

Elementary Russian
Summer 1, 2013
M-F: 11:40-1:45
Michelle Panchuk

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Course Description:

This course will introduce students to the Russian language and culture by focusing on four essential skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students will gain confidence and proficiency in specific communicative tasks and will develop a basic understanding of the structure of the Russian language and the culture of the Russian people, with an emphasis on using language in its cultural context.

Required Texts:

Голоса (=Voices), book 1 textbook, 5th edition, à la carte (unbound) edition (abbreviated as G), ISBN 0205048382. Be sure to have the current chapter of your textbook with you for every class.

Student Activities Manual for *Голоса*, workbook, 5th edition (abbreviated as SAM), ISBN 0205748767. This is the printed edition of the SAM. You will need to do some homework assignments in handwritten form (as noted on the schedule). If you have rented your workbook or plan to resell it, you will need to make a copy of the assigned pages.

Course Requirements:

4 **Short Tests** (20%): Alphabet Test, units 1, 2, 4 (5% each)

5 **Vocabulary Quizzes** (10%)

Mid-Term Exam (20%): Covering units 1-3 (includes oral component)

Final Exam (25%): Cumulative (includes oral component)

Homework (15%): Written homework is due in class the day after it is assigned in the schedule. Non-written assignments, though not graded, are essential for success in language acquisition.

Attendance/Participation (10%): Attendance and active participation are essential for language acquisition. If you fear making mistakes in public, you must work hard to overcome this attitude toward language acquisition. We all make mistakes when learning to speak a language, but SPEAKING is the only way to become fluent. Each student is allowed 2 absences without penalty. For every absence in excess of 2, the student's final grade will be marked down two full percentage points.

Resources:

Sona Vocabulary Assistant, <http://www.sonasoftware.com/vocab>. Sona, an interactive program for Mac OS X and Windows designed by Dr. Curtis Ford of the USC Russian program, helps you master new words by integrating vocabulary from the text in a variety of interactive exercises and games. As a student of Russian at USC, you can use Sona Vocabulary Assistant free of charge on your own computer; see the class Blackboard page for a registration key to use the software. To download, please visit <http://www.sonasoftware.com/vocab/download.html>.

Word lists keyed to our text can be downloaded at <http://www.sonasoftware.com/vocab/downloads/golosa/index.html>. For help, please consult <http://www.sonasoftware.com/vocab/help.html>; if you don't find the answer you need there, please send questions, comments, suggestions, or bug reports to Dr. Ford at cford@sc.edu.

Mini-Tutorials on iTunes U. Dr. Ford's short, enhanced podcasts on Russian grammar will help you learn, practice, and review basic concepts covered this semester. The mini-tutorials can be accessed through Blackboard or at <http://www.sonasoftware.com/summer2012>.

Голоса website, <http://www.gwu.edu/~slavic/golosa/>. The website for *Голоса* includes links to audio, video, and materials for additional practice.

USC Russian Program website, <http://artsandsciences.sc.edu/dllc/russ>. Information on courses, study abroad, majoring and minoring, events, and more!

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of RUSS 121, you should be able to do the following in Russian:

- 1.) Communication: Students will learn to communicate on a basic level orally and in writing, learning the Cyrillic alphabet as used in Russian (including cursive!), and will be better prepared to communicate with the Russian-speaking world outside the classroom. Students will be able to express location and destination, use proper case forms for three cases, express actions in the present and past, "going" in certain contexts, obligation, and basic time expressions; use numbers up to 1,000 in certain contexts; tell time on the hour.
- 2.) Culture: Students will understand the essentials of "small-c" culture necessary to function in Russia, including basic interactions such as forms of address, greetings and salutations, invitations, and expressions of likes and dislikes. Students will also become acquainted with some of Russia's cultural heritage, including well-known figures in the arts and sciences.
- 3.) Connections: Through readings and audio-visual materials, students will learn about Russian society, family life, housing, education, daily rituals, and culture.
- 4.) Comparisons: By examining Russian language and culture, students will learn to make conclusions about their own language and culture, as they compare daily routines, educational systems, issues of nationality, and family structures, along with other aspects of Russian and American life.
- 5.) Communities: Through the readings and audio-visual materials associated with the textbook, students will learn about Russian life and will be able to engage with friends and colleagues in the Russian-speaking world.

Grading Scale:

A	90-100	Student demonstrates exceptional knowledge of the material. Student's work significantly exceeds expectations.
B+	87-89	
B	80-86	Student demonstrates solid working knowledge of the material. Student's work exceeds the minimum requirements.

C+	77-79	
C	70-76	Student demonstrates a minimum satisfactory knowledge of the material. Student's work meets minimum requirements.
D+	67-69	
D	60-66	Student demonstrates a significantly deficient understanding of the material. Student's work comes short of requirements.
F	Below 60	Student does not demonstrate significant comprehension of the material. Student's work falls far short of requirements.

Class Decorum:

Students are expected to show the utmost respect for their fellow students and the instructor during class. Causing unnecessary noise during class lecture periods fails to respect the learning goals of the other students. As a result, students eating and drinking in class are expected to do so discretely. Please silence cell phones before the beginning of each class period. Texting and instant messaging in class is strictly prohibited, as it is distracting not only for the student engaging in the activity, but also for those around him or her. While electronic devices such as laptop computers and e-readers are permitted, the instructor reserves the right to ask students to discontinue use if it becomes obvious that use of the device is not contributing to the learning goals of the class. Students who fail to comply will be asked to leave for the day and will face whatever attendance penalties may apply.

Any student found signing in for another student or copying another student's work on quizzes or exams will receive a failing grade on the assignment, possibly for the entire course, and will be reported.

Late Policy:

All assignments are due at the beginning of class on the date indicated in the schedule. Assignments will be counted late 15 minutes after the beginning of class time on that day. Students may turn in homework at the professor's office prior to the date due. Exceptions to this policy will be made only in the case of a documented good reason.

Tentative Course Schedule:

The following schedule is subject to change. The final word about schedule and assignments will be given in class. Students who miss classes are responsible to contact the instructor to find out if changes have been made.

Date	Class Topics:	Homework: to be turned in the following day.
6/3	Introduction; Russian Names and Introductions; Letters and Sounds	Read G 2-9 (with audio) and 15-16; SAM: A-10—A-13; A-15—A-18
6/4	Numbers; Pronunciation and "What/Who is this?"	Read G 10-13; and SAM: A-14.

6/5	Alphabet Quiz; Greetings; Formal and Informal Speech;	Разговоры 2-3; Assigned dialogues. SAM 01-10. Sona Sona: Nouns; Read grammar Explanations in G.
6/6	Nominative and Prepositional cases; “My”; Dialoging	Sona: Vocabulary review for quiz; SAM 01-11—01-16
6/7	Vocabulary Quiz 1; Translating; Reading; Listening Skills; Review.	SAM 01-17—01-21; Review for Short Test!
6/10	Short Unit Test 1 Clothing; Electronics; Documents; Grammatical gender; Plurals; Adjectives	SAM: 2-10—2-20; Sona Vocabulary (especially adjectives, including colors). Read Grammar explanations in G. Listen to Разговоры 1-3 at least one time each.
6/11	Numbers; Adjectives; Dialogues	SAM: 02-04; 2-14—1-23; Use Sona to prepare for quiz; Read over the email from Valya in G: 69; Prepare assigned dialogue
6/12	Vocabulary Quiz 2; “This vs. This is”	SAM: 2-24—2-33; Review for Short Unit Test. Prepare written assignment.
6/13	Short Unit Test 2; Nationalities; Verb Conjugations	SAM 3-04—3-13; Sona: focus on verbs and adverbs; Prepare assigned dialogue
6/14	Verb Conjugations; Dialogues; Translation; Numbers	Sona review for quiz; SAM: 03-03; 03-14—03-15; Begin working on 03-29 (This writing assignment will be included on mid-term exam). G: 03-29.
6/17	Vocabulary Quiz 3; Languages; Prepositional Case	Finish any unanswered questions from G: 3-31. SAM: 3-16—3-25, 3-31—3-35; Finish preparing 3-29 for exam (you will reproduce it on the test). Review for Mid-term exam.
6/18	Mid-Term Exam; Universities and Majors	Sona: work on nouns and verbs. Prepare assigned dialogue. SAM: 4-01—4-07
6/19	Studying in Russia; Accusative Case	SAM: 4-08—4-16 and begin working on 4-27. Sona: review for quiz.
6/20	Vocabulary Quiz 4; University divisions; question words and sentence expanders	SAM 4-17—4-23; 4-28—4-38; Finish 04-27. G: 4-31. Review for short unit test on Monday.
6/21	NO CLASS!!!	Dinner and a Movie!!!
6/24	Short Unit Test 3 (on chapter 4); Days, Times; Activities	SAM: 6-1—6-9; Sona: practice new verbs and days of the week. Begin reviewing for final exam (It is cumulative!); Prepare Dialogues
6/25	Obligation; Verbs of motion	SAM: 5-10—5-19; Sona: Prepare for vocabulary quiz; G: Read e-mail in 5-40
6/26	Vocabulary Quiz 5; Final exam review	SAM: 5-27—5-35; Prepare for Final Exam
6/27	Final Exam	

