CIEE St. Petersburg, Russia

Course title: Grammar, Advanced I
Course code: RUSI 3011 RLPR
Programs offering course: Russian Language
Language of instruction: Russian
U.S. semester credits: 4
Contact hours: 65
Term: Spring 2020

Course Description

Within the scope of the course, knowledge of the case system of the Russian language and skills of inflection are summarized. The concepts of grammatical differentiation of spatial parameters are systematized as well. The course introduces to the students special groups of verbs, such as static/dynamic verbs and verbs of motion. The course expands students’ understanding of verb forms and analyzes the factors influencing the use of verb forms in imperative and infinitive constructions. Students also study verbal adverbs and logical categories expressed by them, such as cause, effect and concession, as well as the correlation between verbal adverb phrases and complex sentences expressing these logical categories.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:

The course’s main objective is to summarize and systematize the students’ knowledge of Russian grammar and to activate these grammar constructs in students’ speech. After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. analyze the factors, which influence the production and usage of adequate linguistic expressions;
2. analyze logical relations in post-predicative structures and the ways to express them through syntax.

Course Prerequisites
Students should have a clear understanding of the case system of the Russian language, and should be familiar with verb conjugations, having basic knowledge of types of verbs (imperfective; perfective), formation of grammatical forms of time, and possess elementary syntactic skills of analyzing sentences.

Methods of Instruction

Grammar lessons are held in the form of practical work, including an explanation by the instructor of the difficulties of morphology and syntax at a conceptual level (in the native language of students, if necessary). In class, grammar exercises are performed orally and homework is checked by reviewing exercises together, focusing on errors and analyzing mistakes.

Assessment and Final Grade

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Course Requirements

Homework

You are expected to have all homework assignments completed before you come to class. Home assignments, which include grammar exercises and writing short texts are mandatory. Class time will be used to check your home assignments and to advance your knowledge, drawing on what you have studied at home.

Quizzes

There will be two quizzes throughout the semester. Each quiz is expected to last up to 30 minutes. Its objective is to gauge how successfully each student is coping with the material, to identify if the students have problems with a particular grammar topic or section.

Midterm Exam
Final Exam

Both the midterm and final exams are written tests, which are given in class, and they expected to last a full class session, i.e. 90 minutes. They will be comprised of fill in the blank questions, multiple choice questions and short writing assignments. Their objective is to gauge the students’ both passive and active knowledge of grammar rules covered in class.

Class Participation

You are expected to be an active participant in class activities.

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+).

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Course schedule is subject to change due to study tours, excursions, or local holidays. Final schedules will be included in the final syllabus provided to students on site.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1
Class 1.1 Verbal Aspect

Introduction to the course

Homework: Textbook, Book 1 (TX1)
Ex. 6-7; 35-37

Class 1.2 Verbal Aspect

Use of verbal aspect in the past tense

Homework: Ex.46, 47, 49

Class 1.3 Verbal Aspect

Use of verbal aspect in the past tense:

- in negative sentences
- in the infinitive
- constructions with the word нельзя

Homework: Ex. 54; 56; 58

Week 2
Class 2.1 Verbal Aspect (continued)

Use of the infinitive with the negative мочь не

Homework: TX 1, Ex. 67-68
Class 2.2 Verbal Aspect (continued)

Use of verbal aspect in the imperative mood

Homework: Ex. 76-78

Class 2.3 Verbal Aspect (continued)

Use of verbal aspect with negative imperatives

Week 3

Class 3.1 Verbal Aspect (continued)

Expression of movement

Homework: Textbook, Book 2

Class 3.2 Verbal Aspect (continued)

Accusative case with the preposition в/на (в автобус, на улицу).

Homework: TX2, Ex. 117-120

Class 3.3 Verbs of Location and Motion

Forms and use of location verbs

Forms and use of verbs of motion

Homework: TX2, p. 15-16, Ex. 1-2

Week 4

Class 4.1 Verbs of Motion

Unprefixed verbs of motion

Homework: TX1, Ex. 87-90
Class 4.2  Verbs of Motion

Uses of nonprefixed verbs of motion

Homework: Ex. 118-120; 126

Class 4.3  Verbs of Motion

Prefixed verbs of motion

Homework: Ex, 140-143

Week 5

Class 5.1  Verbs of Motion (continued)

Prefixes that do not have exact opposites

Homework: TX1, Ex, 144-145

Class 5.2  Verbs of Motion (continued)

Perfective and imperfective of prefixed motion verbs

Homework: Ex. 147-149

Class 5.3  Verbs of Motion (continued)

Perfective and imperfective of prefixed motion verbs

Homework: Ex. 152-156

Week 6

Class 6.1  Reflexive Verbs

Strictly reflexive verbs

Homework: TX 1,Ex. 174-176
Class 6.2  Reflexive Verbs

Reciprocal reflexive verbs

Homework: Ex. 184-185

Class 6.3  Reflexive Verbs

Indirect speech

- to state facts
- to express request
- to ask a question

Quiz #1

Homework: Ex. 190-191, Ex. 213-214

Week 7
Class 7.1  Reflective Verbs (continued)

Generally reflexive verbs

Homework: TX1 Ex. 190-192

Class 7.2  Reflective Verbs (continued)

Use of reflexive verbs with infinitive

- to denote stages in action

Differences in usage of reflexive and non-reflexive verbs

Homework: Ex. 194-195

Class 7.3  Reflective Verbs (continued)
Impersonal reflexive verbs

- to denote feelings and states
- to indicate stages of action

(Все начали работать/Работа началась; Перерыв кончился и занятия продолжились)

Homework: Ex.197-198

Week 8
Class 8.1 Participles
Formation of present active participle
Homework: TX1, Ex. 220-221

Class 8.2 Participles
Formation of past active participle
Formation of present passive participle
Homework: Ex. 226-227, Ex. 231-233-234

Class 8.3
Midterm exam

Week 9
Class 9.1 Participles (continued)
Formation of past passive participle
Homework: TX1, Ex. 237-238

Class 9.2 Participles (continued)
Replacing a dependent clause with participial phrase

Short form passive participles

Homework: Ex. 240-241, 251-254

Week 10
Class 10.1 The Adverbial Participle (gerund)

Homework: TX 1, Ex. 260-262

Class 10.2 The Adverbial Participle (gerund)

The formation of gerund in the imperfective aspect

Homework: Ex. 263-265

Class 10.3 The Adverbial Participle (gerund)

The usage of gerund: зная, ища, вспомнив, легши, встретившись

Quiz #2

Homework: Ex. 266-268

Week 11
Class 11.1 Gerund (continued)

Gerundive phrases

Homework: TX 1, Ex. 270-271

Class 11.2 Gerund (continued)

The formation of past gerund

Class 11.3 Gerund (continued)
Formation and use of gerundive phrases

Replacement a subordinate clause with gerundive phrase

Week 12
Class 12.1 Gerundive Phrases

Additional meanings of gerundive phrases:

- to indicate time of action
- to indicate cause of action
- to indicate condition of action
- to indicate concession

Homework: TX1, Ex. 272-274

Class 12.2  
Review for final exam

Class 12.3  
Final Exam

Course Materials
Readings
