CIEE St. Petersburg, Russia

Course title: Russian Conversation Intermediate II
Course code: RUSI 2032 RLPU
Programs offering course: Summer Russian Language
Language of instruction: Russian
U.S. semester credits: 3.00
Contact hours: 45.00
Term: Summer 2022

Course Description

This course develops communicative proficiency in monologues and dialogues, builds one’s vocabulary and integrates communicative skills, while at the same time developing listening comprehension. Students will participate in role-play activities imitating real-life situations. The topics will include high frequency and some abstract vocabulary and will stimulate the production of complex sentences.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:

♦ be able to initiate conversation in social situations, to maintain dialogues on a variety of topics, including families, friends, studies, work, leisure time, native city, health, weather, etc.;
♦ be able to summarize a text in their own words;
♦ learn to modify phrases by changing the forms of lexical units, word order in a sentence, using synonyms and synonymous constructs;
♦ acquire strategies for entering, extending and ending a conversation in various communicative situations.

Course Prerequisites

Students are expected to have completed Elementary Russian, in order to qualify for this course. Students’ actual placement is contingent upon a placement test administered at the beginning of the program.

Methods of Instruction

Classes mainly take the form of discussions centered on a specific topic and grammatical subject. The communicative nature of this course will allow for the integration of all skills: speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Pair and group work will be highly encouraged. A task-based approach will be used to engage students in various forms of verbal collaboration. Moreover, students will be given texts from the media and taught vocabulary that will strengthen their ability to discuss social (and other) matters that are different from everyday life topics. Vocabulary games and exercises will be part of the instruction. Grammar exercises will be assigned to build connectors typically used in complex utterances. Role-plays will constitute an essential part of improving speaking. Survival role-plays and situations with complication scenarios will be conducted on a regular basis. Teaching methods will be adjusted to individual learning styles represented in class (typically determined by a cognitive test at the beginning of each semester). Error correction techniques are in accordance with the linguistic research in the field.

Assessment and Final Grade

1. Homework 20%
2. Quizzes 30%
3. Exam 30%
4. Participation 20%
TOTAL 100%

Course Requirements

Homework
Attendance

To encourage engaged learning, regular class attendance is required throughout the program. This includes any required co-curricular class excursion or event, as well as internship, service-learning, or other required field placement.

An excused absence in a CIEE course will only be considered if approved by a CIEE Center Director/Academic Director (not the Instructor), and:

- it is a self-certified absence for illness (only once per course, requires formal request before or within 24 hours, cannot miss assessment worth more than 5% of final course grade)
- a doctor’s note from a local medical professional is provided
- evidence of a family emergency is provided
- it is a pre-approved observance of religious holiday

Unexcused absences include personal travel and/or travel delays, as well as missing more than 25% of a single class period (including tardiness and early departure). Assessments missed due to unexcused absences will be marked as zero. Students with over 10% unexcused absences will be contacted by CIEE staff. Students with over 20% unexcused absences will be contacted by CIEE staff, receive a formal warning letter (shared with their home institution) and lose 10% of the final course point total (e.g., a final A grade of 93% will be lowered to a B grade of 83%).

For more detail, please consult your CIEE Academic Manual.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is essential to a positive and inclusive teaching and learning environment. All students are expected to complete coursework responsibilities with fairness, respect, and honesty. Failure to do so by seeking unfair advantage over others or misrepresenting someone else’s work as your own can result in grade penalties or disciplinary action. See the CIEE Student Academic Manual for further information on academic integrity.

N.B. Course schedule and co-curriculars are subject to change. The final duration and distribution of content and assignments will be determined and presented to students at the onset of the course.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1
Class: Week 1

Acquaintance.
My family.
Что он за человек?
Vocabulary.
Lexical exercises.

Week 2
Class: Week 2

Movies.
How to tell about the movie.
Film description. О чем этот фильм / статья? О том, что / как / почему...
How to give an advice.
Vocabulary.

**Quiz 1**

**Week 3**
Class: Week 3

How to tell about your job and profession.
Для чего нужна работа?

Vocabulary.

Lexical exercises. Dialogues.

**Week 4**
Class: Week 4

My day. Time.
«Бы».

Vocabulary.

Lexical exercises. Dialogues.

**Quiz 2**

**Week 5**
Class: Week 5

How to tell about your apartment.

Verbs стоять / лежать / висеть.

How to compare. Похож тем, что; отличается тем, что

Vocabulary.

Lexical exercises. Dialogues.

**Week 6**
Class: Week 6

How to describe a person.

Thematic vocabulary (appearance of a person: face, figure, typical appearance)

How will I know you?

Глагол «есть» в настоящем времени.

Thematic vocabulary.

Lexical exercises. Dialogues.

**Quiz 3**

**Week 7**
Class: Week 7

St. Petersburg.

Orientation in the city. Public transportation.

Vocabulary.

Intentions: How to ask and clarify directions.
Week 8
Class: Final Exam
Revising for exam.
Thematic vocabulary.
Dialogues on the topic.

FINAL EXAM includes: Oral exam (20 min. one-on-one conversation responding to one of classes’ topics (refer to weekly schedule) and participation in a dialogue.

Course Materials
Readings
- Handouts developed by the instructor.