



CIEE St. Petersburg, Russia

Course name:	Russian Word Formation
Course number:	RUSI 3003 RLPR
Programs offering course:	St. Petersburg Russian Language Program
Language of instruction:	Russian
U.S. Semester Credits:	3
Contact Hours:	45
Term:	Fall 2019

Course Description

This linguistics course is a practical study of word forming elements (suffixes, prefixes, and roots) using Russian textual material. The goal of the course is to increase student vocabulary, as a limited number of Russian roots and affixes create an almost unlimited number of lexical units. The course also touches on the history of the Russian language and Russian grammar where it is related to word formation (especially in verbs of motion).

Learning Objectives

Upon completing this course students will:

- familiarize themselves with the word-formation system of the Russian language, the terminology used in diachronic and synchronic approaches to derivational analysis, methods of word formation (affixal and non-affixal)
- be able to analyze certain types of word formation of modern Russian
- expand their vocabulary
- learn about the relationships of words with one root within word-forming nests
- be able to use the new words and phrases in various speech situations

Course Prerequisites

Student must place in one of the top language groups to be eligible for enrollment

Methods of Instruction

Lessons are held in the form of practical work, including an explanation by the instructor of the difficulties of methods of word formation at the conceptual level. In class training exercises are performed orally and homework is checked by going over exercises together focusing on errors and analyzing mistakes.

Assessment and Final Grade

The final grade is based on the results of quizzes, tests, the final exam, class attendance & participation, and the quality of homework:

• Class Participation	15%
• Homework	20%
• Presentation	25%
• Midterm exam	15%
• Final exam	25%
Total:	100%



Course requirements

Participation

This part of the grade reflects your overall preparedness and participation in class. You are expected to attend class regularly, to prepare assigned materials for each class, and to participate with reasonable accuracy and enthusiasm.

Home work

You are expected to spend about 1-1.5 hours on your homework daily. Written homework exercises will be graded for accuracy and effort. Homework must be turned in the next class after it has been assigned. Late homework will not be graded resulting in your losing points toward the final grade.

Presentation

Each student prepares a presentation and delivers it in class, according to the adopted schedule. For their presentations, students are supposed to choose a family of words and to analyze it, identifying its etymology, its root and the meanings of the morphemes. Students will be given 15 minutes to present and to answer questions from their peers and from the instructor.

The Midterm and the Final exams will be given in a written form and would have multiple-choice questions and exercises similar to those studied in class. Each exam is expected to last for one full class session, i.e. 90 minutes.

Class Attendance

Attendance is crucial for successful completion of the class. Students are allowed to have two unexcused absences for each course for the whole semester program. These allowed unexcused absences should be used for situations such as minor illnesses without a doctor's note or personal situations that prevent the student from attending the class. Allowed unexcused absences should not be used in a planned way for travel or other activities.

Unexcused absences beyond the limit of two will lower a student's grade by 2 points on the 100-point scale each. For example, if your overall score in the class is 90 (an equivalent of A-) and you have had three unexcused absences, your final score will be 88 (B+). Academic Integrity

Weekly Schedule

Week 1.

Class 1. Key concepts in Russian word formation. Main methods of Word formation in Russian language

Class 2. Vocalic and consonant ablaut in Russian language

Homework: analyze vocalic and consonant ablaut using the following site: 2.

<http://cognates.ru/>

Week 2.

Class 1. Family of words with root *ход-*

Noun formation with suffixes *-тель, -ист, -изм, -к*

Class 2. Noun formation using prefixes



Homework: study the following site: http://project.karelia.ru/atlant/help/prist_ref.htm; Exercises 1-3

Week 3.

Class 1. Noun formation with suffixes *-ение, -ость, -ество (ств), -чик (-щик, -чиц)*

Class 2. Suffixative word formation. Family of words with root *-стун*

Week 4.

Class 1. Formation of adjectives: suffixes *-ив (ев), -лив, -чив, -оват*

Class 2. Prefixational word formation (suffixative and non-suffixative)

Family of words with the root *сказ-*

Week 5.

Class 1. Word formation of adjectives (continued)

Class 2. Types of word formation: derivation, compounding and reduction of the base. Family of words with the root *-мир*

Week 6.

6.1. Word formation of adverbs. Family of words with the root *-бир*

6.2. Word formation by abbreviation

Presentations by students

Week 7.

Class 1. Word formation of verbs: prefixes and suffixes. Substantivation.

Class 2. Family of words with the root *-вер*

❖ **Midterm exam**

Week 8.

Class 1. Word formation of adverbs: suffixes *-о, -а, -у, -и, -ому (ему)*; prefixes *на-, с-, по-*

Class 2. Family of words with roots *-лаг (лож) -жды; -либо, -нибудь; -о, -то, -учи (-ючи)*

Week 9.

Class 1. Family of words with the root *-бир (бер)*

Class 2. Word formation of adverbs (continued)

Week 10.

Class 1. Family of words with the root *-ячн*. Methods of word formation (revision)

Class 2. Formation of pronouns, prefixes and suffixes in pronouns: *-либо, -нибудь, -то*

❖ **Your presentation is due**

Week 11.

Class 1. Family of words with the root *-стро*

Class 2. Workshop with families of words. Revision for the final exam

Week 12.

Class 1.

❖ **Final exam**



Course Materials

Readings

Beloshapkova, V.A. *Sovremmeniy russkiy yazyk: Uche. dlya filolog spetz. vysshikh uchebnikh zavedenii*. Azbukovnik: Moskva, 1990.

Corpus russkogo yazyka. <ruscorpura.ru>

Gorbachevicha, K.S. *Bolshoy Akademicheskii slovar russkogo yazyka*. Nauka: Sankt-Peterburg, 2004.

Kuznetsova, A.I.; Efremova, T.F. *Slovar morfem russkogo yazyka*. Russkiy Yazyk: Moskva, 1986.

Russkaya grammatika. Russkiy Yazyk: Moskva, 1990.

Russkaya Grammatika. Tom 1. Fonetika. Fonologiya. Udareniye. Intonatsiya.

Slovoobrazovaniye.

Morfologiya. AN SSSR. Nauka: Moskva, 1982.

Sovremmeniy russkiy yazyk. Slovoobrazovaniye. Prosvescheniye: Moskva, 1973.

Tikhonov, A.N. *Slovoobrazovatelnyy slovar russkogo yazyka*. Russkiy Yazyk: Moskva, 1985

Tikhonov, A.N.; Tikohnov, S.A. Tikhonova, E.N.; *Slovar-spravochnik po russkomu yazyku: pravopisaniye, proiznosheniye, udareniye, slovoobrazovaniye, morfemika, grammatika, chastota upotrebleniya slov*. TOO Slovare: Moskva, 1995.

Online resources

Dictionary of single-root words <<http://cognates.ru>>, assessed January 10, 2019

Meaning of prefixes: <http://project.karelia.ru/atlant/help/prist_ref.htm>, assessed January 10, 2019

Meanings of suffixes <<http://www.slovorod.ru/russian-suffixes.html>>, assessed January 10, 2019

Etymological dictionary of Russian language <<https://vasmer.lexicography.online>>, assessed January 10, 2019