academic_integrity_guidelines.pdf.

Cell Phone and Laptop Policy

All cellular telephones must be switched off before coming to class. The use of all mobile devices during Russian class is prohibited, unless it is a requirement for our in-class learning activities. If you need to make or accept an urgent phone call, you should do it outside the classroom. There should be absolutely no text messaging during the class period.

The use of laptops is prohibited during our classes. You are allowed to use your laptops only if they are required for our in-class learning activities.

E-mail Communication Policy

Each student is issued a University e-mail address (username@pitt.edu) upon admittance. This e-mail address may be used by the University for official communication with students. Students are expected to read e-mail sent to this account on a regular basis. Failure to read and react to University communications in a timely manner does not absolve the student from knowing and complying with the content of the communications. The University provides an e-mail forwarding service that allows students to read their e-mail via other service providers (e.g., Hotmail, AOL, Yahoo). Students that choose to forward their e-mail from their pitt.edu address to another address do so at their own risk. If e-mail is lost as a result of forwarding, it does not absolve the student from responding to official communications sent to their University e-mail address. To forward e-mail sent to your University account, go to <http://accounts.pitt.edu>, log into your account, click on Edit Forwarding Addresses, and follow the instructions on the page. Be sure to log out of your account when you have finished. (For the full E-mail Communication Policy, go to www.bc.pitt.edu/policies/policy/09/09-10-01.html.)

Non-Discrimination Policy

As an educational institution and as an employer, Pitt values equality of opportunity, human dignity, and racial/ethnic and cultural diversity. Accordingly, the University prohibits and will not engage in discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, marital status, familial status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, genetic information, disability, or status as a veteran. For more information, visit <http://cfo.pitt.edu/policies/documents/policy07-01-03web.pdf>.

Gender-Inclusive Language Guidelines

Aspiring to create a learning environment in which people of all identities are encouraged to contribute their perspectives to academic discourse, the University of Pittsburgh Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Program provides guidelines and resources regarding gender-inclusive/non-sexist language. Following these guidelines fosters an inclusive and welcoming environment, strengthens academic writing, enriches discussion, and reflects best professional practices.

Language is gender-inclusive and non-sexist when we use words that affirm and respect how people describe, express, and experience their gender. Gender-inclusive/non-sexist language acknowledges people of any gender (e.g. first-year versus freshman, chair versus chairman, humankind versus mankind). It also affirms non-binary gender identifications and recognizes the difference between biological sex and gender expression. Students may share their preferred pronouns and names, and

these gender identities and gender expressions should be honored. These guidelines fulfill the best intentions of the University of Pittsburgh's Non-Discrimination Policy:

<https://www.cfo.pitt.edu/policies/policy/07/07-01-03.html> .

Sexual Misconduct, Required Reporting, and Title IX

The University is committed to combatting sexual misconduct. As a result, you should know that University faculty and staff members are required to report any instances of sexual misconduct, including harassment and sexual violence, to the University's Title IX office so that the victim may be provided appropriate resources and support options. What this means is that as your professor, I am required to report any incidents of sexual misconduct that are directly reported to me, or of which I am somehow made aware.

There are two important exceptions to this requirement about which you should be aware:

- o A list of the designated University employees who, as counselors and medical professionals, do not have this reporting responsibility and can maintain confidentiality, can be found here:

<http://www.titleix.pitt.edu/report/confidentiality>

- o An important exception to the reporting requirement exists for academic work. Disclosures about sexual misconduct that are shared as part of an academic project, classroom discussion, or course assignment, are not required to be disclosed to the University's Title IX office

If you are the victim of sexual misconduct, Pitt encourages you to reach out to these resources:

- o Title IX Office: 412-648-7860
- o SHARE (Sexual Harrassment and Assault Response)
- o The University Counseling Center: 412-648-7856
- o Report an incident here.
- o Other reporting information is available here.

If you have a safety concern, please contact the University of Pittsburgh Police:

On-Campus Emergency: 412-624-2121

Off-Campus Emergency: 412-624-2121

Non-Emergency: 412-624-4040

General Course Schedule (Major Assessments and Assignments)

Обзорное расписание		
Неделя 1	Пн 26.8.19	Глава 1: Образование и 21 век.
	Ср 28.8.19	Глава 1: Образование и 21 век.
	Пт 30.8.19	Глава 1: Образование и 21 век.
Неделя 2	Пн 2.9.19	День труда. Нет урока.
	Ср 4.9.19	Глава 1: Образование и 21 век.
	Пт 6.9.19	Глава 1: Образование и 21 век. Vocabulary quiz for chapter 1.
Неделя 3	Пн 9.9.19	Глава 1: Образование и 21 век.
	Ср 11.9.19	Глава 1: Образование и 21 век.
	Пт 13.9.19	Контрольная работа по главе 1
Неделя 4	Пн 16.9.19	Глава 2: Работа и жизнь.
	Ср 18.9.19	Глава 2: Работа и жизнь.
	Пт 20.9.19	Глава 2: Работа и жизнь.
Неделя 5	Пн 23.9.19	Глава 2: Работа и жизнь.
	Ср 25.9.19	Глава 2: Работа и жизнь.
	Пт 27.9.19	Глава 2: Работа и жизнь. Vocabulary quiz for chapter 2.
Неделя 6	Пн 30.9.19	Глава 2: Работа и жизнь.
	Ср 2.10.19	Контрольная работа по главе 2
	Пт 4.10.19	Глава 3: Свободное время и образ жизни.
Неделя 7	Пн 6.10.19	Глава 3: Свободное время и образ жизни.
	Ср 9.10.19	Глава 3: Свободное время и образ жизни.
	Пт 11.10.19	Глава 3: Свободное время и образ жизни. Vocabulary quiz for chapter 3.
Неделя 8	Пн 14.10.19	Устный экзамен 1 проводится на этой неделе. Глава 3: Свободное время и образ жизни.
	Ср 16.10.19	Глава 3: Свободное время и образ жизни.
	Пт 18.10.19	Глава 3: Свободное время и образ жизни.
Неделя 9	Пн 21.10.19	Контрольная работа по главе 3
	Ср 23.10.19	Глава 4: Семья и семейные отношения.
	Пт 25.10.19	Глава 4: Семья и семейные отношения.
Неделя 10	Пн 28.10.19	Глава 4: Семья и семейные отношения.
	Ср 30.10.19	Глава 4: Семья и семейные отношения.
	Пт 1.11.19	Глава 4: Семья и семейные отношения. Vocabulary quiz for chapter 4.
Неделя 11	Пн 4.11.19	Глава 4: Семья и семейные отношения.
	Ср 6.11.19	Глава 4: Семья и семейные отношения.
	Пт 8.11.19	Контрольная работа по главе 4

Неделя 12	Пн 11.11.19	Устный экзамен 2 проводится на этой неделе. Глава 5: Город, пригород и деревня.
	Ср 13.11.19	Глава 5: Город, пригород и деревня.
	Пт 15.11.19	Глава 5: Город, пригород и деревня.
Неделя 13	Пн 18.11.19	Глава 5: Город, пригород и деревня. Vocabulary quiz for chapter 5.
	Ср 20.11.19	Глава 5: Город, пригород и деревня.
	Пт 22.11.19	Контрольная работа по главе 5 (только грамматика)
Неделя 14	Пн 25.11.19	28.11 День благодарения. Нет урока.
	Ср 27.11.19	
	Пт 29.11.19	
Неделя 15	Пн 2.12.19	Финальный устный экзамен проводится на этой неделе! Review
	Ср 4.12.19	Review
	Пт 6.12.19	Review
Неделя 16 – FINALS WEEK	Date TBD	Финальный экзамен