Course title: Conversation, Advanced III  
Course code: RUSI 3033 RLPR  
Programs offering course: Russian Language  
Language of instruction: Russian  
U.S. semester credits: 4.00  
Contact hours: 65.00  
Term: Fall 2020

Course Description
This course includes practical conversation-based classes, with focus on topics pertaining to contemporary Russian life. Lessons include the following types of work: reading texts, completing exercises to reinforce lexical and grammatical material introduced during the class, working with conversational constructions, creating monologue statements on class topics, and participating in discussions.

Learning Objectives
By completing this course, students will:
- show the ability to communicate effectively on topics related to their particular interests goals in a variety of social contexts;
- produce complex sentences connected in paragraphs;
- be able to explain how an event happened, describe an object using the present, past and future tenses;
- be able to speak on unfamiliar topics;
- have enough linguistic resources to be able to express themselves, to argue, to produce detailed descriptions of objects and events.

Course Prerequisites
Students are expected to possess knowledge and skills at the Advanced I level, in order to develop their communicative and comprehension skills. Students’ placement is contingent upon a written and an oral tests administered at the beginning of the program.

Methods of Instruction
Classes are held in the genre of discussion on selected topics together with the completion of lexico-grammatical exercises.

Assessment and Final Grade
1. Homework 30%
2. Quizzes 20%
3. Final Oral Exam 20%
4. Class Participation 30%
TOTAL 100%

Course Requirements
Homework
There will be various types of homework, from textbook exercises to learning vocabulary for each topic. It is important that you do your work at home and by the assigned date. Although not all home assignments are graded in class, the quality of your homework will be noted and evaluated accordingly.

Quizzes
10% each

There will be two short vocabulary quizzes during the semester. Quizzes will involve multiple-choice questions and exercises.

Final Oral Exam

The final oral exams is held in the form of a 20 minute one-on-one conversation with the instructor on the course topics (refer to the weekly schedule) and a small dialogue. Students should master the vocabulary of weekly topics (synonyms, antonyms), words that contain the same roots, use verbs with prefixes and be active during the exam.

Class Participation

Students are expected to take part in the activities, conversations and dialogues conducted by the instructor during course sessions. Please, come to class having done your homework, as topics for the discussions will be based on the vocabulary you’ve learned at home.

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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N.B. 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

Russian names

Communicative models: expressing agreement and disagreement. Lexical exercises.

Class: 1.2

Climate in Russia. Lexical exercises.

Class: 1.3

Communicative models: expressing relation.

Week 2

Class: 2.1

Churches and cathedrals in Saint Petersburg
Class: 2.2
Read: Соборы Санкт-Петербурга (CP, Week 2). Sentences with что, чтобы

Class: 2.3
Communicative models: expressing intentions: advice, hesitation

Week 3
Class: 3.1
Health and healthy lifestyle
Read: Задумайтесь о своем здоровье (CP, Week 3)

Class: 3.2
Dialogue: Зачем заниматься спортом
Homework: learn vocabulary lexical exercises (CP Week 3)

Class: 3.3
Communicative models: congratulating someone

Quiz #1

Week 4
Class: 4.1
Russian banya
Read: “Русская баня” (Родимкина, p. 26)

Class: 4.2
Communicative models: expressing interest, indifference, comparison

Class: 4.3
Holidays in Russia. Lexical exercises
Communicative models: expressing desire, approval, affirmation
Read: “Национальные праздники в России” (Родимкина)
Homework: vocabulary, lexical exercises (CP Week 4)

Week 5
Class: 5.1
Cost of living
Read: “Дешевая Москва и очень дешевый Петербург” (Родимкина)

Class: 5.2
Word formation: making adjectives from nouns

Class: 5.3
Communicative models: expressing disappointment, preference
Week 6
Class: 6.1.
Cost of living (continued)
Read: "Как я жила на прожиточный минимум" (Rodimkina)

Class: 6.2.
Communicative models: expressing irritation, curiosity. Re-questing something. Communicative models: expressing disappointment, preference

Class: 6.3.
Climate in Russia
Read: “Климат в России не самый худший” (Rodimkina)

Quiz #2

Week 7
Class: 7.1.
Love, marriage
Read: “Нынешнее поколение” (CP)

Class: 7.2.
Communicative models: expressing hesitation, sadness, happiness, regret, surprise.

Class: 7.3.
Read: “Статистика браков и разводов в России” (CP)
Reflective verbs (review)

Week 8
Class: 8.1.
Family finance
Read: ”Мои финансы” (CP)

Class: 8.2.
Verbs with prefixes: работать, давать / дать

Class: 8.3.
Your dream apartment.
Read: “Город, пригород и деревня» (CP)
Communicative models: expressing aim, condition, reason.

Week 9
Class: 9.1.
Education in Russia
Read: “За ночь до последнего экзамена” (CP)

Class: 9.2.
Verbs: -ключать / -ключить with prefixes.
Communicative models: expressing agreement and disagreement

Class: 9.3
Schools in Saint Petersburg.
Read: Национальные традиции начинаются в школе
Communicative models: expressing agreement and disagreement

**Week 10**
Class: 10.1
Youth of Saint Petersburg
Read: “Современное лицо молодежи Санкт-Петербурга”

Class: 10.2
Communicative models: expressing approval

Class: 10.3
The problem of drugs. Read: “Drugs in Russia” (CP)
Communicative models: expressing concern, fear, blame, judgment, dissatisfaction
Synonyms: навещать, посещать, бывать.

**Week 11**
Class: 11.1
The Internet in our life
Constructions: aim, condition, reason. Lexical exercises. Discussion.

Class: 11.2
Conditional sentences

Class: 11.3
Russian cuisine
Read: "Русский блин накроет хот-доги" (Rodimkina)
Communicative models: expressing suggestions, opportunity

**Week 12**
Class: 12.1
Images of the future.
Read: "Что бы вы стали делать накануне конца света” (Rodimkina)

Class: 12.2
Communicative models: expressing encouragement, empathy

**Week 13**
Class: 13.1
Review for the Final exam
Class: 13.2

**Final exam**

**Course Materials**

**Readings**


Course pack: handouts and materials developed by the instructor (CP)