



CIEE St. Petersburg

Course name:	Discovering Russia Film, Music, and Mass Media (Beginning)
Course number:	RUSI 1002 RLPU
Programs offering course:	Russian Language Program
Language of instruction:	Russian
U.S. semester credits:	3
Contact hours:	45
Term:	Summer 2019

Course Description

This course is designed to introduce various aspects of Russian culture through films, music and media. The choice of specific film titles and musical compositions is based on their popularity in Russia as well as their broad coverage of different aspects of modern Russian life. Furthermore, selected films and songs let students explore typical language patterns and broaden their knowledge of Russian culture, traditions, its festivals and rituals.

Additional topics covering aspects most important for Russia on a national level will both provide students with a deeper understanding of Russian history, current social and political problems and familiarize them with the specific language of the modern Russian media.

All topics of this course correspond with the appropriate conversation topics.

Learning Objectives

The proposed course focuses both on passive (listening- movies, TV, music; reading - newspaper and magazine articles, song lyrics) and active (speaking - short discussion of movies, newspaper articles; writing- writing about movies viewed) language skills. The use of material in its natural language helps students to understand and produce a more authentic Russian language.

The discussion of the film is designed to stimulate communication on topics that based on issues raised in the film or media articles and engage their interests.

Course Prerequisites

Students must possess a basic level of vocabulary, grammar material, in order to understand the fragments from films and newspaper articles.

Students' placement is contingent upon a written and an oral test administered at the beginning of the program, as well as a mandatory ACTFL oral proficiency interview.

Methods of Instruction

Considering the multi-dimensional aspect of this course, the methods of instruction vary. Learning songs includes phonetic (training pronunciation), lexical, and grammatical (the introduction of new vocabulary and grammar analysis) and lingvokulturologicheskiiy (linguistic explanation of Russian mentality and characteristics of spiritual culture) aspects.



For preparing the instructor introduces the vocabulary that familiarizes students with words and expressions from the film. In-class film viewing is preceded by an overview of the film’s scenes, as well as lexical work, a presentation of the film and director.

Songs will be introduced and learned through listening and analysis of the lyrics. memorization of the lyrics song.

The films, if necessary, will be accompanied by subtitles in English.

Special Accommodations

Should a student have any need for special accommodations, the teacher must be notified at the beginning of the semester.

Assessment and Final Grade

Students will be assessed according to the following criteria:

Attendance & Participation	30%
Homework	40%
Quizzes & Exam	30%
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TOTAL:	100%

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 r 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. 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	Topic	Materials
1	“ There is more than winter” or «Широка страна моя родная»	<p>Film: "Circus" by G. Alexandrov (1936) Videoclip from "Fur trees" by Bekmambetov (2010) Music: Song from the film "Circus" The Russia hymn (listening), folk songs (learning)</p> <p>Current press: Introductory lesson on Russian Current Press. Mass Media Vocabulary. Structure of the article. Find headlines on topic "Russia in the World" Reading "Weather forecast"</p>

2	The Great Patriotic War	<p>Film: “Destiny of a man” by S. Bondarchuk (1959)</p> <p>Videoclip from «Officers» by V. Rogovoj (1971)</p> <p>Music: Famous Russian war songs («Вставай, страна огромная», «Землянка», «Синий платочек», «Этот день победы»)</p> <p>Current press: talk about “Immortal regiment”</p>
Quiz 1		
3	Russian kitchen: “Щи да каша – пища наша”	<p>Film: «Devchata» by .Chylukin (сцена в столовой) «Иван Васильевич меняет профессию» by Gajdaj (сцена царского застолья)</p> <p>Music: «Конфетки – бараночки» (автор неизвестный), «Kalinka» by I. Larionov (разучивание песни) Folk song «Жили у бабуси 2 весёлых гуся»</p> <p>Current press: talk about current life through Media</p>
4	National sport in Russia “Хоккей – это наше всё!”	<p>Film: “Legend № 17” by N. Lebedev (fragment)</p> <p>Music: song «В хоккей играют настоящие мужчины, трус не играет в хоккей» by Pahmutova/Dobronravov. (Listening)</p> <p>Current press: 1. famous Russian athletes, 2. Sport news (listening and reading)</p>
Quiz 2		
5	Russian cartoons friends or who are you Mr. Cheburashka?	<p>Film: Cartoons «Cheburashka», «Masha and the Bear», «Winnie the Rooh », «Three from Prostokvashino»</p> <p>Music: Water spirit song from «The Flying ship » “Antoshka”</p> <p>Current press: Talk about culture life in Russia. Choose interesting articles on the basis of the headings and subheadings. News.</p>
6	Space travels	<p>Film: «Planet of storms” by P. Koushancev Коушанцева (1962). Is it Russian or US film?</p>

Quiz 3		<p>Video about Jurij Gagarin. Cartoon «Mystery of the third plane» by R. Kachanov (videoclip)</p> <p>Current press: Space system. Exploration Joint working</p>
7	National Russian traditions and fests, Russian nature.	<p>Film: “Morozko” by A. Rou (1964) Videoclips: «Moms» by (2012) and “Marriage” By P. Lungin</p> <p>Music: Russian folk and modern wedding song Song «Свадьба» А.Бабаджанияна и Р.Рождественского</p> <p>Current press: Topic “Russia – multinational state” Falk fests</p>
8 Final exam	Rock songs (Russian underground)	<p>Videoclips from : “Assa” by S.Solovjev (1987)</p> <p>Music: Boris Grebenzhikov, V. Coj, J. Shechuk.</p> <p>Current press: Presentations of articles chosen by students on various topics</p>

Readings

All class materials will be provided to the students as handouts