RUSS 4115
Russian for Social Studies

COURSE PREVIEW

Instructor
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Times and Locations

Texts
1. Marina Sabanadze Russian Practical Syntax: Simple, Compound and Complex Sentence (WEBCT). (will be used for oral home assignments - practical exercises in Russian syntax as well as in students’ presentations)
2. Marina Sabanadze Theory and Practice of Translation from Russian (WEBCT). (will be used in discussions of reading comprehension strategies in RUSS 4115)
3. Marina Sabanadze Reading Comprehension Strategies for Introductory, Intermediate and Advanced Level, selected lessons (WEBCT). (will be used for reading comprehension practical exercises)
4. Russian-English dictionary (such as Akhmanova, Smirnitskii or Oxford) (will be used as a reference for determining the meanings of unknown words during classes, tests and while preparing home assignments)
5. Pulkina, Zakhava-Nekrasova Exercises in Russian Syntax, any edition. (will be used for presentations, and as a syntax theory reference throughout the semester)

Course Description

As a prerequisite, this advanced course has a successful completion of RUSS 4020 (or a permission of the department) and is aimed at the development of Russian language skills for reading comprehension and applied purposes of translation into English of modern authentic history, social science and general interest texts, written in Russian.

The development of these skills includes an important task of understanding the Russian text in depth and rendering it into English, accurately and in full, without losing or adding any information. In order to tackle these tasks in an effective and efficient way, students need to be knowledgeable in the basic vocabulary, morphology and syntax of the Russian language, as well as reading comprehension strategies, which will allow them to productively analyse the authentic Russian text, understand its structure, style, expressive means used by author, and derive a general idea of its contents. Students also need to be well-versed in techniques of translation and particular area, about which the SL text is written (politics, economics, history etc.).

As basic vocabulary and morphology are mastered in the sequence of the first three Russian Language courses, offered at Carleton (RUSS 1010/1020, 2010/2020, 3010/3020), and by the fourth year our students are expected to be proficient in these areas, the major emphasis in RUSS 4115 will be placed on syntax and reading comprehension strategies and techniques. Once these important areas are fully mastered in the Fall semester, students will proceed in the Winter term (in RUSS 4120) to learning the techniques of translation and performing a wide range of practical translation exercises – authentic texts from Russian textbooks, documents, websites, newspapers and magazines.

Attendance at all class meetings is compulsory.
Absences (of any kind – including medical and employment-related absences) and cumulative late arrivals will reduce the in-class participation. A student must attend a minimum 80% of classes per term in order to qualify for a passing grade for the course. Failure to meet this requirement will automatically result in a failing grade.

There will be short WEEKLY class tests based on the material covered during each week. There will be WEEKLY oral assignments (translation exercises and readings). Each participant will be expected to make one presentation on the topic assigned in September of each year.

Topics for presentations:

- WEEK 2 – Types of sentences. Simple sentence in Russian.
- WEEK 3 – Subject.
- WEEK 4 – Predicate.
- WEEK 5 – Object.
- WEEK 6 – Attribute.
- WEEK 7 – Adverbial modifier (place, time).
- WEEK 8 – Adverbial modifier (purpose, reason, manner).
- WEEK 9 – Types of sentences according to their composition
- WEEK 10 – Compound sentence.
- WEEK 11 – Complex sentence
- WEEK 12 – Complex sentence

At the end of the course there will be a 3-hour in-class examination.

Evaluation:

The evaluation scheme will be as follows:

1. Class participation (based on oral home assignments and material covered in class etc.) - 30%
2. Weekly tests – 30%
3. Topic presentation – 10%
4. Final in-class 3-hour (dictionaries allowed) examination - 30%

Total: 100%

Plagiarism and cheating are considered serious instructional offenses and result in penalties and centrally maintained record of offenses.
In all written work, students must avoid plagiarism, i.e. presenting the work or ideas of another as one's own. Forms of plagiarism include copying from the work of another author without proper use of footnotes and quotation marks, using the ideas of others without acknowledging the source, extensive paraphrasing, or submitting the work of another as one's own.

Requests for Academic Accommodations

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/

Religious obligation: write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/

Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Registered PMC students are required to contact the PMC, 613-520-6608, every term to ensure that I receive your Letter of Accommodation, no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations. If you only require accommodations for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodations to PMC by the deadlines published on the PMC website: http://www2.carleton.ca PMC/new-and-current-students/dates-and-deadlines/