

# RUSS 3333-001

---

## CONVERSATION AND TOPICS IN RUSSIAN CULTURE: Language and Technology



The University of Texas at Arlington  
Department of Modern Languages  
Spring 2013

MWF 1:00-1:50pm  
University Hall 07

Dr. Lonny Harrison  
Hammond Hall 221F  
(817) 272-9506  
lonnyharrison@uta.edu  
Office hours: MWF 2-3pm  
[www.uta.edu/modl/russian](http://www.uta.edu/modl/russian)

### Course goals

This course gives the opportunity to practice spoken and written Russian with the aid of multimedia while continuing to master core grammar and syntactical structures. Students use print, visual and audio materials to build vocabulary, especially those cultural references that make up much of colloquial speech in Russian. A major focus of this special topics seminar is the use of technology and media tools for practicing and mastering Russian language skills and cultural knowledge.

## Course format and expectations

The course meets three times weekly for 50 mins per session. Attendance is mandatory and is vital to your success in the course. See attendance policy below. Readings and preparation should be done prior to the class for which they are assigned. Students should be prepared to use the assigned material in conversation practice and other class activities. The primary aim of classroom interaction is to work new words, phrases, concepts and structures into your active speech and writing.

## Evaluation

Course work includes in-class activities, homework assignments, quizzes, exams, and a course project.

The distribution of grades is as follows:

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Class participation (attendance, preparation, activities) | 10% |
| Weekly quizzes  | 10% |
| Homework assignments                                      | 20% |
| Mid-term exam   | 20% |
| Final project   | 20% |
| Final exam  | 20% |

## Textbook

**Please purchase the following required textbook, available at the UTA bookstore:**

Kagan, Olga et al. *B nymu: Russian Grammar in Context*. Second Edition. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Education, Inc., 2006.

*NB:* The textbook comes with a Workbook/Lab Manual, also required.

## Course blog

<http://russ3333.wordpress.com>

The blog, as well as the course Blackboard page, will be used to keep you abreast of course topics, readings, assignments and links. Please check in with the blog regularly.

## Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students will show a demonstrative improvement in active spoken and written Russian. Above all, a dynamic increase in active vocabulary is expected on a wide variety of topics from practical, everyday language to specialized knowledge of traditional and contemporary Russian cultural life. In addition, active mastery of grammatical and syntactical structures of an intermediate level will be achieved.

## Regulations and Guidelines

**Attendance:** Regular classroom attendance is expected of all students. All classes and exams are based upon that assumption. You are responsible for acquiring class notes if you have to miss. Ultimately you will find that regular attendance is essential for a satisfactory grade performance.

**Drop Policy:** Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. Contact the Financial Aid Office for more information.

**Americans with Disabilities Act:** The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

**Academic Integrity:** All students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

Instructors may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

**Student Support Services Available:** UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at [www.uta.edu/resources](http://www.uta.edu/resources).

**Electronic Communication Policy:** The University of Texas at Arlington has adopted the University "MavMail" address as the sole official means of communication with students. MavMail is used to

remind students of important deadlines, advertise events and activities, and permit the University to conduct official transactions exclusively by electronic means. For example, important information concerning registration, financial aid, payment of bills, and graduation are now sent to students through the MavMail system. All students are assigned a MavMail account. ***Students are responsible for checking their MavMail regularly.*** Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/email/>. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, and it remains active even after they graduate from UT Arlington.

**Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as lecture, seminar, or laboratory shall be directed to complete a Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

**Final Review Week:** A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. Classes are held as scheduled during this week and lectures and presentations may be given.

**Make-up Exam Policy:** There will be NO make-up exams or quizzes. Extreme circumstances MAY be considered by Instructors discretion with valid proof provided, however is NOT guaranteed. A grade of zero will be recorded for a missed exam. Only ONE exam may be made up at the Instructors discretion.

## Course Schedule

### Расписание

#### Глава 6 «Что вы за человек?»

##### Тема 1. Как описать человека

понедельник, 14-е января

среда, 16-е января

пятница, 18-е января

##### Тема 2. Скажи мне, кто твой друг, и я скажу—кто ты

понедельник, 21-ое января -- ПРАЗДНИК; НЕТ ЗАНЯТИЙ

среда, 23-е января

пятница, 25-е января

## **Глава 1 «Давайте познакомимся!»**

### **Тема 1. *www.Личные страницы***

*понедельник, 28-е января*

*среда, 30-е января*

*пятница, 1-е февраля*

## **Глава 10 «Природа и мы»**

### **Тема 1. *Какая сегодня погода?***

### **Тема 2. *Стихийные бедствия***

*понедельник, 4-е февраля*

*среда, 6-е февраля*

*пятница, 8-е февраля*

## **Глава 4 «www.всемирная паутина»**

### **Тема 1. *Как пользоваться компьютером***

*понедельник, 11-е февраля*

*среда, 13-е февраля*

*пятница, 15-е февраля*

### **Тема 2. *Интернет***

*понедельник, 18-е февраля*

*среда, 20-е февраля*

*пятница, 22-е февраля*

## **Глава 8 «Вокруг света»**

### **Тема 1. *Вы любите путешествовать?***

*понедельник, 25-е февраля*

*среда, 27-е февраля*

*пятница, 1-е марта*

### **Тема 2. *Летние каникулы***

*понедельник, 4-е марта*

*среда, 6-е марта -- КОНТРОЛЬНАЯ РАБОТА*

*пятница, 8-е марта*

ВЕСНОЙ ПЕРЕРЫВ – 11ГО-15ГО МАРТА; НЕТ ЗАНЯТИЙ

## **Глава 9 «Городская жизнь»**

### **Тема 1. *В городе***

*понедельник, 18-е марта*

*среда, 20-е марта*

*пятница, 22-е марта*

### **Тема 2. *Мы потерялись...***

*понедельник, 25-е марта*

*среда, 27-е марта*

*пятница, 29-е марта*

**Тема 3 Дорожное движение**

*понедельник, 1-е апреля*

*среда, 3-е апреля*

*пятница, 5-е апреля*

**Глава 11 «Приятного аппетита!»**

**Тема 1. Что мы едим...**

*понедельник, 8-е апреля*

*среда, 10-е апреля*

*пятница, 12-е апреля*

**Тема 2. В гостях**

*понедельник, 15-е апреля*

*среда, 17-е апреля*

*пятница, 19-е апреля*

**Тема 3. Готовым сами или идём в ресторан?**

*понедельник, 22-е апреля*

*среда, 24-е апреля*

*пятница, 26-е апреля*

**Повторение**

*понедельник, 29-е апреля*

*среда, 1-е мая*

*пятница, 3-е мая*

**ИТОГОВЫЙ ЭКЗАМЕН – ПОНЕДЕЛЬНИК, 6ГО МАЯ, 11:00-13:30**