

RUSSIAN 101 ELEMENTARY RUSSIAN I

Fall 2009

5 credits

ЗДРАВСТВУЙТЕ! КАК ВАС ЗОВУТ? ☺

- HOURS:** M W 11:45 – 12:45 GRUE 304
 T R 11:30 – 1:00 GRUE 307
- INSTRUCTOR:** Alla Grikurova
- OFFICE/PHONE #:** Gruening 607B/474-5461/ **e-mail:** agrikurova@alaska.edu
- OFFICE HOURS:** Mon., Wed. 10:45 – 11:45
 Thursday 3:30 – 4:30 (or by appointment)
- FL DEPT. PHONE #:** **474-7396**
- TEXT:** *НАЧАЛО, WHEN IN RUSSIA... Book 1*
 Lubensky, Ervin, Jarvis. McGraw-Hill, 2001,
 WORKBOOK for Book 1, 2nd edition
- REFERENCE:** *ENGLISH GRAMMAR FOR STUDENTS OF RUSSIAN,*
 The Olivia and Hill Press
- Kenneth Katzner Dictionary*

The *НАЧАЛО* Textbook is accompanied by a CD which goes with the text. To be able to do the AUDIO part in the WORKBOOK you will need to make a copy of other CDs, which go with *Laboratory exercises* at the end of each Lesson in the Workbook. There are 7 discs for 7 lessons for both 101 and 102. This semester, you will need 4 discs to accompany the 1st 4 Lessons in your Workbook. Michelle Strickland, our Administrative Assistant, will have a set of the Lab Discs, and so will I. Please start making copies right away.

This course will emphasize the following goals:

1. to familiarize the students with Russian sounds and pronunciations and to allow them to practice orally in the classroom
2. to provide students with some basic grammar and specific vocabulary both orally and written in the target language
3. the ability to communicate on a fundamental level with a native speaker

ATTENDANCE:

Because of the nature of this class, it is expected that you come every day. The only excused absences are for pre-arranged, University-sanctioned athletic trips, hospitalization, family emergencies, and doctor-excused illness. If you miss class for any reason, it is your responsibility to arrange for a classmate to collect copies of any handouts, or to provide you with information on any assignments, activities, lecture materials, or dates changed.

HOMEWORK: You can stay on track in this class by doing homework as it is assigned, which means every day. Homework is assigned daily yet is collected just once per section of every chapter. In addition to completing homework, it is also your responsibility to correct it. The answers will be available online through the EReserves site designated for the course. EReserves website:

<http://eres.uaf.edu/> EReserves password: **Homework_101**

Please do your homework in one color (preferably pencil; or blue or black ink) and then correct it using a *noticeably* different color (red or green ink). When correcting your homework, do not erase your initial answers, your corrections must be made in a different color pen to receive credit for the correction process. If a section has no errors, indicate this clearly with a check or an "ok".

Obviously, you could just copy some answers directly, but doing homework is one of the best ways to learn and to prepare for lesson tests, so you would only be cheating yourself. Please note that the correction process is a significant portion of the entire homework grade. Be advised that late homework will be penalized. Please remove, numerically organize, and staple the assigned pages prior to the start of class. Also be sure to write your name at the top of each page.

Homework will be scored as follows:

- 5 conscientiously completed and corrected
- 4 nearly completed* and corrected
- 3 partially** completed and corrected
- 2 minimally*** completed and corrected, or completed but not corrected
- 1 not submitted, or unacceptable

*80% or more

**60%

***Less than 60%

TESTS: I do not offer make-up tests. However, it is always possible to get a better grade if you correct your test within a couple of days and turn it back in. You always have to fix your mistakes (I only circle them), and turn those corrections back in, even if you are happy with the original grade.

LATE TO CLASS:

After 10 minutes I consider you a missing person for the day, i.e. it equals missed class on the attendance sheet.

CHATTING:

Might be tolerated in the target language only.

GRADING:

Attendance and participation, team/partner work in class	20%
Lesson exams and quizzes	30%
Final exam (written)	25%
Orals: Midterm, Final	5%
Homework:	20%

Students are not graded on a curve. An A requires excellent work.

This is our current grading scale:

A+	97-100	B+	87-89	C+	77-79	D+	67-69	F	0-60
A	93-96	B	83-86	C	73-76	D	63-66		
A-	90-92	B-	80-82	C-	70-72	D-	60-62		

You will need to receive a C or better grade to continue on.

In order to do well in this class, you must be prepared on a daily basis. You can expect to spend one hour per day on homework. Also, it is expected that you participate in class by making an effort to communicate in Russian. If you find this aspect of the course difficult or embarrassing, remember that you have to be patient with yourself and with your colleagues. Effort and improvement are key concepts. Perfection is neither anticipated nor required.

Students will be expected to be active participants in the learning process and oral practice will be encouraged from the first day of class. You must try to be confident, eager and without fear. High motivation also means dedication to studying Russian outside of class: I recommend a minimum of 6 and an optimum of 9-10 hours.

My role is to make you feel comfortable in this classroom; I am neither here to intimidate nor humiliate you. It will be my job to raise your self-confidence and to lower your fear. I will use the target language as much as possible as soon as possible, and strive at all times to make you understand.

FORMAT

This is a multimedia class, which features videos, slideshows, music, etc. There will be a lot of supplemental material distributed in the form of hand outs; what we learn in this course cannot be derived from the text alone. There is a good deal of vocabulary to learn, both from the book and the hand outs. The class will feature many games, to help students memorize and utilize the vocabulary.

MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR TIME IN CLASS

We will be engaging in many group situations and what is called Collaborative Learning. Frequently, you will be working with your classmates, and alongside the teacher, to practice the language or deepen your comprehension and understanding of it. Small groups and pair activities give each student more opportunities for speech in a given class hour.

SUPPORT SERVICES

If you find yourself having difficulty with the class, make an appointment to see the instructor. If you feel you need a Russian tutor, ask the instructor. ASUAF (at the Wood Center) can provide you with a list of available tutors as well. Students are also encouraged to visit the Foreign Language Lab (Gruening, 6th floor; Monday – Friday; 8am – 5pm).

The instructor will work with the Office of Disabilities Services (203 WHIT, 474-7043) to provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities.

This is TENTATIVE schedule:

Sept. 24	Test # 1 (Lesson1)
Oct. 15	Midterm, oral (Lessons 1 <u>and</u> 2)
Oct. 20	Midterm, written (Lessons 1 <u>and</u> 2)
Nov.17	Test # 3 (Lesson 3)
Thanksgiving holiday	Thursday - Sunday, Nov.26 - 29
Dec.8	Test # 4 (Lesson 4)
Dec. 10	Final, oral (Lessons 1 through 4)
Last class	Monday, Dec.14

**Wednesday,
Dec. 16**

**Final, written (Lessons 1 through 4)
Time: 10:15 – 12:15
Place: Grue 304**

Besides these scheduled chapter exams you might expect an unannounced quiz once in a while.

ПОЧЕМУ РУССКИЙ/WHY RUSSIAN?

Top 10 Reasons For Studying Russian:

10. The alphabet *is* the hardest part. Really.
9. Those funny-shaped letters make great tattoos.
8. Big Brother would want it this way.
7. Dostoyevsky makes for good light summer reading.
6. Russian has 75% fewer calories than the leading foreign languages.
5. Learn the hidden meaning behind those little wooden dolls.
4. Understanding Russian grammar is guaranteed entry into the “Mensa” society.
3. The word for “Hello” has 12 letters.
2. Knowing two alphabets increases your brain capacity.
1. The book + video are fun.