



CIEE in St. Petersburg, Russia

Course name:	Advanced Translation
Course number:	RUSI 3106 RLPR
Programs offering course:	Russian Language Program
Language of instruction:	Russian
U.S. semester credits:	3
Contact hours:	45 U.S. 50-minute contact hours / 52 Russian 45-minute contact hours
Term:	Spring 2019

Course Description

This course is an academic discipline, and does not involve learning skills of translation. In our class we will study grammatical phenomena that do not have accurate equivalents in English and Russian languages (gerund, passive constructions, indefinite pronouns and adverbs), and those phenomena that do not exist in the Russian language (for example, the construction 'there is'). Much attention is paid in this course to Russian language-specific word order functions, which are used to express a variety of communicative tasks. We will also consider significant differences in English and Russian languages at the lexical level. We analyze a number of examples arising from the translation difficulties associated with the semantic difference of comparable lexical units. The texts, which will be offered for translation, are often on the same topics that are discussed in the Conversation class.

Learning Objectives

The course objectives are to systematize and generalize the knowledge in grammar (morphology and syntax), functional sentence perspective, vocabulary, style, and the expansion of the language competence of students.

Thus, our course will allow students to rise to the level of synthesis of their knowledge of Russian language, serving as an auxiliary subject.

Course Prerequisites

Students in this class must be familiar with all the major topics of Russian grammar, including the topic of gerunds and participles, complex sentences with the conjunctions "that, which, how, because, if" and other complex grammatical structures. This course is only open to second-semester students of the CIEE Russian Language Program.

Methods of Instruction

Most class sessions have the following structure. Starting in the second week of training, homework is checked during the first half of class. We discuss all the translations offered by the students, the reasoning behind the options offered and why certain options are preferred or not possible.

In the second part of the lesson the teacher presents and comments on the new material. The presentation and explanation is followed by the work on a particular linguistic phenomenon. At the end of the lesson the teacher assigns homework, drawing attention to possible ways to overcome the difficulties that can arise during translation.



Assessment and Final Grade

Students will be assessed according to the following criteria:

Class participation	20%
Homework	20%
Tests	30% (15% each)
Final exam	30%
.....	
TOTAL:	100%

Course Requirements

Written homework (1 to 1.5 typed pages) is given in each session and reviewed (discussed) in class with the active participation of the whole group. The quality of homework and active participation in the discussion directly affect the final grade.

Two in-class tests are given during the semester, in which students are asked to translate fragments of texts, containing lexical and grammar units that were studied before. Students are allowed to use a dictionary on the test, since it is not the student's vocabulary, which is tested, but her/his ability to find a proper grammar equivalent and to convey the communicative aspect of a discourse.

The final written exam is given on the exam week, and it consists of several parts, in which students are asked to translate the texts, containing grammar and lexical units, which were studied throughout the semester. The final exam lasts 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+).

Weekly Schedule

Week/ Неделя	Topic / Тема	Forms of control
Week 1 Class 1 Class 2	Order of sentences in Russian and English descriptive texts Различия словорасположения русского и английского предложения в описательном тексте.	
Week 2 Class 1 Class 2	Rendering English articles in Russian translation through word order Порядок слов как средство выражения	

	артиклевых значений.	
Week 3 Class 1 Class 2	Translating “there is...,” “there are...” into Russian Перевод конструкций “there is...,” “there are...” на русский	
Week 4 Class 1 Class 2	Problems with translating the meaning of possessiveness. Equivalents of the verb “to have” in Russian language Специфика выражения посессивности. Соответствия глагола «to have» русским глаголам, не имеющим посессивного значения.	
Week 5 Class 1 Class 2	Translating negative constructions. Home task: Перевод конструкций с отрицанием. Домашние задания: подготовка к контрольной работе.	Homework: prepare to the test. ❖ Test №1
Week 6 Class 1 Class 2	Lexical difficulties in translation of texts on the topic of education Лексические трудности при переводе текстов по теме «Образование».	
Week 7 Class 1 Class 2	Russian equivalents of the verbs “to study,” “to learn,” “to teach” How to translate the nouns “student,” “class,” “professor,” “teacher.” Соответствия английским глаголы to study, to learn, to teach в русском языке. Перевод существительных student, class, professor, teacher	Homework Translate a text on the topic of education
Week 8 Class 1 Class 2	Translating of object clauses into Russian Перевод object clauses	
Week 9 Class 1 Class 2	Translating of gerunds and –ing participles Способы перевода gerunds and -ing participles ..	Homework: prepare to the test.
Week 10	Translating of passive constructions Способы перевода passive voice	❖ Test №2
Week 11 Class 1 Class 2	Translating comparative constructs with adjectives Перевод сравнительных конструкций с прилагательными	



Week 12	Preparing for the final test	❖ Final test
Class 1	Подготовка к экзаменационной работе	
Class 2	Final test / Exam	

Course materials

Excerpts from the following textbooks will be given in copies to the students:

1. Соколова Е.В. Особенности порядка слов при описании. Пособие для учащихся из англоязычных стран. СПб, 1998
2. Шатилова М.О. Учебные материалы по переводу с английского языка на русский. СПб, 2003
3. English for Translation. Практикум по переводу. СПб. 1998
4. Natalia Strelkova, *Introduction to Russian-English Translation*. New York: Hippocrene books, 2012.