

BLOOMSBURG UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND CULTURES (OSH 225)
Fall 2014



Russian for Beginners 101
(3 credit hours)

Instructor: Section 01: Dr. Mykola Polyuha (mpolyuha@bloomu.edu) (OSH 233)
Section 02: Ms. Irina Shigarova (TBD)

Office hours:

Section 01: M, W 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., T 1:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., or by appointment

Section 02: (TBD)

Phone: (570) 389-4676

Course Aims:

Russian 101 is an introductory course for students with no prior knowledge of Russian. Students with grade 12 Russian or equivalent must consult the department before registering. **The course aims to:**

- develop the ability to comprehend Russian in a variety of social situations
- enable students to express themselves in Russian in different cultural contexts
- develop insights into the culture and history of Russian-speaking countries
- encourage positive attitudes to language learning in general and a deeper understanding of other societies and cultures
- offer a better understanding of Russian (as well as English) sentence structure through a sound overview of basic syntax
- further intellectual and personal development by promoting the student's general communicative capacity
- provide a starting point and linguistic foundation for progression to Russian 102 (second-semester Russian).

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, **students are expected to be able to:**

- pronounce Russian accurately
- communicate using Basic Russian expressions
- express basic ideas and emotions in simple sentences and dialogues, e.g., introducing people, inquiring about their health, asking them about their interests etc.
- write and read simple sentences and paragraphs in Russian
- ask and answer questions on a variety of practical topics, e.g., university programs, the weather, pastimes, jobs, everyday life in the Russian-speaking world, food, entertainment, family life etc.
- describe surroundings and common objects, e.g., clothing, furniture, means of transportation etc.
- understand certain differences and similarities between Russian-speaking countries and North America.

Contact Hours:

Section 01: Russian 101 requires **3 X 50-minutes** class meetings per week

Section 02: Russian 101 requires **2 X 75-minutes** class meetings per week

Time:

Section 01: Monday / Wednesday / Friday 11:00 – 11:50 a.m.; **Location:** OSH 217;

Section 02: Tuesday / Thursday 9:30 – 10:45 a.m.; **Location:** OSH G31

Texts (BU Book Store):

Required: *Голоса (Golosa) – A Basic Course in Russian (Book 1)*, 5th ed., (includes a textbook & a student activities manual (workbook))

*You will need to **bring the textbook to every class**. The workbook contains assignments which review the contents of each chapter and which are to be handed in to your instructor on the prescribed dates (see below).

Recommended: *501 Russian Verbs*

*You are encouraged to use this book. It contains Russian verbs (with their conjugations and other forms) arranged in alphabetical order. This book will stand you in good stead not only for the purpose of this course, but in the long run.

Other Academic Matters: *BU Policies and Procedures* (see http://www.bloomu.edu/policies_procedures).

Standards of Conduct:

Any act of misrepresentation or conflict with the order of the course, including, but not limited to plagiarism, cheating on tests, false excuses for absence, disruption of class, or

engaging in activity during class other than the work at hand, constitutes academic misconduct. (See BU Policy #3512 "Academic Integrity.")

The following are some examples of disruptive acts during class:

- Talking that interferes with class participation,
- Not taking notes or not participating in class activities,
- Cell phones ringing; talking on cell phones, sending or receiving text messages, twittering
- Using a portable computer without permission,
- Reading a newspaper,
- Eating,
- Sleeping,
- Using smokeless tobacco,
- Playing music on a portable electronic device,
- Doing homework not related to the tasks at hand.

The instructor will request those who are disruptive to leave the classroom. If the request is ignored or contested, University Police will be called to provide assistance.

Any and every act of misconduct will affect grades; in the worst cases, such as plagiarism or cheating, students will fail the course.

Students who commit an act of academic misconduct will be subject to sanctions as stipulated by the university. See BU Policy 4802 section H.

Mark Breakdown:

1. *Classroom quizzes* **20%**

There will be four scheduled chapter quizzes, worth 5% each. The quizzes will be written in the regular class hours.

2. *Written assignments* **30%**

The written assignment for each chapter will be done in the *Student Activity Manual*. There will be 6 assignments. Each complete assignment will be worth 5% of the final grade. **Late submissions will not be accepted.**

3. *Attendance* **20%** (including 2% for syllabus confirmation)

4. *Final examination (2 hours)* **30%**

The final examination is *cumulative*, i.e., it covers the entire semester. You should not make any plans which might run into conflict with the examination timetable.

Course Calendar (assignments are to be handed in on the day of each quiz)

N.B. We will *try* to follow this schedule, and students will be notified of any changes.

- Aug. 25/26:** First class: meet instructor; start Introduction and Урок 1 "Немного о себе"
- Sep. 9/10:** hand in Introduction and Урок 1 assignment; **Quiz** on Урок 1; start Урок 2 "Что у меня есть?"
- Sep. 25/26:** hand in Урок 2 assignment; **Quiz** on Урок 2; start Урок 3 "Какие языки вы знаете?"
- Oct. 17/21:** hand in Урок 3 assignment; **Quiz** on Урок 3; start Урок 4 "Университет"
- Nov. 7/11:** hand in Урок 4 assignment; **Quiz** on Урок 4; start Урок 5 "Распорядок дня"
- Nov. 26-28:** **Thanksgiving Break – no classes**
- Dec. 4/5:** Classes End; hand in Урок 5 assignment
- Dec. 10:** Section 01: Final 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (no separate quiz on Урок 5)
- Dec. 10** Section 02: Final 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. (no separate quiz on Урок 5)

N.B. Make sure your BU e-mail accounts are operational.