

SECOND-YEAR RUSSIAN I  
RUS 412K  
COURSE SYLLABUS

Class Time: MTWTh 10-11 a.m.  
Place: CAL 419  
Instructor: Karen Chilstrom  
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Office hours: Mondays 2:00-3:00 & Thursdays 11:00-12:00



**Required Textbook:** • Irina Dolgova and Cynthia Martin. *Russian: Stage Two: Welcome Back!*, (Dubuque, IA: Kendall/Hunt Publishing Co. 2009). This packaged set comprises one basic textbook, two workbooks, two audio CDs, and one DVD. Available at the University Co-op.

**Recommended:** All available at the University Co-op:

- Wade, Terrence. *A Comprehensive Russian Grammar* (Oxford: Blackwell, 1994).
- Gerhart, Geneva. *The Russian's World*. (Bloomington: Slavica Publishers, 2000).
- Katzner, Kenneth, ed. *English Russian/Russian English Dictionary*, (New York: Wiley Publishers, 1994).

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Welcome to Russian 412! You are entering the intermediate level of language instruction in one of the world's most spoken and influential languages. Russian is spoken by 150 million people in the former Soviet Union and by another 50 million Russians living all over the world – including New York, Los Angeles, and Houston. This is the year of Russian study that will best prepare you to read brilliant works of Russian literature, undertake a longer term of study abroad, watch Russian films and television in the original language, and of course major in Slavic Studies here at UT! Russian is not only one of the official languages of diplomacy at the U.N. and a member language of the G-8, it is a language for which your prospects in business, engineering, teaching, law, and medicine are greatly enhanced with a reasonable functional proficiency. So whatever your goal, we hope that your second year of Russian-language studies will be rewarding and memorable! А сейчас, давайте начнём!

## I. GENERAL

*Course Content:* This course is the third semester of Russian language instruction and focuses on the development of functional proficiency in listening, speaking, and reading. Writing will be developed primarily through workbook home assignments. We will cover the Introductory Unit during the first full week of classes and then continue with Units 1 through 5 in the *Textbook*, spending ten class days on each unit.

*Course Requirements:* You are expected to attend classes regularly, participate actively in class, do all assigned coursework, and take all exams. A description of each unit's work, listing video episodes (found on the DVD), communicative goals, lexical fields, and grammatical topics, is found on pp. vii - xvii in your *Textbook*. The homework assignments are found in the *Workbook* and, for aural work, on the CDs. You will be allowed a maximum of five (5) unexcused absences during the semester. More than five (5) unexcused absences will result in the lowering of your final course grade by a diacritical (a B+ goes to a B, a B to a B-, etc.) for each absence. **PREPARING AND HANDING IN DAILY HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS IS ESSENTIAL TO PASSING THE COURSE!** This means that, using the Course Syllabus, you should go over and be familiar with this material (or prepare relevant questions) in advance of class.

You are also responsible for learning the words and expressions contained in the texts and exercises covered in the Course Syllabus that appear in the vocabulary lists at the end of each unit in the *Textbook*. **You should plan to spend about two hours of preparation for each hour in the classroom.** If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to contact your instructor or another student and find out what was covered and make up the missed work. Excused absences shall be for illness and family emergency only. Your instructor will need to see documentation.

**All cell phones, pagers, and other electronic devices must be turned off and put away prior to entering the classroom. No electronic devices are to be used before or during class.**

*Special Accommodations:* If you have extenuating physical circumstances, all instructors in the Department of Slavic and Eurasian Studies will make themselves available to discuss appropriate academic accommodations that you may require as a student with a disability. Before course accommodations will be made, students may be required to provide documentation to the Office of the Dean of Students -- Services for Students with Disabilities.

*Testing:* There will be five (5) in-class one-hour tests and a final examination for this course. The in-class tests, each covering one unit, will be given on **September 21, October 10, October 26, November 14, and December 1**. A fifteen-minute individual oral proficiency exam will be given during the final week of classes, and a comprehensive three-hour final exam will be given during the University's exam period between December 7 and 13, 2011.

## II. GRADING

There are three components of your final course grade. These components and their relative weights are as follows:

### 1. **Testing: 60%**

In-class tests: 40%

Final exam: 15%

Oral Proficiency Interview: 5%

Because of the time constraints and pace of this course, make-ups on any of the tests will be given only in unusual cases with extenuating circumstances.

### 2. **Homework: 25%**

Written homework and in-class quizzes (e.g., vocabulary, grammar checks, etc.) will be graded on a credit/ no credit basis. All assignments from the *Workbook* must be turned in on the class day after being assigned; a "no credit" assignment—provided the student has demonstrated true effort to complete the work correctly—may be resubmitted for possible credit the day after being returned to the student. Your homework grade will be the percentage of "credit" assignments you submit during the term.

### 3. **Participation: 15%**

Your instructor determines this component as a reflection of your overall preparedness and performance in class; it is NOT merely an attendance grade. You are expected to a) attend class daily, b) prepare assigned material in advance for each class, and c) respond in class with reasonable accuracy and, of course, *enthusiasm*.

The result of these calculations will be a number on a scale of 0-100. This numerical grade will be converted to a letter grade as follows:

94 – 100	=	A
90 – 93	=	A-
88 – 89	=	B+
84 – 87	=	B
80 – 83	=	B-
78 – 79	=	C+
74 – 77	=	C
70 – 73	=	C-
68 – 69	=	D+
64 – 67	=	D
60 – 63	=	D-
59 and below	=	F

## III. MEDIA RESOURCES

Your *Textbook* comes with two audio CDs and a DVD that correspond to many of the exercises in each unit, indicated by a "disk" and "camera" symbol, respectively. You will **greatly** enhance your own listening comprehension of Russian by downloading and listening to these media on your iPod or home/car stereo as often as possible. If you prefer to use the media on campus,

there are facilities available in several locations, such as the Perry Castañeda Library and Flawn Academic Center. In addition, the Department of Slavic and Eurasian Studies also has in Calhoun 422 a collection of both classic and very recent DVDs with movies, music, speeches and documentaries from and about Russia and the former Soviet states. These DVDs are interesting from both a cultural and entertainment point of view. Many of the DVDs have both English subtitles (which can help build your confidence and facility in hearing spoken Russian and deriving meaning), and some also have Russian subtitles, which are a real benefit to building listening comprehension as you gain a larger vocabulary and fluency. These may be checked out for home viewing; see your instructor for suggestions.

## RUS 412K COURSE OUTLINE

### ПЕРВЫЙ ДЕНЬ ЗАНЯТИЙ

Среда, 24 августа

- Introduction to the course RUS 412K and how to use the materials with *Russian: Stage Two: Welcome Back!*
- Begin “Вводный урок” День 1

### ВВОДНЫЙ УРОК: *WELCOME BACK!*

Четверг, 25 августа - четверг, 1 сентября

### ПЕРВЫЙ УРОК: *WELCOME BACK!*

Вторник, 6 сентября - вторник, 20

Первая контрольная работа: среда, 21 сентября

### ВТОРОЙ УРОК: *WELCOME BACK!*

Четверг, 22 сентября - четверг, 6 октября

Вторая контрольная работа: понедельник, 10 октября

### ТРЕТИЙ УРОК: *WELCOME BACK!*

Вторник, 11 октября - вторник, 25 октября

Третья контрольная работа: среда, 26 октября

### ЧЕТВЁРТЫЙ УРОК: *WELCOME BACK!*

Четверг, 27 октября - четверг, 10 ноября

Четвёртая контрольная работа: понедельник, 14 ноября

### ПЯТЫЙ УРОК: *WELCOME BACK!*

Вторник, 15 ноября - среда, 30 ноября

Пятая контрольная работа: четверг, 1 декабря