

RUSS 3300 Contemporary Russian Language and Culture

Fall Semester 2017

3 credits

TR 3:00 – 4:15, Old Main 207

Instructor: Nadiya M. Gifford

Office: Old Main 341A

Office hours: TR 1:30 – 2:30 pm or by appointment

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There is no textbook required for this course!

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to help you improve your reading, listening, speaking, and writing skills, as well as expand your knowledge about life in Russia. We will talk about geography, history, traditions, food, education and other aspects of unique Russian culture. We will read articles from Russian newspapers/magazines, watch movies, and write papers on different topics.

Since this is an upper-division course, we will read, write and speak in Russian as much as possible.

COURSE GOALS:

1. Expand your vocabulary and grammar knowledge.
2. Better understand life in contemporary Russia.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

All work for this class should reflect **YOUR** work or that of you and the members of your study group. Please see the official USU Student Code for definitions and sanctions regarding academic dishonesty: <http://catalog.usu.edu/content.php?catoid=3&navoid=265>

For example, it is unacceptable to write any assignment in English and translate it into Russian by any electronic device or by any native speaker. Also, it is plagiarism when somebody else writes an assignment for you!

DO NOT MISS LESSONS!!!

It is essential that students attend lectures on a regular basis!!! Attendance is taken each day in class. Attendance/participation constitutes part of your grade! Only three missed lessons would not affect your grade, after three missed lesson every missed lesson will take away points from your grade! 15 and more missed lessons cause a failure of this course!

BE IN CLASS ON TIME!!! Coming to class late regularly will be counted as a missed lesson and will lower your grade!

COURSE STRUCTURE AND GRADING:

During the semester you will read, select, and translate orally **6 articles from any Russian newspaper/magazine** on any topic related to Russian life: news, sports, events, weather, business, art etc.

There are two articles per month. Please do not choose articles about world events, but rather Russian events. Also, choose different topics, please do not select for reading only sports or news articles. If you have a hard time selecting an article, I will be glad to help you. Have a list of 3-5 words/expressions to share with the class. Each article is worth 35 points.

I will give you 3 articles to read and translate at home (one in September, one in October, and one in November.) Also, every student will choose one article to read and translate at home per month. We will discuss them in class.

There will be 7 word quizzes, each worth 15 points and 3 tests, each worth 35 points.

Final test is worth 100 points.

3 self-selected articles - 100 points

3 articles from me - 100 points

7 quizzes - 100 points

4 tests - 200 points

TOTAL – 500 points

COURSE OUTLINE:

Day	Lesson	Homework
August 29, Tuesday	Getting acquainted, introducing course organization.	
31, Thursday	Введение и География	
September 5, Tuesday	Алфавит	Essay due
7, Thursday	Имена / Суеверия	
12, Tuesday	Article from Canvas # 1	
14, Thursday	БОГАТЫРИ / Quiz # 1	Learn vocabulary
19, Tuesday		Essay due
21, Thursday	Test # 1	
26, Tuesday	Self-selected article #2 / ЖИЛИЩЕ	
28, Thursday	Quiz # 2 / ХРИСТИАНСТВО	Learn vocabulary
October 3, Tuesday	Presentations	Essay due
5, Thursday	Quiz # 3 / ЕДА	
10, Tuesday	Article from Canvas # 3	
12, Thursday	Quiz # 4	
17, Tuesday	РЕЦЕПТЫ	Essay due
19, Thursday	Friday Class Schedule	

24, Tuesday	Self-selected article # 4	Essay due
26, Thursday	Test # 2 / РАЗВЛЕЧЕНИЯ	Recipe
31, Tuesday	ПРАЗДНИКИ	Essay due
November 2, Thursday	Group# 1; Quiz # 5	Learn vocabulary
7, Tuesday	Article from Canvas # 5	
9, Thursday	Group# 2; Quiz # 6	Learn vocabulary
14, Tuesday	ТРАНСПОРТ	Essay due
16, Thursday	Group # 3; Quiz # 7	Learn vocabulary
21, Tuesday	Self-selected article # 6	
23, Thursday	Thanksgiving break	
28, Tuesday	ПЕСНИ	Essay due
30, Thursday	Test # 3 / Group# 4	
December 5, Tuesday	ПЕРЕСТРОЙКА И СОВРЕМЕННОСТЬ	Essay due
7, Thursday	Group# 5	
14, Thursday	Final Test (Test#4)	From 1:30 to 3:20 p.m.