Course Description

Russian 101 (Beginning Russian) is the first of two introductory-level courses in Russian. Russian 101 is offered in the Fall semester, and its follow-up course (Russian 102) is offered every Spring. Students who successfully complete the 101-102 sequence will continue in Russian 201 and then in Russian 202. Completion of the two sequences fulfills the foreign language requirement.

Learning Objectives

The goals for the first year language program include development of the following: mastery of the alphabet, basic vocabulary and of the forms and syntax essential for reading and oral comprehension. Elementary writing skills are taught at this stage as well. In addition, the program introduces the students to some elements of Russian literature, culture, and history. Furthermore, students are taught vocabulary, forms, and syntax through the limited introduction of original texts.

In assessing the beginning student’s knowledge a number of instruments are used. These include quizzes (both written and oral), homework, tests, class participation/response, in-class writing exercises. Close attention is given to assessing the student’s knowledge of vocabulary, forms, and syntax in context. These tools include comprehension questions, transformation exercises, substitution exercises, translating sentences and/or passages at sight, translating English sentences into target language. Tests include material that the student has not seen before (such as sight passages or sentences) to assess the student’s ability to apply knowledge to new contexts. They also include previously studied and memorized forms and vocabulary in context. Classroom drills that involve the whole class together as well as those that involve one student at a time are utilized for practice and ongoing assessment by both teacher and student. Oral examination designed to test students’ progress in oral comprehension, reading, and speaking is given at the end of each semester.

Required Texts

- http://clover.slavic.pitt.edu/~russ0010/2081/ provides links to Гонока exercises and to the alphabet (including how to write cursive).

Requirements: participation in class discussions, written homework for each class session, lab attendance. Vocabulary quizzes before each unit test. Unit tests approximately every two weeks. Lab attendance obligatory (at least 1 hour a week). If you do your audio and website exercises on your home computer, you still have to put in 1 hour a week at the lab (Rosetta Stone program).

Grade for the course:

- attendance, participation, lab-20%
- quizzes and homework-30%
- tests—50%

If you purchase used textbooks, be aware that you need the fourth edition, and you also need both the main textbook and the workbook (called a Student Activities Manual). These are sold together in a package available in Shakespeare Bookstore. You will also need the extensive audio component of the course, which is made available by the publishers via the Internet at no cost. The audio component of the textbook is not optional and will be required for daily completion of homework assignments.
Syllabus (assignments for next class unless otherwise noted):

**TB** = Textbook; **SAM** = Student Activities Manual. Where the **TB** or **SAM** has a picture of headphones next to an exercise, that exercise has an oral component, which you will find on-line at the **голоска** web site. Where a page in the **TB** or **SAM** is assigned, you should complete all activities on that page. The alphabet unit covers **TB** pp. 1–18; **SAM** pp. 1–14.

**Week 1-1**

- Read: **TB** Preface, pp. xii–xviii. You don’t need to be able to read the Russian words; the purpose of reading the Preface is to learn about the goals and structure of the textbook.
- Read and listen: **TB** pp. 2–6.
- Learn to read: Begin learning to read the entire Cyrillic alphabet. We’ll learn writing more slowly, but you want to be able to recognize all the letters as quickly as possible.
- Learn to write: Cyrillic alphabet
- Write: **SAM** pp. 1–2, 4.

**Week 1-2**

- Read and listen: **TB** pp. 7–8.
- Learn to write: Cyrillic alphabet
- Write: **SAM** pp. 3, 5–6.

**Week 2-1**

- Read and listen: **TB** p. 9–14.
- Write: **SAM** pp. 7–8, 11–14.
- Review alphabet at [http://www.alphadictionary.com/rusgrammar/alphabet.html](http://www.alphadictionary.com/rusgrammar/alphabet.html) (you don’t have to complete all of them, but read enough to feel comfortable).
- Practice reading authentic Russian signs at [http://community.middlebury.edu/~beyer/RT/pages/signs/signs.shtml](http://community.middlebury.edu/~beyer/RT/pages/signs/signs.shtml) (you don’t have to complete all of them, but read enough to feel comfortable).

**Week 2-2**

- Begin to learn active vocabulary Group 1, **TB** pp. 40–41 (list of unit vocabulary divided into groups is available [on line](http://www.alphadictionary.com/rusgrammar/alphabet.html), as are [Group 1 flashcards](http://www.alphadictionary.com/rusgrammar/alphabet.html)).
- Write **TB**, p. 22, разгово́р (conversation) activity 1 (don’t write the conversation itself).
- Listen **TB**, p. 23, диало́г (dialog) 1. Look up words you don’t know at the end of the chapter. Practice reading with natural pronunciation and intonation.

**Week 3-1**

- Write **TB**, p. 22, разгово́р activity 2 (don’t write the conversation itself).
- Review active vocabulary Group 1. Begin to learn Group 2, **TB** pp. 40–41 (list of unit vocabulary divided into groups is available [on line](http://www.alphadictionary.com/rusgrammar/alphabet.html), as are [Group 2 flashcards](http://www.alphadictionary.com/rusgrammar/alphabet.html)).
- Listen **TB**, p. 23, диало́г 2. Look up words you don’t know at the end of the chapter. Practice reading with natural pronunciation and intonation.

**Recommended Text**

• Read TB, p. 27–28.

Week 3-2

• Review active vocabulary Group 2. Begin to learn Group 3, TB pp. 40–41 (list of unit vocabulary divided into groups is available online, as are Group 3 flashcards).
• Write TB, p. 22, разговор activity 3 (don’t write the conversation itself).
• Listen TB, p. 23, диалог 3. Look up words you don’t know at the end of the chapter. Practice reading with natural pronunciation and intonation.
• Write TB, p. 29, упражнение 1-17.

Week 4-1

• Review all active vocabulary. Begin to learn passive vocabulary (passively), TB pp. 42 (flashcards are also available). Prepare for Vocabulary Quiz on Unit 1.
• Listen TB, p. 23, диалог 4. Look up words you don’t know at the end of the chapter. Practice reading with natural pronunciation and intonation.
• Write TB, p. 30, упражнение 1-19.

Week 4-2

• (In class) Vocabulary Quiz 1.
• For next class: Listen TB, p. 24, диалог 5. Look up words you don’t know at the end of the chapter. Practice reading with natural pronunciation and intonation.
• Write TB, pp. 21–22, упражнения 1-4 and 1-5.
• Write TB, pp. 30, упражнения 1-20 and 1-21; p. 33 упражнения 1-23 and 1-24.
• Read TB, pp. 31–32. Write SAM, pp. 17–18.

Week 5-1

• Write SAM, p. 15–16, 19-22.
• Write SAM, p. 23–24.

Week 5-2

• Write SAM, p. 25–28.
• Watch video on line and prepare to do SAM pp. 29–30 in class.
• Review for Exam 1

Week 6-1

• (In class) Exam 1. For next class:
• Read TB, p. 43 to learn what the lesson will cover.
• Write flashcards for gadgets (TB, pp. 69–70) and adjectives other than colors (TB, p. 71) and begin learning them.
• Listen to TB, p. 49, Разговор 1 and write answers in English.
• Write TB, p. 46.

Week 6-2

• Review vocabulary to date.
• Write flashcards for clothing (TB, p. 70) and colors (TB, p. 71) and begin learning them.
• Listen to TB, p. 49, Разговор 2 and write answers in English.
• Write SAM, p. 42–43.
• Read Grammatical summaries on TB, pp. 54–63 (you do not need to write the exercises).

**Week 7-1**

• Review vocabulary to date.
• Write flashcards for nouns (TB, p. 69) and begin learning them.
• Listen to TB, p. 49, Разговор 3 and write answers in English.
• Write SAM, p. 44.
• Read Калинка on-line, print out, bring to class.

**Week 8-1**

• Review vocabulary to date.
• Write flashcards for remaining vocabulary and begin learning them.
• Write SAM, p. 45.
• Prepare for vocabulary quiz (all vocabulary).
• Listen to SAM, p. 31.
• Listen to and write SAM, p. 32-34.
• Write SAM, p. 46, 47.

**Week 9-1**

• In class: Vocabulary Quiz 2. For next class:
• Listen to SAM, pp. 36–37; 38-40
• Write SAM, p. 48-50, TB, p. 65
• Write: If you go to [http://www.sendflowers.ru/](http://www.sendflowers.ru/) to send flowers to someone on the Internet, you can choose the color of the flowers by selecting the drop-down list headed цвет. What six colors (in English) are available? (You know only five of them; can you figure out the sixth without looking it up in a dictionary?)
• Read TB, pp. 66–67 and write упражнения 1 and 2 on p. 67.
• Write: Go to [http://techguide.ru/](http://techguide.ru/) and write down in English the nine categories of items you can buy there (the nine pictures in the middle toward the top of the page).

**Week 9-2**

• Review vocabulary to date and prepare for Exam 2.
• Listen to TB, p. 68 and write answers to questions in Russian.
• Write SAM, p. 51, упражнение 1, 2.
• Write: Go to [http://www.odezhda.su](http://www.odezhda.su) and write down five vocabulary items of clothing you recognize. There are six categories (in orange) on this page; write them down in Russian and translate into English without using a dictionary (click on the items and look at the pictures to figure out what they mean, if necessary).
• Watch video at the Голоса web site by clicking on Смотреть видео and write SAM, pp. 52–54.

**Week 10-1**

• In class: Exam 2 For next class:
• Read TB, p. 73 to learn what the lesson will cover.
• Make flashcards for vocabulary (TB, p. 102-104) and begin learning them.
• TB, p. 76, listen to Диалоги 1-4 looking up words you don’t know in the glossary at the end of the chapter (pp. 102–04).
Read “Культура и быт” section on TB, pp. 76-77; 89.

SAM, pp. 58-59 (write p. 59, Упражнение A, listen to the rest).

SAM, p. 60, listen and practice. SAM, p. 66, write.

At http://www.turizm.ru find the list of popular destinations (Популярные направления) and list five countries you can visit in Russian and English, together with the cost of going to each of them (for the price, write just the numerals, not the words).

Prepare for vocabulary quiz on countries, nationalities, and languages.

Week 10-2

In class: vocabulary quiz. For next class:

Make flashcards for Prepositions, Negative particle and other words and phrases (TB, pp. 103–04) and begin learning them.

TB, p. 77, listen to Дилалор 5, looking up words you don't know in the glossary at the end of the chapter (pp. 102–04).

TB, p. 75, listen to Разговор 2, 3 and write answers to questions in English.

SAM, p. 61-65, listen and practice.

SAM, p. 67-74, write.

Russians, like everyone else, enjoy jokes that begin along the lines of “An American, a Canadian, and a Mexican walk into a bar …” You don’t yet understand enough Russian to read the jokes in their entirety, but go to http://www.allnow.ru/anekdots.shtml?topic=russfranz and identify in Russian and English the ethnicity of the participants in joke #5.

Read the on-line introduction to the single-stem verb system. We’ll be covering this in lecture, and the lecture will be clearer if you’ve begun in advance to think about this type of approach to verb conjugation.

TB, pp. 98–99, Упражнение 3-30 (write #1, p. 99).

Read “Культура и быт” section on TB, p. 78.

Week 11-1

SAM, p. 57, write.

SAM, pp. 76–78, watch video on main Golosa web site at http://www.gwu.edu/~slavic/golosa/video/golosa_google_bk1_unit3.htm and write answers to questions.

TB, p. 97, Упражнения 3-28 and 3-29 (3-29 says “small groups,” but do the assignment individually).

TB, pp. 98–100, Упражнение 3-30, write #2 (p. 100).

SAM, p. 75, write any one of the four tasks.

Prepare for exam 3

Week 11-2

In class: Exam 3. For next class: TB, p. 105: Read Unit outline.

TB, p. 108, 111: Read Культура и быт.

TB, p. 109: Read and listen to Dialog 1, 2, 3 looking up unfamiliar vocabulary.

TB, pp. 135–37: Write flashcards for all words and begin learning them.

SAM, pp. 79, упражнение A: listen.

SAM, pp. 79–80, упражнения B-8: write.

TB, p. 114–17: read Sections 1-3 and then write SAM, pp. 88–90.

Week 12-1

TB, p. 109-110: Read and listen to Dialogs 4, 5 looking up unfamiliar vocabulary.

SAM, p. 80-82, write упражнение А, Б, В, and Г.

Write TB, p. 117, упражнения 4-15 and 4-16.

Go to http://www.msu.ru/study/licasp.html and list the names of five факультеты in Russian and English.

Prepare for vocabulary quiz.

SAM, pp. 82–84, complete all Упражнения.
Week 13-1

- **In class: Vocabulary quiz. For next class:** TB, p. 108: Listen to Разговор 1 and write answers to questions in English.
- **SAM,** p. 85-86, complete all activities.
- **TB,** pp. 118–20, Read Grammar Section 4 and then write **SAM,** p. 91.
- **TB,** pp. 120–21, Read Grammar Section 5 and then write **SAM,** p. 92.
- Go to http://www.krdu-mvd.ru/kafedri.html and list the names of five кафедры in Russian and in English. What is the different between a факультет and a кафедра? How do the web activities help you determine this difference?

Week 13-2

- **TB,** p. 108: Listen to Разговор 3 and write answers to questions in English.
- **TB,** pp. 121–22, read Grammar Sections 6 and 7 and then write **SAM** pp. 93–94.
- **TB,** pp. 123–24, read Grammar Section 8 and then complete all activities in **SAM,** pp. 87, 95-97.
- **TB,** pp. 126–27, Read Культура и быт sections.
- **TB,** pp. 132–33, read correspondence and write answers to questions in sections 1 and 2 in Russian.
- Write an essay about yourself as a student, of the sort that might be part of an application to a study-abroad program. Among the things you might want to mention are your name and nationality: where you are from, where you have lived, and where you go to school; what subjects you take; what subjects you like and don’t like; what your major is; what languages you know (and how well you read, write, understand, etc. each of them)—do you know them because of study, travel, or because your parents speak them?; and what your grades are like. You should write approximately ten sentences, trying to make your essay sound like a naturally connected paragraph (as you would in a real application), rather than just a list of facts.
- **Study for Unit 4 examination.**

Week 14-1

- **In class: Exam 4; For next class:** Read TB, p. 139 to learn what the lesson covers.
- Look up unfamiliar words in, listen to, and practice TB, p. 143, Диалог 1, 2. Write TB, p. 144, Вопросы к диалогам for Диалог 1 (in Russian).
- Read TB, p. 153, and then write **SAM,** pp. 113–14.
- **TB,** p. 141, read Культура и быт. Read TB, pp. 154–63 (read just the grammatical explanations; you do not have to do the exercises). Then write **SAM,** pp. 115–16. **SAM,** pp. 105–06, write exercises about numbers.
- Read updated on-line description of single-stem verb system at http://clover.slavic.pitt.edu/~russ0010/2081/single-unit5.html, with particular attention to additions since the last version.
- Read on-line note about past tense at http://clover.slavic.pitt.edu/~russ0010/2081/unit5-past.html, with particular attention to verbs of motion.

Week 14-2

- **In class:** Overview of Grammar in Unit 5. **Preparation for Final Oral examination**

**Academic Integrity**

Hunter College regards acts of academic dishonesty (e.g. plagiarism, cheating on examinations, obtaining unfair advantage, and falsification of records and official documents) as serious offenses against the values of intellectual honesty. The college is committed to enforcing the CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity and will pursue cases of academic dishonesty according to the Hunter College Academic Integrity Procedures.
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