



CIEE Moscow, Russia

Course name:	Communicative Russian Language
Course number:	RUSI 0001 MBIR
Programs offering course:	Moscow Business and International Relations
Language of instruction:	English, Russian
U.S. Semester Credits:	1
Contact Hours:	15
Term:	Summer 2019

Course Description

This class is designed for students who have no previous knowledge of Russian language and wish to learn basic skills in communicating during their study program in Moscow. This language course provides the linguistic tools necessary both for students to make themselves understood as well as to enable them to gain a better understanding of the way of life in Russia, through practice using language in everyday situations through role-playing, excursions, etc.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will be able to:

- Gain practical knowledge of Russian language.
- Function in everyday situations (i.e. restaurants, shops, train stations, etc.)
- Acquire the foundation necessary for conversational ability – with some attention to formal grammar – but with the primary focus on situations, pronunciation, and understanding basic phrases.

Course Prerequisites

None

Methods of Instruction

The course will consist of lectures and seminar discussions on material taught in class and read at home. Students are expected to participate actively in classroom discussions and prepare all written assignments in a timely manner. The instruction will employ communicative methods. Permanent error correction and progress check will be exercised. Exercises targeting conversational structures such as initiating and maintaining predictable introductory and simple conversations on familiar topics will be completed on a regular basis. In class repetition, studying media, listening comprehension tasks, and vocabulary expansion tasks will assist in accomplishing the objective of this course. Pronunciation correction and intonation will constitute part of listening comprehension skills and will be done on an everyday basis.

Assessment and Final Grade

Quizzes 30% (consists of 3 quizzes at 10% each)



Final Exam	30%
Homework	20%
Class Participation	20%

Commented [EB1]: FYI: Attendance cannot be part class participation per Academic Policy

Course Requirements

Quizzes

Short written quizzes will focus on reinforcing the grammar, vocabulary, and phonetic rules learned each class. Frequent quizzes will help to ensure students retain and build on their Russian language knowledge.

Final Test

The final exam will be a cumulative exam, which will consist in a written and an oral portion covering the topics of the four week session.

Homework

Oral and written exercises, dialogues, and vocabulary lists will be assigned for each class meeting. Students are expected to have all homework assignments completed before coming to class; assignments will be either collected, and graded based on the number of correct answers directly related to the topic studied (or previously studied), or checked for completion at the start of class. Assignments that proved difficult will be reviewed as a group. Dialogue and role play assignments will be presented and acted out during the designated class time, and graded on the accurate implementation of the material covered, as well as complexity of new structures and vocabulary. Students are expected to be an ACTIVE participant in class activities.

Class Participation

Regular class attendance and thorough preparation at home are crucial to student's success in this class. Students must bring their textbooks and/or course packet every day. Three instances of tardiness will be equated to a one-hour absence. One unexcused absence is allowed throughout the semester. In such a case, it is the student's responsibility to contact the teacher ahead of time. Any additional undocumented absences will result in a lower grade. Excessive unexcused absences – i.e. more than two – will be reflected by up to half of a final grade down. In the case of more than one unexcused absence, a supporting document must be presented. It is the student's responsibility to complete and submit all missed assignments and tests.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1

Class 1

- Speaking: What is your name? Here is... There is....
- The Russian Alphabet; Cursive and Printed letters

Class 2

- Nouns in the Singular. The gender of nouns.
- Answering the questions: "Who is this? What is this?"
- Numbers 0-10



Class 3

- Questions: Whose? The Possessive Pronouns my, your, our, yours, his, hers, theirs.
- *Adjectives* with the Stem Terminating in a Hard Consonant (the Endings –ый (-ой), -ая, -ое, -ые); *Adjectives* with the Stem Terminating in a Soft Consonant (the Endings: -ий, -ья, -ее, -ие);

Class 4

- *Adjectives* with the Stem Terminating in к, г, х (the Endings: -ий (- ой), -ая, -ое, -ие); *Adjectives* with the Stem Terminating in ж, ш, ч, щ (the Endings: -ий (- ой), -ая, -ее, -ие); *Adjectives*: blue, Russian, big.

Class 5

- Reading: cognates, geographic names
- QUIZ

Week 2

Class 6

- Speaking: First names, patronymics, and last names.
- Family members (brother, sister, etc.) Games: family tree.
- Basic professions. Sentence structure: He is a doctor. She is a chemist. He is a teacher.

Class 7

- The Present Tense of the Verbs 1st Conjugation: *to read, to know, to listen to, to think, to understand, to play, to study.*
- The Present Tense of the Verbs 2nd Conjugation: *to speak, to look at, to cook, to love, to sit, to hurry.*

Class 8

- *Adjectives and Adverbs: good, well, bad, badly, a little, Russian, in Russian style, English, in English style, French, in French style).*
- Questions: *What?* and *How?*

Class 9

- Expressions (verbs + adverbs): "I speak Russian well. I understand a little Russian."
- The Present Tense of the Verbs 1st Conjugation: *to study, to understand*

Class 10

- Listening: phonetics and pronunciation (vowel recognition, vowel reduction)
- Numbers, 11-20
- QUIZ

Week 3

Class 11



- Asking simple questions: Who is she/he? What is his/her name? What is? Some (ethnicity based) adjectives: Russian, American, French, etc. Adjectives.
- Grammar: Modifier-noun agreement.

Class 12

- Asking and answering questions: Is this a Russian book? Is this your book? Is this her book? It is mine. No, the book is not yours, it is hers.
- Dialogues. Role plays: new acquaintance, introducing a friend, introducing yourself, asking simple questions.

Class 13

- Adjectives: Smart, pretty, handsome, kind, interesting, athletic, unique, boring.
- Giving a compliment: You are smart. You are very interesting. He is a boring teacher. He is a good teacher.

Class 14

- Reading and Writing: Reading short paragraphs consisting in simple sentences. Creating and presenting short dialogues from the readings. Writing short compositions about your family.

Class 15

- Listening: phonetics and pronunciation (consonant assimilations)
- Numbers, 11-20
- QUIZ

Week 4

Class 16

- Learning colors.
- Numbers: 30-40

Class 17

- The verb *to have*
- Agreement of personal pronouns and nouns.
- Vocabulary (objects that can be possessed); I have a cat. I have a good friend. She has an interesting book.

Class 18

- In town. Where is the post office, the restaurant? What is the name of this street?
- Reading: simple sentences, short dialogs, description of a town.

Class 19

- Prepositional case. Plural of adjectives and nouns.
- Listening: phonetics and pronunciation (voiced and voiceless consonants)

Class 20

- FINAL



Course Materials

S. Chernyshev, A. Chernysheva. *Let's Go! Russian Language for Adults*. St. Petersburg, "Chrysostom", 2011. Parts 2.1 and 2.