

Course Syllabus
RUSN 2301 Section 001
A Second Course in Russian
Fall 2019

Basic Information

Instructor: Dr. Anthony Qualin

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Office Hours: MW 11-11:50, F 1-1:50, & by appointment.

Course Description

Prerequisite: RUSN 1501, RUSN 1502

Please note that this course will be conducted almost entirely in Russian!

TTU Catalog Description: Training in oral and written expression and in aural and reading comprehension, including work in the language laboratory.

Further Description: This course will stress the skills of speaking, listening, reading, and writing in Russian. Students will also learn about different Russian-speaking cultures and how to communicate appropriately and effectively in Russian within the context of these cultures.

This course is communicative in its approach, meaning that instruction is based on the principle that the best way to learn a language is by using it. Therefore, the course will be conducted mostly *in Russian*. While your instructor will use a limited amount of English in order to explain grammar and difficult concepts, you can expect to hear mostly Russian during most of the class! Because almost everything that will be covered in class will be explained (often in English) in the textbook and in the homework assignments, preparation for class is essential. Not only will your level of preparation affect your grade, good preparation will help you understand what is going on in class and will help you better participate in Russian in class.

Expected Learning Outcomes & Their Assessments

Students will begin to be able to express, negotiate, and interpret meaning in Russian at the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Novice-high to Intermediate-low, or at the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) level A2. Students will also be able to discuss a global issue related to their major field of study or interest in

English. For specific goals, please see Goals for Lessons 7, 8, and 9 at <http://www.mezhdunami.org/>.

ASSESSMENTS:

Assessment of students' performance will be based on written work and recorded work; oral and written exams and quizzes; participation in and preparation for class (self-assessments and instructor evaluation); a Powerpoint presentation on a global issue.

Class Meeting Time(s) & Location(s): 12:00- 12:50 PM FL, Room 103

Text(s) & Other Materials/Supplies

Required Materials

Online textbook: *Между нами* <http://www.mezhdunami.org/>

Между нами, Units 6-9 Classroom Activities Book (available in TTU Barnes & Noble)

Между нами, Unit 6-9 Homework Assignments (available in TTU Barnes & Noble)

Quizlet: You will need to have a Quizlet account (free) to complete some of the textbook assignments. Quizlet is also recommended for studying vocabulary.

Recommended Texts and Other Materials:

<https://www.dict.com/Russian-English>

<https://dontforgetrussian.weebly.com/apps.html>

Students may also wish to purchase *English Grammar for Students of Russian* if they need help with grammar terminology. *The Russians' World* is an excellent supplemental text for placing language in its cultural context.

Course Requirements & Policies

Grading Policies

The grades are based on a 100-point percentile scale and thus a 0 is considerably worse than most failing grades. The final grade is calculated on the following scale:

A 90-100, B 80-<90, C 70-<80, D 60-<70, F<60

The course grade will be determined based on the following categories. Descriptions of each grading category are below.

Preparation and Participation	15%
Homework	20%

Quizzes	10%
Chapter Tests	20%
Final Exam	25%
Global Readiness Project	10%

Preparation and Participation:

Since the course relies so heavily on listening and speaking practice, preparation, attendance, and participation are mandatory and count toward your final grade. Class participation will reflect your daily preparation and active participation in class discussions. A student who is chronically late to class, leaves early, or is not prepared to participate, will not receive full preparation and participation credit. Not only will your level of preparation affect your grade, good preparation will help you understand what is going on in class and will help you better participate in Russian in class. You will receive a zero for unexcused absences. For more information on excused absences, see below.

Each week you will complete a rubric online with your perception of how well you were prepared for class and how well you participated. We will modify your grade based on our perception of your performance. You will have the opportunity to discuss our evaluation of your class preparation and participation but the final determination of your grade will be made by us. You will not receive a preparation and participation grade until you fill out the weekly rubric.

Homework:

Homework is turned in daily at the beginning of class. In order to receive full credit for a homework assignment it must be turned in the day it is due (or as soon as you return to class after an excused absence). If homework is one day late, you will receive 90% for the assignment. You will receive 70% for homework assignments that are more than one day late. If your homework is incomplete, it will be returned to be completed with the late penalty.

Quizzes:

You will be quizzed frequently online and in class on vocabulary and grammar. You must be on time for class for quizzes held during class time or you will not be able to take the quiz.

Chapter Tests:

There will be a written (75%) and oral (25%) test for each lesson covered for a total of two chapter tests. The written component will be held during class on the scheduled day. You will prepare for the oral component of the exam during class but you will videotape your performance outside of class and email or upload your video to Blackboard.

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Final exam:

There will be a final exam in the course, which will be cumulative covering the material in Lessons 7 through 9. The written portion (75%) of the exam will be held during the final exam period and the oral exam (25%) will be held in the Language Lab on the last day of class. We will provide you with more details regarding the final exam as the date approaches. Several days will be allotted for review and preparation for the final exam.

Global Readiness through Language and Culture Project:

This course is part of a project funded by the TTU Center of Global Communication entitled *Global Readiness through Language and Culture* (GRLC). This initiative will demonstrate that the skills you develop by studying languages and cultures are transferable and crucial to address global challenges related to population, resources, technology, information, economics, conflict, and governance. The project will prepare you to 1) identify global issues that connect to your major or area of interest, 2) conduct research on those issues, and 3) demonstrate the skills to address them.

Students in RUSN 2301 will create a Powerpoint presentation based on a global challenge topic related to your major or another area of interest which you will present at the end of the semester. Your topic must be approved in advance. You will also identify a minimum of fifteen vocabulary words important to your topic and find the Russian equivalents for these words. You will grade your fellow student's presentations using a rubric we will provide. In addition to the Powerpoint presentation, you will need to attend one of two lectures on careers related to languages, cultures, and global challenge themes. If you cannot attend either of the scheduled lectures, you will need to talk to us about alternatives. Finally, you will create a Global Readiness ePortfolio on Blackboard and upload your Powerpoint. The timeline for the project follows the assignment schedule at the end of the syllabus.

You must complete all components of the project in order to receive a grade, otherwise you will receive a zero for this category. We will determine the final grade for the project. The student assessments will be used to determine the strongest projects which will be recognized at the end of the semester.

Extra Credit:

There will be the following extra-credit opportunities: Russian Club films and lectures.

When extra-credit opportunities involve attending a scheduled event, there will always be an announced alternative not tied to a specific time and place. Extra-credit work will affect your course grade in the following manner: For each event you will be told in advance how many missed homework grades will be replaced with credit or how many quiz grades will be replaced with an A.

Excused Absences**Illness and Significant Life Events:**

Documentation might be needed for the absences to be excused. It is our prerogative to decide what constitutes a significant life event (wedding, funeral, etc.)

Absence Due to Religious Observance:

Texas law requires institutions of higher education to excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day. The student shall also be excused for time necessary to travel. An institution may not penalize the student for the absence and allows for the student to take an exam or complete an assignment from which the student is excused. While no prior notification of the instructor is required, OP 34.19 indicates that a student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known to the instructor prior to the absence. The student should make up any missed work.

Absence Due to University Approved Trips:

Department chairpersons, directors, or others responsible for a student representing the university on officially approved trips should notify the student's instructors of the departure and return schedules in advance of the trip. The instructor so notified must not penalize the student, although the student is responsible for material missed. Students absent because of university business must be given the same privileges as other students (e.g., if other students are given the choice of dropping one of four tests, then students with excused absences must be given the same privilege).

Make-up Policy

No make ups are allowed except for excused absences

Students with Disabilities

Any student who, because of a disability, may require special arrangements in order to meet the course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make any necessary arrangements. Students should present appropriate verification from Student Disability Services during the instructor's office hours. Please note: instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodations to a student until appropriate verification from Student Disability Services has been provided. For additional information, you may contact the Student Disability Services office in 335 West Hall or 806-742-2405.

Academic Honesty

It is the aim of the faculty of Texas Tech University to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of students to present as their own any work that they have not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a serious offense and renders the offenders liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension.

"Scholastic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, misrepresenting facts, and any act designed to give unfair academic advantage to the student (such as, but not limited to, submission of essentially the same written assignment for two courses without the prior permission of the instructor) or the attempt to commit such an act.

Please note: the use of online translators, such as <http://translate.google.com> is considered academic dishonesty and will be dealt with according to the policies outlined by the university's policy on cheating, which may involve a grade of **0** for an assignment. All instances of plagiarism will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

TTU Resources for Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Violence:

Texas Tech University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from gender and/or sex discrimination of any kind. Sexual assault, discrimination, harassment, and other Title IX violations are not tolerated by the University. Report any incidents to the Office for Student Rights & Resolution, (806)-742-SAFE (7233) or file a report online at titleix.ttu.edu/students. Faculty and staff members at TTU are committed to connecting you to resources on campus. Some of these available resources are: TTU Student Counseling Center, 806-742-3674 (Provides confidential support on campus.) TTU Student Counseling Center 24-hour Helpline, 806-742-5555, (Assists students who are experiencing a mental health or interpersonal violence crisis. If you call the

helpline, you will speak with a mental health counselor.) Voice of Hope Lubbock Rape Crisis Center, 806-763-7273 (24-hour hotline that provides support for survivors of sexual violence.) The Risk, Intervention, Safety and Education (RISE) Office, 806-742-2110, rise.ttu.edu (Provides a range of resources and support options focused on prevention education and student wellness.) Texas Tech Police Department, 806-742-3931 (To report criminal activity that occurs on or near Texas Tech campus.) “Office of LGBTQIA”, Student Union Building Room 201, www.lgbtqia.ttu.edu, 806.742.5433 Within the Center for Campus Life, the Office serves the Texas Tech community through facilitation and leadership of programming and advocacy efforts. This work is aimed at strengthening the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual (LGBTQIA) community and sustaining an inclusive campus that welcomes people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions.”