



**Faculty of Arts**  
**School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures**

RUSS 201  
Introductory Russian I  
Fall 2020

On-line synchronous classes: MWF 13:00-13:50 pm

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**INSTRUCTOR'S NAME:** Mark Conliffe

**OFFICE HOURS:** M 14:00-15:00 via Zoom, link and passcode in D2L

**E-MAIL:** mark.conliffe@ucalgary.ca (*e-mail policy: I will respond to e-mails within 48 hours during weekdays*)

**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** (403) 220-2163. (I prefer e-mail.)

**DESCRIPTION**

This beginner language course introduces students to the specifics of Russian pronunciation and intonation, the Cyrillic alphabet, the principal concepts of Russian language structure as they differ from English, as well as basic vocabulary. The course lays a foundation for the further study of Russian, and thus special attention is paid to the understanding and recognition of the grammatical categories unfamiliar to speakers of English, such as gender and case of nouns, conjugation of verbs, and the notion of grammatical agreement. In-class activities include oral comprehension and communication exercises and drills facilitating the acquisition of all the necessary language skills.

The course's content and format meet the standards of the Common European Framework of Languages and will thus serve as a great start on the road to certification within the framework, allowing the student a multitude of opportunities for employment all over the world that require the knowledge of Russian.

This course has no prerequisites. It may not be repeated for credit.

**OBJECTIVES**

The course aims to introduce students to the Russian sound system, basic grammatical structures, and high-frequency vocabulary, as well as the Cyrillic alphabet. The language is studied in the context of Russian culture and the Russian worldview.

**OUTCOMES**

Students will learn the principles of Russian spelling and pronunciation. They will acquire over 350 words and phrases and learn how to categorize Russian words into parts of speech by their form and meaning. They will learn the basic grammatical categories, which, together with the vocabulary, will enable them to carry out short conversations in Russian on topics relevant for everyday life, to follow simple written texts, and to express themselves in writing within the limits of the covered material. They will get glimpses into Russian history and gain familiarity with and appreciation for contemporary Russia.

**REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS (available through the bookstore)**

Rochtchina, Julia. 2014. *Sputnik. An Introductory Russian Language Course*. Part 1. TLTNetwork Inc.  
Rochtchina, Julia. 2014. *Sputnik. Workbook*. Part 1. TLTNetwork Inc.



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Sputnik website <http://www.sputniktextbook.org>

Additional materials, including Zoom meeting link, ID, and passcode posted in D2L

#### RECOMMENDED COURSE MATERIALS

Cruise, Edwina J. 1996. *English Grammar for Students of Russian*. Ann Arbor, MI: Olivia and Hill. 2nd ed. ISBN: 978-0934034210.

Coulson, Jessie, Nigel Rankin and Della Thompson. 2000. *Pocket Oxford Russian-English Dictionary* (70 000 words and phrases). Oxford: Oxford University Press. ISBN: 978-0198601500.

#### COURSE NOTES

Students with prior knowledge of Russian must consult the undergraduate advisor for Russian (Dr Olga Mladenova [omladen@ucalgary.ca](mailto:omladen@ucalgary.ca)) in order to be placed in the course suitable for their level. Students are advised that misrepresenting their level of Russian language knowledge constitutes academic dishonesty and will be dealt with as such.

In order to participate in this course, students need (1) a computer with a supported operating system and the latest security and malware updates that is equipped with (2) a microphone and (3) a webcam as well as (4) a reliable broadband internet connection. In terms of software, they need a current and updated web browser and an enabled current antivirus and/or firewall software.

Please refer to D2L for more detailed course-related information:

- important dates including class schedule and assignment due dates
- guidelines for submitting assignments
- class etiquette
- course materials

Important dates in the term

- Web-based meetings for our class will begin on Wednesday 9 September
- Last day to drop a class without financial penalty will be Thursday 17 September
- There will be no class on Thanksgiving Day Monday 12 October
- Term break (no classes) 8-14 November, our class will resume on Monday 16 November
- Last day of class meetings for our class will be Wednesday 9 December
- Last day to withdraw from a course will be Wednesday 9 December
- Final oral exam will be scheduled 12-16 December in the exam period

This course meets synchronously via Zoom on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 13:00 to 13:50.

Students should conduct themselves appropriately during Zoom class sessions.

- Interactions with classmates and instructor should be respectful.
- During class, please only use technology that is relevant to class. Do not use technology for purposes that are not relevant to class (checking e-mail and social media). Do not do work for other classes during our Zoom sessions.
- Please mute yourself, when you are not talking, in order to reduce background noise.
- If you are joining the Zoom session from a room that has others in it, please use headphones when possible.
- Only the students enrolled in the course should participate in the Zoom class session.

Regular class attendance is expected in a language course. The instructor should be informed of any reasons for prolonged absence.

Homework is expected to be submitted on time. Regular homework is of utmost importance in order to follow the pace and succeed in this course.



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**ASSESSMENT**

In-term assessment of knowledge of the Russian sound system, language structure and vocabulary (Sep 30, Oct 7, Oct 14, Nov 4, Nov 25, Dec 2, Dec 9). No aids allowed.	30%
Weekly written and oral assignments (guidelines and due dates to be posted in D2L). Aids allowed: all materials in D2L, students' course notes, the textbook, and online resources with the exception of Google translate and any other online translation services.	30%
Class and group work (expectations to be spelled out in D2L). Aids allowed: all materials in D2L, students' course notes, the textbook, and online resources with the exception of Google translate and any other online translation services.	20%
30-minute final oral exam to be scheduled in Zoom individually in Dec 12-16, 2020. No aids allowed.	20%

\* Students' final grades consist of the sum of all the graded work they completed during the course.

**GRADING SCALE**

A+: 97-100 (98.5)	B+: 80-84 (82)	C+: 65-69 (67)	D+: 52-54 (53)
A: 90-96 (93)	B: 75-79 (77)	C: 60-64 (62)	D: 50-51 (50.5)
A-: 85-89 (87)	B-: 70-74 (72)	C-: 55-59 (57)	F: 0-49

Note: The average value in brackets will be used when letter grades are transformed into percentages.

**INTEGRITY AND CONDUCT**

All members of the University community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the Statement on Principles of Conduct, and to comply with the University of Calgary Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures (available at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>).

**Academic misconduct**

1. **Plagiarism** is a serious offence, the penalty for which is an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. Plagiarism exists when:

- a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test);
- b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;
- c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or
- d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted."

Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

2. **Cheating** at tests or examinations includes but is not limited to dishonest or attempted dishonest conduct such as speaking to other candidates or communicating with them under any circumstances whatsoever; bringing into the examination room any textbook, notebook, memorandum, other written material or mechanical or electronic device not authorized by the examiner; writing an examination or part of it, or consulting any person or materials outside the confines of the examination room without permission to do so, or leaving answer papers exposed to view, or persistent attempts to read other students' examination papers.

3. **Other academic misconduct** includes, but is not limited to, tampering or attempts to tamper with examination scripts, class work, grades and/or class records; failure to abide by directions by an instructor regarding the individuality of work handed in; the acquisition, attempted acquisition, possession, and/or distribution of examination materials or information not authorized by the instructor; the impersonation of



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another student in an examination or other class assignment; the falsification or fabrication of clinical or laboratory reports; the non-authorized tape recording of lectures.

4. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of one of these offences is also guilty of academic misconduct.

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION**

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may not be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf>) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT**

Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it. Please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

**ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at: <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>.)

Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.

**FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES**

Have a question, but not sure where to start?

The Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance they may require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) and the Associate Dean (Teaching, Learning & Student Engagement), the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- Program advising
- Co-op Education Program
- Arts and Science Honours Academy
- Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403-220-3580

Email: [ascarts@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca)

Website: [arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate](https://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate).



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For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Block.

Contacts for the Students' Union Representative for the Faculty of Arts: [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca).

#### **INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES**

Devices such as laptops, palmtops and smartbooks are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

#### **SUPPORT AND RESOURCES**

Links to information that is not course-specific related to student wellness and safety resources can be found on the Office of the Registrar's website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>.