

University of Pittsburgh  
Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures  
Spring 2020: RUSS 0410

# Advanced Russian

M, W, F 12:00 – 12:50  
CL 312  
Instructor: Dr. Olga Kim  
[olkim@pitt.edu](mailto:olkim@pitt.edu)

Office hours:  
M 1-2, Th 11-12  
or by appointment  
office: CL 1229A

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is a proficiency-based and culture-based language course. It is designed for intermediate level language students who want to improve and master their vocabulary, pronunciation, language fluency, as well as their grammatical accuracy of Russian to be able to perform a large number of communicative tasks in informal and some formal situations and to further enhance their knowledge of Russian culture. The goal of the course is to present students with opportunities to practice and perform in a range of authentic contexts by integrating all four skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing) on a variety of topics relating to events of current, public, and personal interest, such as education, life style, politics, economy, health issues, and many more.

## LEARNING OUTCOME

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will

1. Acquire productive language skills of writing and speaking in Russian Intermediate High, according to ACTFL guidelines.
2. Understand the main idea and key information in short, straightforward, informational and fictional texts and conversations.
3. Understand the underlying message and most supporting details across major time frames in descriptive, informational texts and conversations, or the main story and most supporting details in fictional texts.
4. Exchange information in conversations on familiar topics and some researched topics, creating sentences and series of sentences as well as asking a variety of follow-up questions.
5. Interact with others to meet their needs in a variety of familiar situations, creating sentences and series of sentences as well as asking a variety of follow-up questions.
6. Exchange preferences, feelings, or opinions and provide basic advice on a variety of

familiar topics.

7. Tell a story about their life, activities, events and other social experiences, using sentences and series of connected sentences.
8. State their viewpoint about familiar topics and give some reasons to support it, using sentences and series of connected sentences.
9. Give straightforward presentations on a variety of familiar topics and some concrete topics they have researched, using sentences and series of connected sentences.

## COURSE MATERIALS

### Required textbook

Kagan, Olga, Anna S. Kudyma, and Frank J. Miller. *Russian: From Intermediate to Advanced*. NY and London: Routledge, 2015.

Textbook website: [https://ccle.ucla.edu/course/view/russian\\_RLWS](https://ccle.ucla.edu/course/view/russian_RLWS)

### Recommended resources

Grammar review

- Terence, Wade. *Comprehensive Russian Grammar. 2nd edition, revised and expanded*. Cambridge, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2000
- Youtube channel to refresh your grammar. Designed and presented by Dr. Curtis Ford <https://www.youtube.com/user/russiagrammar/featured>

Listening & Culture

- *Arzamas*
  - Podcasts, lectures, videos and texts on cultural history: <https://arzamas.academy/>
- *Открытый университет*
  - Lectures by leading scholars in humanities, political and social sciences: <https://openuni.io/>
- *Зелёная лампа*
  - In each episode of this podcast a professional actor reads a short story, which is followed and/or preceded by a discussion: <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/id1388695347>

Reading & Culture

- *Карта истории*
  - Interactive game to learn about twentieth-century Russian culture and history: <https://kartaistorii.ru/>
- Baer, James Brian ed. *Short Stories in Russian: New Penguin Parallel Text*. Penguin Random House, 2017. (A dual-language edition of contemporary Russian short stories.)

Watching films

- Collection of links to watch films in Russian with English subtitles in public domain or via streaming websites [https://russiancinema.fandom.com/wiki/RussianCinema\\_Wiki](https://russiancinema.fandom.com/wiki/RussianCinema_Wiki)

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### **Russian-only policy**

For the duration of the class session you are expected to communicate with me and your classmates only in Russian. You are encouraged to communicate in Russian outside of classroom too.

### **Classroom Etiquette**

This course adheres to a “no screens” policy, which means you are kindly requested to keep your phones on silent in your pocket and your laptops packed away for the duration of the class session.

### **Participation and Attendance**

Active and engaged participation in class is the best way to enhance your language skills and consolidate what you’ve learned as a part of your homework assignment. Since your class participation is crucial part of this course, attendance is mandatory. Students who miss a class meeting are responsible for covering materials on their own and for obtaining all relevant handouts and notes from their fellow students. More than three unexcused absence will result in a lowering of one full grade (e.g. from A to B), and any more than six absences will result in an automatic F for the course.

### **Homework**

For each class session, you have a homework assignment that normally consists of (1) memorizing new vocabulary, (2) completing some grammatical exercises, (3) reading and translating a text. Completing these assignments on time is crucial for successful participation in class and enhancing your Russian.

### **Review tests**

After finishing each chapter, you will have a review test. Each test will consist of following sections: vocabulary, grammar, reading/listening, and writing. There will be five review tests in total.

### **Essays**

Throughout the course, you will have a chance to write 5 essays. Each essay will be on topic of the chapter we completed. All essays should be double spaced, printed out and submitted to me on the day when it is due (the first essay is an exception, and should be emailed to me). The length of each essay should range from 300 to 500 words.

NB! Avoid the temptation to use google translate or similar technologies. Think of the essays as a way to activate your newly acquired vocabulary, strengthen expressions that you already know, and express your thoughts in an ordered way.

### **Oral tests**

There will be two oral tests during this course. One after we finish before the Spring break and another one at the end of the semester. You will be given 3-5 tickets (*билеты*) on the topic we covered in advance of each test. On the day of the test, you will “draw” a ticket (*вытянуть билет*) and will deliver the speech you prepared. After that you will have to respond to a few follow-up questions.

## Presentations

Each of you will have an opportunity to give one oral presentation during the course. Your presentation should be no longer than **5 minutes**. You should prepare PowerPoint slides for your presentation to aid your delivery. The only restriction to the design of your slides is that you should have **no more than 10 words on each slide**. The less words on the slide the better! The topics and the dates for the presentations will be distributed on a separate sign-up sheet.

## GRADING

Participation & Homework	20%
5 Review tests	30% (6% each)
5 Essays	20% (4% each)
2 Oral tests	20% (10% each)
Presentation	10%

### Grading Scale:

A+	97-100	B+	87-89	C+	77-79	D+	67-69	F	≤59
A	93-96	B	83-86	C	73-76	D	63-66		
A-	90-92	B-	80-82	C-	70-72	D-	60-62		

## UNIVERSITY POLICIES

### Academic Integrity

Students in this course will be expected to comply with the [University of Pittsburgh's Policy on Academic Integrity](#). Any student suspected of violating this obligation for any reason during the semester will be required to participate in the procedural process, initiated at the instructor level, as outlined in the University Guidelines on Academic Integrity. This may include, but is not limited to, the confiscation of the examination of any individual suspected of violating University Policy. Furthermore, no student may bring any unauthorized materials to an exam, including dictionaries and programmable calculators.

### Disability Services

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](#) (DRS), 140 William Pitt Union, (412) 648-7890, [drsrecep@pitt.edu](mailto:drsrecep@pitt.edu), (412) 228-5347 for P3 ASL users, as early as possible in the term. DRS will verify your disability and determine reasonable accommodations for this course.

### Copyright Notice

Course materials may be protected by copyright. United States copyright law, 17 USC section 101, et seq., in addition to University policy and procedures, prohibit unauthorized duplication or

retransmission of course materials. See [Library of Congress Copyright Office](#) and the [University Copyright Policy](#).

### **Statement on Classroom Recording**

To ensure the free and open discussion of ideas, students may not record classroom lectures, discussion and/or activities without the advance written permission of the instructor, and any such recording properly approved in advance can be used solely for the student's own private use.

### **Turnitin**

Students agree that by taking this course all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of Turnitin.com page service is subject to the Usage Policy and Privacy Pledge posted on the Turnitin.com site. they are required for our in-class learning activities.

### **E-mail communication policy**

Each student is issued a University e-mail address ([username@pitt.edu](mailto:username@pitt.edu)) upon admittance. This e-mail address may be used by the University for official communication with students. Students are expected to read e-mail sent to this account on a regular basis. Failure to read and react to University communications in a timely manner does not absolve the student from knowing and complying with the content of the communications. The University provides an e-mail forwarding service that allows students to read their e-mail via other service providers (e.g., Hotmail, AOL, Yahoo). Students that choose to forward their e-mail from their pitt.edu address to another address do so at their own risk. If e-mail is lost as a result of forwarding, it does not absolve the student from responding to official communications sent to their University e-mail address. To forward e-mail sent to your University account, go to <http://accounts.pitt.edu>, log into your account, click on **Edit Forwarding Addresses**, and follow the instructions on the page. Be sure to log out of your account when you have finished. (For the full E-mail Communication Policy, go to [www.bc.pitt.edu/policies/policy/09/09-10-01.html](http://www.bc.pitt.edu/policies/policy/09/09-10-01.html).)

### **Non-Discrimination Policy**

As an educational institution and as an employer, Pitt values equality of opportunity, human dignity, and racial/ethnic and cultural diversity. Accordingly, the University prohibits and will not engage in discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, marital status, familial status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, genetic information, disability, or status as a veteran. For more information, visit <http://cfo.pitt.edu/policies/documents/policy07-01-03web.pdf>.

### **Gender-Inclusive Guidelines**

Aspiring to create a learning environment in which people of all identities are encouraged to contribute their perspectives to academic discourse, the University of Pittsburgh Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Program provides [guidelines and resources regarding gender-inclusive/non-sexist language](#). Following these guidelines fosters an inclusive and welcoming environment, strengthens academic writing, enriches discussion, and reflects best professional practices.

Language is gender-inclusive and non-sexist when we use words that affirm and respect how people describe, express, and experience their gender. Gender-inclusive/non-sexist language acknowledges people of any gender (e.g. first-year versus freshman, chair versus chairman, humankind versus mankind). It also affirms non-binary gender identifications and recognizes the difference between biological sex and gender expression. Students may share their preferred pronouns and names, and these gender identities and gender expressions should be honored. These guidelines fulfill the best intentions of the University of Pittsburgh's Non-Discrimination Policy: <https://www.cfo.pitt.edu/policies/policy/07/07-01-03.html>.

### **Sexual Misconduct, Required Reporting, and Title IX**

The University is committed to combatting sexual misconduct. As a result, you should know that University faculty and staff members are required to report any instances of sexual misconduct, including harassment and sexual violence, to the University's Title IX office so that the victim may be provided appropriate resources and support options. What this means is that as your professor, I am required to report any incidents of sexual misconduct that are directly reported to me, or of which I am somehow made aware.

There are two important exceptions to this requirement about which you should be aware:

- A list of the designated University employees who, as counselors and medical professionals, do not have this reporting responsibility and can maintain confidentiality, can be found here: <http://www.titleix.pitt.edu/report/confidentiality>
- An important exception to the reporting requirement exists for academic work. Disclosures about sexual misconduct that are shared as part of an academic project, classroom discussion, or course assignment, are not required to be disclosed to the University's Title IX office

If you are the victim of sexual misconduct, Pitt encourages you to reach out to these resources:

- Title IX Office: 412-648-7860
- [SHARE](#) (Sexual Harrassment and Assault Response)
- [The University Counseling Center](#): 412-648-7856
- Report an incident [here](#).
- Other reporting information is available [here](#).

If you have a safety concern, please contact the University of Pittsburgh Police:

On-Campus Emergency: 412-624-2121

Off-Campus Emergency: 412-624-2121

Non-Emergency: 412-624-4040

## Расписание

1 неделя	1/6 Пн.	Знакомство.
	1/8 Ср.	Глава 6: Молодёжь и общество
	1/10 Пт.	Глава 6: Молодёжь и общество
2 неделя	1/13 Пн.	Глава 6: Молодёжь и общество
	1/15 Ср.	Глава 6: Молодёжь и общество
	1/17 Пт.	Глава 6: Молодёжь и общество
3 неделя	1/20 Пн.	Глава 6: Молодёжь и общество
	1/22 Ср.	Глава 6: Молодёжь и общество ▪ Презентация 1, 2
	1/24 Пт.	Глава 6: Молодёжь и общество ▪ Презентация 3, 4
4 неделя	1/27 Пн.	▪ Контрольная работа по Главе 6
	1/29 Ср.	Нет урока. ▪ Сочинение по главе 6 (6-76): email to <a href="mailto:olku@pitt.edu">olku@pitt.edu</a> by 11:59 pm
	1/31 Пт.	Глава 7: Здоровье и вредные привычки
5 неделя	2/3 Пн.	Глава 7: Здоровье и вредные привычки
	2/5 Ср.	Глава 7: Здоровье и вредные привычки
	2/7 Пт.	Глава 7: Здоровье и вредные привычки
6 неделя	2/10 Пн.	Глава 7: Здоровье и вредные привычки
	2/12 Ср.	Глава 7: Здоровье и вредные привычки ▪ Презентация 5
	2/14 Пт.	Глава 7: Здоровье и вредные привычки ▪ Презентация 6, 7
7 неделя	2/17 Пн.	▪ Контрольная работа по Главе 7 ▪ Сочинение по главе 7 (7-70): распечатайте и принесите в класс
	2/19 Ср.	Глава 8 Политика и общество
	2/21 Пт.	Глава 8 Политика и общество
8 неделя	2/24 Пн.	Глава 8 Политика и общество
	2/26 Ср.	Глава 8 Политика и общество
	2/28 Пт.	Глава 8 Политика и общество
9 неделя	3/2 Пн.	Глава 8 Политика и общество ▪ Презентация 8, 9
	3/4 Ср.	▪ Контрольная работа по Главе 8
	3/6 Пт.	▪ Устные экзамен 1
10 неделя	3/9 Пн.	Весенние каникулы. Отдыхайте!
	3/11 Ср.	
	3/13 Пт.	
11 неделя	3/16 Пн.	Глава 9: Экономика и общество ▪ Сочинение по главе 8 (8-62): распечатайте и принесите в класс
	3/18 Ср.	Глава 9: Экономика и общество
	3/20 Пт.	Глава 9: Экономика и общество
12 неделя	3/23 Пн.	Глава 9: Экономика и общество
	3/25 Ср.	Глава 9 Экономика и общество

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Презентация 10, 11</li> </ul>
	3/27 Пт.	Глава 9: Экономика и общество <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Презентация 12</li> </ul>
13 неделя	3/30 Пн.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Контрольная работа по Главе 9</li> <li>▪ Сочинение по главе 9 (9-73): распечатайте и принесите в класс</li> </ul>
	4/1 Ср.	Глава 10: Россия и глобальные проблемы современности
	4/3 Пт.	Глава 10: Россия и глобальные проблемы современности
14 неделя	4/6 Пн.	Глава 10: Россия и глобальные проблемы современности
	4/8 Ср.	Глава 10: Россия и глобальные проблемы современности
	4/10 Пт.	Глава 10: Россия и глобальные проблемы современности
15 неделя	4/13 Пн.	Глава 10: Россия и глобальные проблемы современности <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Презентация 13, 14</li> </ul>
	4/15 Ср.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Контрольная работа по Главе 10</li> <li>▪ Сочинение по главе 10 (10-75): распечатайте и принесите в класс</li> </ul>
	4/17 Пт.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Устный экзамен 2</b></li> </ul>