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RUSS 202.01: Intermediate Russian II

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Русский язык: Второй год
RU 202 spring 2016 LA 234

Профессор Клинт Уокер/Prof. Clint Walker

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Office Hours: Mon 10-11am, 12-1pm, Wed 10-11am in LA 330 or by appointment

Class time: M, T, W, Thurs., 11:10am-12pm

Required Course Materials: \$25

- Coursepack for RUS 202
- DVD «Снежная Королева»
- Book Николай Носов, «Фантазёры»

*The above course materials can be purchased from you instructor.

All materials must be paid for by the end of the first week of class.

I will also be lending you 2 CDs with MP3 files of some audio materials and the DVD of the film «Москва слезам не верит». *If these materials are damaged or lost, you will be expected to pay replacement costs.***

Course Objectives and Learning Goals

In the two semesters of Intermediate Russian we will strive for the following:

GRAMMAR: The primary goal of this course is to reinforce the rules of Russian grammar that were covered in First-Year Russian. Having acquired an understanding of the basics of Russian grammar (six cases and verb conjugation, etc.), you should be familiar with many of the basic concepts that will be covered and reinforced in Russian 201 and Russian 202. Your task, therefore, is to solidify your knowledge of Russian grammar, especially the cases (the declension and use of nouns, pronouns, and adjectives) and verbs (conjugation, tense, aspect, and case governance). In addition, you need to work toward a greater command of the "fine points" of Russian. Under this category I have in mind more advanced grammar concepts, such as participles and verbal adverbs, and various exceptions, idioms, and stylistic nuances.

VOCABULARY: Your vocabulary acquisition will be enhanced through the grouping of vocabulary entries around specific topics. In order to enrich your lexicon in Russian, you must study vocabulary diligently and consistently. Organization is most important: **I strongly suggest that you use flash cards and/or a vocabulary notebook to make the job easier.** For each chapter test you are expected to know all of the vocabulary that we have covered up to that

point in readings and through our activities in class. Special emphasis will be placed on the most recent vocabulary covered. Much of the vocabulary covered in RUSS 202 will be learned in authentic contexts (e.g., short texts, the DVDs «Снежная Королева» and «Москва слезам не верит», etc).

SPEAKING AND READING: This second semester of Intermediate Russian places particular emphasis on improving your ability to speak, read and write in Russian. To this end I conduct a substantial part of class in Russian and ask that you adhere to a Russian-only policy in the classroom whenever possible.

CULTURE: One of the strengths of this year-long course is that it contains readings and video material on a wide array of subjects from Russian literature, history and popular culture. These materials provide a range of subject matter to read and discuss and, as an added benefit, also introduce you to a wide spectrum of Russian culture and civilization.

As you can see from this introduction, Second-Year (Intermediate) Russian is a demanding course. During two semesters you will work to improve your abilities in each of the four areas of foreign-language competence: comprehension (listening), reading, speaking, and writing. Our primary goal is to activate and expand on the skills you learned in first-year Russian. The grammar must become second nature to you, and you will need to expand your active vocabulary rather rapidly if you are to become proficient in the language. Ultimately our aim by the end of third-year Russian (Advanced Russian) is to be ready to read, discuss, and write about authentic Russian texts in Russian in a relatively sophisticated manner. Ideally, second-year Russian should function as a bridge leading toward this goal. If **YOU** take some initiative on your own and make the extra effort, I have no doubt that you will be greatly rewarded! You are not competing against one another in the class -- all of you are working together toward a common goal. Make a concentrated effort to help one other, especially if you notice that someone is having an “off” day! With one year of hard work all of you can go from the level of a novice to the level of a student who is ready to begin reading works of Russian literature and cinema in their original language!

Course Requirements and Guidelines

Class Participation

You are expected to attend nearly every class and to contribute actively toward its success. The value and enjoyment you obtain from this class depends on your active participation and engagement in the course material. Adequate preparation will insure that you (and others)

have an enriching and enjoyable class experience. Bear in mind that class participation counts as 15% of your final grade for this class.

Attendance Policy

Please be sure to bring a letter of excuse for official or excused absences (e.g., serious illness, religious holiday, family emergency). After four unexcused absences your course grade may be lowered by one step (e.g., A- to B+). Six or more unexcused absences may result in the lowering of your grade by one full letter (e.g., A- to B-). Eight or more unexcused absences may lower your grade two full letters (e.g., A to C)! This is a performance-based course that depends on your active participation in discussion of the material.

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE: It is essential to the learning process that students treat each other and the instructor with respect. Under the Student Conduct Code, students who are found to be disruptive may be asked to leave the classroom. Disruptive behaviors may include but are not limited to:

- Using electronic communication devices, including cell phones and laptops, for purposes unrelated to ongoing class activities.
- Carrying on side conversations that are distracting to the instructor and other students.
- Verbally interrupting the class with comments or questions not relevant to the course or to the current discussion.
- Failure to participate in assigned group activities.
- Significantly interfering with the instructor's work activities during or outside of class.

Grading

The final grade for this course will be calculated according to the following formula:

Class Participation	15%
Homework, small quizzes, essays	20%
Oral exam	10%
Three comprehensive tests	30%
Final Exam	25%

GRADING SCALE

94%-100% A	88%-89% B+	78%-79% C+	60%-69% D
90%-93% A-	83%-87% B	73%-77% C	59% and below F
	80%-82% B-	70%-72% C-	

A Word about Academic Honesty

All students should practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. I expect you to adhere to the standards set forth in the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at: http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student_conduct.php

Here are some specific guidelines for this course.

1. You should complete all tests (including the final) and quizzes without consulting outside sources and without help from another individual. All work on these exercises should be solely your own.
2. Working with other students on homework can be quite helpful and is encouraged as long as you adhere to a few simple rules:
 - A. It is always permissible to consult with other students to review **general concepts** (i.e., when to use genitive case, case usage after numbers, the difference between imperfective and perfective aspect).
 - B. You may work on individual homework assignments with other students, but you need to make this a truly **collaborative** effort.
3. You may consult with native or heritage speakers only on general issues of Russian grammar. You should **not** ask a native speaker for help on individual assignments. Feel free to practice your Russian with anyone you wish, however (and I strongly encourage you to attend Russian-related functions on campus, such as Russian table, film screenings, etc.).
4. If you are unclear about whether certain forms of consultation or common work are acceptable, **please ask me**.

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students (DSS). If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance and you have not already registered with DSS, please contact DSS in Lommasson 154. I will be glad to work with you and DSS to provide an appropriate accommodation.

Your **final exam** will be on **Fri., May 13 from 10:10-12:10** in LA 234.