

RUSSIAN FOR RUSSIANS I

RUSS 3060 / Third-Year Russian I for Nontraditional Students
T/H 10.45 am – 12.05 pm, LS 102 (3 credit hours)

Attendance is required**Instructor's Information**

Name	Dr. Garn	Office	1207 LNCO
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Course Description**3060: Third-Year Russian I for Nontraditional Students (3)**

Entry-level course for students who have one-and-one-half to two years' experience in Russia. Intensive survey of Russian grammar. (Prerequisite: RUSS 3040 or equivalent.)

Course Overview

RUSS 3060 is the first course in a two-semester sequence of third-year Russian for nontraditional students. The textbook, *RUSSIAN FOR RUSSIANS*, will be used in both semesters. Its chapters this semester, 1-4, discuss the following topics: alphabet, Russian names, childhood and education. In addition this course will introduce you to various aspects of Russian culture, both the everyday customs and the high culture represented by the great Russian writers, such as Isaac Babel' and Leo Tolstoi. We will screen and discuss a cinematic version of a traditional Russian fairy tale, and a documentary film relevant to our topics, *7 Up: Born in the USSR*. This course will solidify your knowledge of the language and its grammar, and will facilitate your ability to communicate in Russian, focusing, this semester, on reading and writing. At the beginning of the semester you will be taking a proficiency test in speaking, which will enable you to better gauge your language development and will provide you with a tangible evidence of your progress. (For more information on ACTFL Proficiency Ratings see the ACTFL site, "proficiency guidelines.")

Course Objectives: By the end of this course the students WILL BE ABLE TO:

- **GRAMMAR:** Speak and write with more accuracy, in order to be understood without difficulty by speakers unaccustomed to dealing with non-native speakers. You will be able to better use the two crucial systems of basic Russian grammar – the case system and the verb system, and get more comfortable using motion verbs.
- **READING:** Develop reading comprehension by reading a variety of texts with various purposes ("reading for information" and "reading for pleasure"). We will discuss strategies for dealing with authentic texts and approaches to interpreting them. You will be able to better understand simple connected texts dealing with basic personal and social needs and texts on familiar topics; get main ideas and information from texts at the higher level featuring description and narration.
- **WRITING:** Meet most practical writing needs and limited social demands – taking notes on familiar topics and responding in writing to personal questions. You will develop your ability to describe and narrate in paragraphs. You will be expanding your vocabulary, which will be helpful for all your language skills, so that you can express your thoughts more clearly and precisely. We will work on the mechanics of writing (cursive and/or typing in Cyrillic) so that your writing will be comprehensible to natives not used to the writing of nonnatives.

Required Materials (at the campus bookstore and/or online):

1. *Russian for Russians / Русский для русских*, by Olga Kagan, Tatiana Akishina, Richard Robin, Slavica, 2002, ISBN 0-89357-301-9
2. *Russian Motion Verbs For Intermediate Students*, by William J. Mahota, Yale University Press, 1996, ISBN-13: 978-0300064131, ISBN-10: 0300064136

Recommended Materials (campus bookstore and/or online):

English Grammar for Students of Russian, by Edwina J. Cruise, Olivia and Hill Press, 1993.

***Note:** These materials, required and recommended, will be available at Marriott reserve. If you choose to order your textbooks online and have to wait for them, it's YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to borrow these materials from Marriott reserves, copy and bring the necessary pages to class and be prepared for each class. Failure to do so constitutes an «unsatisfactory» participation for that day.

Course Work. There will be the following components to your final grade:

- 1) **PARTICIPATION:** daily participation is one of the most crucial components of your success in this course and of your final grade. If you are not present in class, you cannot participate, so see “attendance” below. If you are late (coming after the class roster has been checked) this day counts as an absence. Note that if you have not prepared your homework timely, you cannot fully participate in our class work, so this will lower your participation grade. You may miss one class, no questions asked. Other classes missed without a serious enough reason will considerably lower your participation grade.
- 2) **HOMEWORK:** the other most crucial component of your success is your homework, which will be graded. Late homework will be accepted but will earn you a lower grade. Please purchase a few big blue books (“UofU examination blue book”), you will be writing your homework in them unless I ask you to do otherwise.
- 3) **ESSAYS:** There will be three essays with rewrites in the course of the semester. The original draft will be followed by a revised version. Each draft will be graded – for the content and for the form. As with the homework – late essays will be accepted but will get a lower grade.
- 4) **QUIZZES:** There will be regular quizzes on the new vocabulary in each chapter. You should consistently work on expanding your vocabulary and begin doing it without a delay. One weakest score will be ignored.
- 5) **TESTS:** There will be chapter tests and a comprehensive final exam. On the final you will have to demonstrate your knowledge of the new material, your ability to use it, and also to demonstrate your improved ability to coherently express your thoughts on paper and orally. ***Note:** in some cases, when a student had nothing but “A”s for all the graded work, he/she may not have to take the final exam.

Grade Distribution

- Participation	20%
- Homework	20%
- Essays	20%
- Quizzes	20%
- Tests	20%

Grading Policy

93-100%	A	73-77%	C
90-92%	A-	70-72%	C-
88-89%	B+	68-69%	D+
83-87%	B	63-67%	D
80-82%	B-	60-62%	D-
78-79%	C+	59% & less	F

!Notes

- 1) Make sure to bookmark our textbook companion website: <http://www.gwu.edu/~slavic/rdr>.
- 2) Make sure to bookmark our course site on Canvas (it has syllabus, schedules, videos, etc.)
- 3) Make sure to check your email regularly, since it is the only way for me to communicate with you. You can set up your email so that my messages reach you whether it's your University or other email address.
- 4) Please don't email me on Canvas, instead use my email address on the first page of this syllabus.

Course Policies

Attendance

This is a language course, so attendance is not only crucial, but mandatory: Departmental policy requires attendance in language classes (see <http://www.acs.utah.edu/sched/handbook/attend.htm>.)

You may have ONE (1) unexcused absence in the course of the semester; subsequent unexcused absences will lower your participation grade considerably. If you HAVE to miss a class for a good reason, make sure to let me know ahead of time and to arrange for timely homework submission, quizzes retaking and catching up. It is your responsibility to arrange for make-up assignments in a timely fashion.

Religious holidays

It is your responsibility to inform me of your observance of religious holidays; quizzes and homework assignments will be rescheduled for religious holidays. However, you MUST inform me ahead of time!

Students with Disabilities

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services (CDS), 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification to the CDS.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

***TARDINESS** distracts both your instructor and your classmates. Please be always on time. Make sure to warn me if you have to come to class a few minutes late or have to leave a few minutes early. If you have a work or another class scheduling problem, you should take care of it right away. If you come after roll taking, this day counts as an absence. In a Russian classroom it's rude to be late, so it's unacceptable for us as well.

*While drinking in class is not a problem, **EATING & CHEWING GUM** – is. Do not eat or chew gum during class, as it is distracting both to your instructor and to your classmates. This is not acceptable in a Russian classroom, so consider this an authentic cultural experience.

***LAPTOPS & all other BEEPY SHINY THINGS** are not allowed in this class. They will not contribute to your language skills in any way, shape or form, but will lure you away from communicating with your instructor and classmates. They are also distracting for everybody. Make sure to switch them off and enjoy them after class.

These rules help create a respectful atmosphere conducive to **THINKING & LEARNING** and thus make our time together more enjoyable and efficient.

One more reminder:

Russian native speakers, Russian heritage speakers and other former missionaries constitute a wonderful, but **FORBIDDEN RESOURCE** for all graded work in this course! If I find out that you had some “help” of this kind, you will fail the assignment and possibly the course. This is as dishonest as plagiarism and is persecuted at our University.

TENTATIVE SEMESTER PLAN (Subject to Change)

Weeks	Chapters & Lexical Topics (in the textbook <i>Russian for Russians</i>)	Grammar Topics (in the motion verbs (m.v.) book)
Part 1: Alphabet & Names		
1	Introduction to the course, Oral Proficiency Testing	
2	Chapter 1, Alphabet: “Learning to read” & “Learning to write”	(Cursive & Spelling)
3	Chapter 1, Alphabet: Spelling & Reading (Famous Names), Quiz 1	(Cursive & Spelling)
4	Chapter 2, Names: Introduction, Spelling & Translation	I, 1-2: Unprefixed m.v.
5	Chapter 2, Names: Film (<i>Vassilisa</i>) & Reading (Fairy Tale,) Quiz 2	I, 3-4: Vehicles vs. Walking
6	Review, Essay 1, Test 1	I, 5-6: Prepositions & m.v.
Part 2: Childhood		
7	Chapter 3, Childhood: Introduction & Spelling	I, 7-8: Imperatives & m.v.
8*	Fall Break, 9-15 October	
9	Chapter 3, Childhood: Discussion & Film (<i>7-up...</i>) Quiz 3	I, 9-10: Time expressions
10	Chapter 3, Childhood: Translation & Reading (I. Babel)	II, 1-2: Prefixed m.v.
11	Quiz 4, Essay 2, Test 2	Review
Part 3: Education		
12	Chapter 4, Education: Introduction & Spelling	II, 3-4: Prefixes
13	Chapter 4, Education: Discussion	II: 5-6, Annulment
14*	Chapter 4, Education: Translation / Thanksgiving Break	II: 7-8, Aspect with m.v.
15	Chapter 4, Education: Reading (L. Tolstoi, <i>Youth</i> ,) Quiz 5	II: 9-10, Idiomatic usage
16	Review & Essay 3	Review
Final Exam: Monday, December 11, 2017, 10:30 am – 12:30 pm		