

**DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES  
AND CULTURAL STUDIES**  
**<http://www.mlcs.ualberta.ca>**

**2015 – 2016 Russian 111 A1- Beginner's Russian 1 (Fall Term 2015)**

Instructor: Prof. Peter Rolland  
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MTWRF 10:00—10:50  
MWF TB-1 100 TR TB -129  
Office hours: TBA or by Appt.

**Course Prerequisite:** not to be taken by students with credit in RUSS 100, or with native or near native proficiency, or with Russian 30 or its equivalents in Canada and other countries

**Course-based Ethics Approval** in place regarding all research projects that involve human testing, questionnaires, etc.?

Yes     No, not needed, no such projects approved

**Community Service Learning** component

Required    Optional     None

**Past or Representative Evaluative Course Material available**

Exam registry – Students' Union

<http://www.su.ualberta.ca/services/infolink/exam/>

- See explanations below
- Document distributed in class
- Other (please specify)
- NA

**Additional mandatory Instructional fees (approved by Board of Governors)**

Yes     No

***Course Description and Objectives:***

***Learning objectives:***

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. hold a conversation in Russian in everyday situations (e.g. meeting people, shopping, studying, situations at a restaurant or cocktail party, etc.)
2. know basic points of standard Russian grammar
3. develop reading skills
4. demonstrate competence in standard Russian writing.

### ***Course description:***

Russian 111 meets five hours per week. Every class will combine the most important elements in the language learning process such as grammar, conversational practice, vocabulary, reading, and writing. Grammar explanations will be conducted primarily in English. All other conversation will be conducted entirely in Russian.

### ***Textbooks:***

*Golosa* Book 1, 5th ed. Textbook (Robin, Evans-Romaine, Shatalina, Robin): 0131986287  
*Golosa* Book 1, 5th ed. Workbook (Robin, Evans-Romaine, Shatalina, Robin): 0131986295  
Website: <http://www.gwu.edu/~slavic/golosa>  
The textbook is to be brought to every class meeting.  
Both the textbook and workbook are to be brought to every lab session.

### ***Final course grade:***

Daily oral grade [attendance, preparation for class, oral reports, class participation] 20%

Homework [including labs, dates to be specified in the detailed syllabus] 10%

Chapter tests [5 @ 6% each] 30%

Quizzes [5 @ 2% each] 10%

Final Exam [December 15 at 9am, 2015] 30% (10% Oral; 20% Written)

. *Fall / Winter Exam Planner for the 2015-2016 academic year can be found at the following site:*  
<http://www.registrarsoffice.ualberta.ca/en/Examinations/Fall-2015-Winter-2016-Exam-Planner.aspx>

**Note:** Every day each student will be assigned a grade (0%-100%) for class participation and oral preparation for class. Written homework will be graded according to the same scale.

### ***Grading:***

Marks for assignments, tests, and exams are given in percentages, to which letter grades are also assigned, according to the table below (“**MLCS Undergraduate Grading Scale**”). The percentage mark resulting from the entire term work and examination then produces the final letter grade for the course.

**“MLCS Undergraduate Grading Scale”**

Letter	%	Points	Descriptor
A+	95-100%	4.0	<b>Outstanding:</b> Superior performance showing understanding and knowledge of the subject matter far exceeding expectations.
A	90-94%	4.0	<b>Excellent:</b> Superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
A-	86-89%	3.7	<b>Very good:</b> Clearly above average performance with complete knowledge of subject matter.
B+	82-85%	3.3	<b>Very good</b>
B	75-81%	3.0	<b>Good:</b> average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
B-	70-74%	2.7	<b>Good</b>

C+	66-69%	2.3	<b>Satisfactory:</b> Basic understanding of the subject matter
C	61-65%	2.0	<b>Satisfactory</b>
C-	58-60%	1.7	<b>Satisfactory</b>
D+	55-57%	1.3	<b>Minimal Pass:</b> Marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.
D	50-54%	1.0	<b>Minimal Pass:</b> Marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.
F	0-49%	0.0	<b>Fail:</b> Unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

N.B. Our policy in RUSS 111 is to treat each student as an individual. Our sections are fairly small. This allows you to interact with peers and instructors on a more frequent basis, to acquire language skills in a more personalized atmosphere, and thus to enhance your performance. Please remember that **20% of the final grade depends on attendance, preparation and active participation.** This margin is not an available option in heavily enrolled courses.

**Date of Deferred Final Exam (if applicable):**

*Recommended; please consult the following site:* [http://www.registrar.ualberta.ca/calendar/Regulations-and-Information/Academic-Regulation/23.5.html#23.5.6\(3\)](http://www.registrar.ualberta.ca/calendar/Regulations-and-Information/Academic-Regulation/23.5.html#23.5.6(3))

**Required Notes:**

“Policy about course outlines can be found in Section 23.4(2) of the University calendar.”

**Academic Integrity:**

“The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at <http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/en/CodesofConductandResidenceCommunityStandards/CodeofStudentBehaviour.aspx> ) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.”

**Learning and Working Environment:**

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring all students; faculty and staff are able to study and work in an environment safe and free of discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. The Department urges anyone who feels this policy has been or is being violated to:

Discuss the matter with the person whose behaviour is causing concern; o If that discussion is unsatisfactory, or there is concern that directs discussion is inappropriate or threatening, discuss it with the Chair of the Department.

For additional advice or assistance regarding this policy you may contact the student ombudservice (<http://www.ombudservice.ualberta.ca/> ).

Information about the University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures is described in UAPPOL at <https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/PoliciesProcedures/Pages/DispPol.aspx?PID=110> .

**Academic Honesty:**

**All students** should consult the information provided by the [Office of Judicial Affairs](#) regarding

avoiding cheating and plagiarism in particular and academic dishonesty in general (see the [Academic Integrity Undergraduate Handbook](#) and [Information for Students](#)). If in doubt about what is permitted in this class, ask the instructor.

**Students involved in language courses and translation courses** should be aware that on-line “translation engines” produce very dubious and unreliable “translations.”

**Students in languages courses** should be aware that, while seeking the advice of native or expert speakers is often helpful, **excessive editorial and creative help** in assignments is considered a form of “cheating” that violates the code of student conduct with dire consequences.

An instructor or coordinator who is convinced that a student has handed in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration of fairness to other students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. See the [Academic Discipline Process](#).

### ***Recording of Lectures:***

Audio or video recording of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Recorded material is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

### ***Student Accessibility Services:***

If you have special needs that could affect your performance in this class, please let me know during the first week of the term so that appropriate arrangements can be made. If you are not already registered with Specialized Support & Disability Services, contact their office immediately (2-800 SUB; Email [sasrec@ualberta.ca](mailto:sasrec@ualberta.ca); Email; phone 780-492-3381; WEB [www.ssds.ualberta.ca](http://www.ssds.ualberta.ca) ).

### ***Attendance, absences, and missed grade components:***

Regular daily attendance is essential for optimal performance in a foreign-language course. In cases of potentially excusable absences due to illness or domestic affliction, notify your instructor by e-mail within two days. Regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult sections 23.3(1) and 23.5.6 of the University Calendar. Be aware that unexcused absences will result in partial or total loss of the grade for the “attendance and participation” component(s) of a course, as well as for any assignments that are not handed-in or completed as a result.

In this course:

Attendance will be taken at every class meeting. Unexcused absences will adversely affect the student's grade.

**Students who miss more than ten hours of classes will seriously undermine their performance. Tardiness is counted as an unexcused absence.**

If medical reasons prevent you from attending a class, notify your instructor. Students are responsible for making up work that is missed due to excused absence. This work is NOT an excuse for lack of preparation upon return to class. The work to be made up must be handed in the day the student returns to class.

***Homework and policy for late assignments:***

Students should expect to spend between one and two hours on homework per night.

Homework will be assigned on a regular basis from the workbook, to be collected at the beginning of class when due. **Homework must be submitted on time; all late assignments will lose 10% the first day and 25% the second day. After two days, homework will not be accepted without a medical declaration.**

**There will be no make-up tests or quizzes under any circumstances.**

Missed tests and quizzes will be equivalent to the grade of zero. Please do not ask the instructor to make exceptions in your case.

***Quizzes, tests, exams, and grading:***

Each student receives a daily grade for class participation and, when appropriate, for written and oral homework. There will be both oral and written tests [chapter tests will be given every 1½ weeks at the completion of every chapter], including a final exam [Dec. 15 at 9am]. Short unannounced written quizzes may be given as needed. No books, notes, etc. will be permitted during any quiz, test or exam.

***Consultations:***

Students are encouraged to consult with the instructor or coordinator about any questions or problems with the course. Do not hesitate to ask for help as soon as there is a problem.

***Awards***

Each year Slavic and east European Studies distributes almost \$9,000 in awards to its best undergraduate students. Our graduate students cash in on \$ 150,000 each year in assistantships and fellowships.

***For entry level students:***

**Three awards each valued at \$500.00. The Helen Tkachenko Prize in Russian and/or Ukrainian Language** is awarded annually to a student in Beginners' Russian and/or Beginners' Ukrainian with superior

academic achievement. Recipients will be selected on the basis of academic standing. Preference will be given to students who do not have a substantial Russian or Ukrainian language background and who plan to study Russian and/or Ukrainian language at the U of Alberta in the future and have a demonstrated financial need.

***For more advanced levels:***

**Variable number to a maximum of \$1,000: The Ulean and Eudoxia Kushnirevs'ka-Tkachenko Travel Bursaries** are to be awarded annually as a travel bursary for undergraduate U of A students pursuing degree programs at the U of A in Russian and/or Ukrainian Studies. This award may be offered to a student registered in a minimum of 18 credits.

**For students continuing in Russian studies:** There are several other awards; please consult the department.

**If you would like to pursue: Minor in Russian:**

Please contact the Undergraduate Advisor in Russian:

Professor Peter Rolland

Office: 442-d Arts Building

Telephone:

E-mail: [peter.rolland@ualberta.ca](mailto:peter.rolland@ualberta.ca)

**Good Luck! Ни пуха, ни пера!**