CIEE St. Petersburg, Russia

Course title: Grammar, Advanced III
Course code: RUSI 3013 RLPR
Programs offering course: Russian Language
Language of instruction: Russian
U.S. semester credits: 4
Contact hours: 65
Term: Spring 2020

Course Description

Throughout the course, students’ knowledge of the main grammatical categories of the Russian language are extended and inflection skills are trained. The course provides; a systematized presentation of the methods of grammatical differentiation of spatial parameters; a careful review of specific verbal groups (static verbs/dynamic verbs/verbs of motion); and a deeper understanding of verbal aspect by examining carefully the factors influencing the use of aspect in imperative and infinitive constructions. An in-depth study of syntax of the Russian language is continued. Language material is presented in the direction of ‘from semantics to its formal expression’? In such a way, methods of expression of spatial and time relations, conditional relations, and semantic value are studied. Various methods of syntactic representation of specified logical relations, as well as the relationship between these methods are analyzed.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:

• have a systematic knowledge of important grammar constructs in Russian language and to use them actively in students’ speech;
• understand factors, determining the usage of verbal aspects, full and short forms of participles and adjectives;
• produce communicatively adequate utterances with the above mentioned forms

Course Prerequisites
Students must have a clear understanding of the Russian case system; be familiar with different types of verbal conjugations; have a basic grasp of aspectual meaning of the Russian verb and formation of grammatical forms of time; possess elementary skills of syntactic parsing.

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 theoretical level (in the native language of the students if necessary). 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

1. Homework 20%
2. Quizzes 20%
3. Tests 30%
4. Final Exam 20%
5. Class Participation 10%
TOTAL 100%

Course Requirements

Homework

Written homework are given in each session and reviewed (discussed) in class with the active participation of the whole group. The quality of homework and activity in the discussion directly affect the final grade.

Quizzes

5% each

4 quizzes will be given at the end of each part of the program.

Tests

10% each
Tests will conclude the main segments of grammar and lexical materials.

Final Exam

Typically takes 90 minutes to write, and it aims at evaluating the students’ knowledge from the entire class.

Class Participation

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

Review: Intransitive verbs of motion without prefixes

Corresponding transitive and intransitive verbs (идти – нести, ходить – носить)

Homework: Write stories on assigned topics (include no less than 10 verbs of motion)

Class 1.2

Verbs of motion with prefixes: в/вы, при/у, по-, про-, до-, пере-, под-/от, про- за-, с-, раз-ся/с-ся, об-

Quiz 1 (15 min.)

Class 1.3

Verbs of Motion with prefixes (continued)

Week 2

Class 2.1

Situational communicative exercises. Texts.

Class 2.2

Prepare for test on verbs of motion.
Class  2.3  

Test on verbs of motion (45 min)

Week 3
Class  3.1  

Time expressions in simple and complex sentences
Homework: pp. 4 – 6; 8-9; 13-14; 18-19

Class  3.2  

Use of perfective and imperfective aspect in time expressions
Homework: Exercises from textbook pp. 14 – 16, 20; pp.22 – 33

Class  3.3  

Use of perfective and imperfective aspect in time expressions
Homework: Exercises from textbook pp. 14 – 16, 20; pp.22 – 33

Week 4
Class  4.1  

Structure of the narrated text (verbs of vision, movement, shifting, etc.

Class  4.2  


Class  4.3  

Main meanings of imperative constructions. Negative imperative constructions
Homework: recipe of your favorite food

Week 5
Class 5.1.

Verbal aspect in the infinitive.

Quiz 2

Class 5.2.

Review verbal aspect.

Homework: Prepare for test on Verbal aspect

Class 5.3.

Test

Week 6
Class 6.1.

Active participles in the present and past tense. Formation and use.

Class 6.2.

Passive participles in the past tense. Formation and use.

Class 6.3.

Short form participles. Use of full and short form participles.

Homework: Prepare for quiz (participles)

Week 7
Class 7.1.
Comparative degree in a simple sentence. Comparative phraseological constructions.

Quiz 3

Class 7.2

Text structure – descriptions (lexical components: verbs of location: находиться и синонимы; long and short adjectives, participles).

Class 7.3

Words order in description, syntax comparative and contrast structures of text organization.

Midterm test (45 minutes)

Week 8
Class 8.1

Reason constructions. Lexical-semantic group of verbs indicating relationship

Homework: exercises pp. 34-48

Class 8.2

Reason constructions. Lexical-semantic group of verbs indicating relationship

Homework: exercises pp. 34-48

Class 8.3

Cases of the prepositions на, для, за

Week 9
Class 9.1.

Concessive sentences, phraseology with хотя: хотя плачь, хоть кричи

Class 9.2.

Conditional sentences in Russian. Preparation for quiz

Homework: pp.58 – 60; 66 - 70

Class 9.3.

Conditional sentences in Russian. Preparation for quiz

Homework: pp.58 – 60; 66 - 70

Week 10

Class 10.1.

Text structure

Quiz 4

Class 10.2.

Reasoning. Direct and indirect speech.

Homework: write essay (25 sentences)

Class 10.3.

Transforming direct speech into indirect speech

Week 11

Class 11.1.

Introduction to Russian morphology.
Homework: Exercises from handouts

Class 11.2.

Suffixes of nouns:

- Affectionate-diminutives
- Emotionally-expressive
- Used to describe a person by their actions, their relation to a subject, and to name of male and female gender

Class 11.3.

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Week 12
Class 12.1.

Verbal prefixes in modern Russian language. Formative verbal prefixes related to prefixed verbs with prepositions.

Class 12.2.

Temporal and qualitative-quantitative prefixes and resultant-intensives (prefixes forming a grammatical model with the participle –ся

Week 13
Class 13.1.

Review for the exam

Class 13.2.
Final Exam (90 minutes)

Course Materials

Readings


Ivanova, I., Karamysheva L., Miroshnikova M. Sintaksis: Prakticheskoje posobije po russkomu jazyku. SPb, Zlatoust, 2009