**University of Pittsburgh**

**Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures**

Russian 0730

Instructor: Yuliya Basina

Fall 2013

**Class Schedule**

MoW 6:00 -7:40 PM   
Instructor: Yuliya Basina             
[basina@pitt.edu](mailto:basina@pitt.edu)                             
Office: Cathedral of Learning 1421    
Office Hours: M W 2:00-3:00 or by appointment

**Required Materials**

Olga Kagan, Frank Miller, Ganna Kudyma. V Puti. Russian Grammar in Context. 2nd edition. Pearson Education, Inc. Upper Saddle River, NJ, 2006. Textbook and Workbook.  
SpeakRussian System

**Introduction**

This course will continue the basics of Russian grammar while emphasizing the acquisition of reading, listening, and speaking skills by the student. The course follows Russian 0020 and assumes knowledge of all the materials covered in Russian 0010 and Russian 0020. After completing the course, you should be able to converse with ease and confidence using sentence structure when dealing with routine tasks and concrete situations, such as personal information, daily activities and interests, as well as physical and social needs, such as food, shopping, travel, and basic work requirements. You will be able to understand the general context of most conversations or texts on non-technical subjects.  
The course will also focus on the further development of sociocultural competence.

**Course Format and Methodology**

The course has a very important feature: the online content. It means that besides 4 contact hours per week, each student has an opportunity and obligation to work on his or her own using the Course Web portion of the course. That part will help you to prepare for class meetings, complete your homework assignments, and prepare for the tests.  
The course presumes active learning on the part of all students. It is not the instructor’s job to teach the material to you. The instructor’s role is to provide you with extensive opportunities to practice in class what you have learned during your homework preparation.  
Homework will consist of various combination of preparation of activities and exercises, reading and speaking exercises, and the completion of written homework assignments, many of which include a listening component. Activities and exercises should be reviewed outside of class, all new vocabulary should be learned, and students should be prepared to engage in these activities in class with the textbooks closed! The purpose of all classroom activities is to give the students practice speaking Russian. You will only learn Russian by speaking it and your full active participation in every class session is required. It is your responsibility to thoroughly learn the assigned material.

**Requirements**

1. Participation in all aspects of the course is mandatory. This course is designed to develop all language skills and asking the instructor in this course not to require active spoken participation in class is every bit as unreasonable as asking a calculus instructor to teach only addition and subtraction.  
2. Attendance is mandatory for all class sessions. The instructor will not review or re-teach material to students who were absent from class.  
3. Students should come to class fully prepared. Written homework and online exercises will be assigned for practically every class meeting and must be turned in on the day it is due. Late homework will not be accepted.  
4. Quizzes may be announced or unannounced and given at any time. No quiz may be made up for any reason.  
5. Chapter tests and Oral tests are announced in advance and must be taken at the scheduled time. If a student misses a major test or exam due to his/her being seriously ill or due to a death in the family, the instructor must be informed no later than the day of the test and the circumstances must be documented in order to have the zero removed from the record.

**Grading and Evaluation**

There will be six chapter tests. The Midterm exam will consist of an Oral, Reading, and Listening sections. There is no Midterm Writing exam. Final examinations will be administered at the end of the semester: Oral. Reading, and Listening parts will all take place on Monday, December 2 followed by the grammar review session. The final Written exam will be administered on Wednesday, December 4.

The final course grade will be computed as follows:

Class participation and attendance-- 20%  
Oral Presentations and dialogues-- 10%  
Homework and quizzes-- 10%  
Chapter Tests:-- 20%  
Midterm Oral, Reading, Listening-- 10%  
Final Oral, Reading, Listening-- 10%  
Final Written Exam -- 20%

**SpeakRussian System:**

As you open your Course Web, you see a link to the SpeakRussian system on the scroll bar. This is an additional online resource we will be using for our course. In order to get access to it, each student will need to get a validation code from the instructor.

**Cultural Program:**  
  
Over the course of the semester six cultural program sessions, designed specifically  
for Project GO students, will be held at dates and times to be determined in  
consultation with you all.  Each student must attend a minimum of 3 of these  
one-hour sessions.  Failure to attend 3 sessions will negatively affect your  
participation grade. Participation in all six events, will give you two extra points towards your Attendance and Participation grade.

**Technical Instruction:**  
  
The Course Web is best supported by Mozilla Firefox. Please make sure you use the upgraded Firefox version by the time you start working on your homework assignments.  
   
                     For non-Pitt Students on joining class sessions:  
  
1. Please use Ethernet whenever possible.  
  
2. Be sure to be in a quiet, preferably small room.  
  
3. You will need a headset with microphone.  You can use iPhone earphones with  
the microphone or purchase something like this:  
http://www.bhphotovideo.com/bnh/controller/home?O=&sku=533300&is=REG&Q=&A=details  
  
4. Make sure you have the latest version of Skype running on your  
computer.

**Academic Integrity**

By remaining enrolled in the course, you not only agree to abide by the stipulations of this course overview, but also understand that we will follow rigorously the rules spelled out in the Handbook on Integrity regarding cheating, plagiarism, etc. It is your responsibility to familiarize yourself with these rules and observe them. Any infraction will be penalized accordingly.

**Disability**

If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and Disability Resources and Services, 140 William Pitt Union, 412-648-890 or 412-383-7355 (TTY) as early as possible in the term. DRS will verify your disability and determine reasonable accommodations for this course.

**Miscellaneous notes**

A solid knowledge of English grammar will help you in this course. If you do not know English grammar well, you are likely to encounter problems at some point in the course. Please seek out your instructor after class or during office hours if this is a problem. Do not hesitate to seek out any of the course instructors should you find yourself in need of extra help. Students who wish to engage the help of a private tutor are advised to consult with Christine Metil in the Slavic Department main office. She maintains a list of Russian majors and native speakers who offer this service. Payment is negotiated directly between the tutor and the student.