CIEE St. Petersburg, Russia

Course title: Russian Conversation Intermediate I
Course code: RUSI 2031 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 focuses on developing intermediate spoken and grammar language skills. It involves conversation topics on spheres of cultural and social significance in Russian life, speaking, listening comprehension and reading skills. The course concludes a lot of oral communicative and conventional-communicative exercises. The students learn how to express one's opinion, attitude, hesitation, agreement and other intentions in Russian and to take part in discussions.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:

- be able to communicate in predictable, simple situations, to maintain conversation on familiar topics, such as themselves, their families, their daily routine, interests, etc.;
- be able to summarize a text in their own words;
- identify the tools allowing to express one's point of view and use them effectively in everyday speech;
- acquire strategies for entering, extending and ending a conversation in various communicative situations.

Course Prerequisites

This course is intended for Russian language students at Intermediate level. Students’ placement is contingent upon a written and an oral test administered at the beginning of the program.

Methods of Instruction

Classes are mainly in the form of discussions concentrated on a specific theme. 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. Vocabulary games and exercises will be part of the instruction. Role-plays will constitute an essential part of improving speaking. Survival role-plays and situations with complication scenarios will be assigned regularly.

Assessment and Final Grade

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

Course Requirements

Homework
Quizzes
Exam
Class Participation
**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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class:</th>
<th>Week 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Acquaintance. Откуда вы? (страна, город, университет)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>How to tell about yourself. Hobby, interests.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Family, family members.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>One’s biography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vocabulary. How to introduce yourself, express your opinion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Text: «Открытие» by Chekhov</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Week 2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class:</th>
<th>Week 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>My city. Orientation in the city.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Public transportation in different countries. Town or city (discussion)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vocabulary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Intentions: How to ask and clarify directions, how to ask one more.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Texts from magazine.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lexical exercises. Dialogues.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
My native city.

**Quiz 1**

**Week 3**

**Class:** Week 3

Education in Russia. Compare Russian and US systems.

Use of the verbs: учить/ научить; учить/ выучить; учиться/ научиться; изучать/ изучить; заниматься.

Text: О языке.

Reading: story by V. Shukshin “Exam”.

How to agree/disagree with the opinion of your classmate, how to ask the opinion of your classmate.

My university (story)

**Week 4**

**Class:** Week 4

Man and his character. National character.

How to describe a person.

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

Dialogues on the topic («How will I know you?»: description of the appearance of a person)

How to express a surprise.

**Quiz 2**

**Week 5**

**Class:** Week 5

Holydays, traditions, culture. Telephone conversation.

Reading: Russian folk tale.

How to invite, congratulate, appreciate, how to agree or refuse to do something, how to give advice or warn, how to give a good grade or praise someone

Thematic vocabulary

**Week 6**

**Class:** Week 6

My hobby. Verb –vleк with prefixes.

Theater visit. Music in one’s life.

Trips and travels. People and countries.

Where would you like to go?

How to express your wish. How to buy tickets.

Thematic vocabulary

**Quiz 3**

**Week 7**

**Class:** Week 7
Week 8
Class: Week 8

Russia (nature climate, geography, history, people)

Text: The Urals

Russian Proverbs.

How to advice, recommend.

Thematic vocabulary.

Some words about one’s country

Final Exam

Course Materials

Readings

- Nadezhdina O. New Russia. 127 dialogues and the most important verbs in Russian – M. 2013
- Handouts developed by the instructor.