

Syllabus

Course Code: RUSS 101

Title: Elementary Russian I

Institute: Humanities

Department: Languages and ESL

Course Description: This course is designed for students with no previous knowledge, or very limited knowledge, of the Russian language. Strong emphasis will be placed on acquiring conversational and comprehension skills, using practical and interesting situational materials that will stress both language and culture. Grammatical patterns and syntax will be introduced with the aim that students read and write what they have learned to say and understand. **(This course is not open to native Russian speakers or to students with more than two years of Russian in high school, except by instructor approval.)**

Prerequisites:

Corequisites:

Prerequisites or corequisites:

Credits: 4

Lecture Hours: 4

Lab/Studio Hours:

Required Textbook/Materials: Online free textbook Mezhdunami

To purchase directly from the website:

<http://www.mezhdunami.org/instructors/workbooks.shtml>

Additional Time Requirements:

Additional Support/Labs:

See <https://www.brookdalecc.edu/academic-tutoring/>

Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- understand written and spoken Russian at the Novice-Low level*
- speak Russian at the Novice-Low level*
- write Russian at the Novice-Low level*
- demonstrate basic knowledge of the life and culture of Russia

*The Novice-Low level of the Proficiency Guidelines as established by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages

Course Content:

Unit 1

By the end of this unit a student will be able to:

- read and write Russian words aloud and silently for meaning
- name basic words for people, places, clothing, and everyday objects in Russian
- ask and tell where things are located and to whom they belong
- understand numbers from 0-10 and count up to 10
- understand greetings and greet people at different times of day
- understand and use greetings at different levels of formality
- make acquaintances in Russian
- use very common politeness formulas
- recognize the conventions for names in Russian and their connection with levels of formality

To accomplish these outcomes, a student will learn this information about the language:

- how the letters of the Cyrillic alphabet encode sounds
- how word stress and vowel reduction change the pronunciation of Russian words
- how Russian's system of paired vowels relates to the concept of hard and soft consonants
- how nouns are divided into a system of genders in Russian
- what levels of formality there are and how they are expressed (ты / вы , привет vs. здравствуйте)
- how the dictionary form of a noun relates to its stem
- how to make nouns plural
- how to make possessive adjectives (my, your, our, etc.) agree with nouns

Unit 2

By the end of this unit a student will be able to:

- describe your own family and understand a short description of a family
- ask and tell using the adverbs "here" and "there" where people live
- label pictures of apartment rooms and furniture and give brief descriptions
- understand Russian addresses
- understand basic descriptions (young, old, new, big, small, etc.) and use them in statements and questions about people, places and objects
- understand and tell about a person's ethnicity (nationality) or national origin of an object
- show you know basic facts about the geography and ethnic makeup of the Russian Federation

To accomplish these outcomes, a student will learn this information about the language:

- family member vocabulary
- words for adjectives and how to make them agree with nouns
- the conjugation of the verb жив-
- numbers from 0-100

- vocabulary for geographical features and parts of an address
- noun and adjectives referring to nationality, and when to use which one

Unit 3

By the end of this unit a student will be able to:

- ask and tell about activities (work, relax, stroll, read, listen, think, write, play) that you and others are doing or do regularly
- ask and tell about what you and others read and listen to, and compare that to Russian reading and listening habits
- ask about and discuss playing games and instruments
- distinguish which Russian "school-related" words and phrases refer to university and which refer to elementary through high school
- ask about and discuss what academic subjects you are studying
- ask about and discuss what languages you know, speak, read, and write, and indicate how well you can do those actions in the language
- ask about and indicate where people and things are located

To achieve these outcomes, a student will learn this information about the language:

- conjugating verbs in the present tense (1st and 2nd conjugation)
- using verb complements: direct objects, adverbs, prepositional phrases
- noun and adjective endings for direct objects (accusative case)
- locational phrases with prepositions and the prepositional case of nouns and adjectives
- в + accusative case after "play" with games
- на + prepositional case after "play" with musical instruments
- when to use по-русски and when to use русский язык when talking about language abilities

Department Policies:

- A student must attain at least a C average (70%) on tests in order to receive a C in the class. Homework points will not raise a D grade.
- A student who receives less than a C as a final grade may not continue to the next level.
- Tests are subject to review by the department.
- If a student's aural or oral level is too low and impedes comprehension significantly, the instructor may require the student to take a conversation course before moving on to the next level of ESL.
- Incomplete: An Incomplete (INC) may be assigned at the discretion of the course faculty for students who have extraordinary circumstances of documented hardship or emergency. These are students who have been actively participating throughout the term and have completed a significant portion of the course in a satisfactory manner but approach the end of the term without completing all assignments. The following process should be followed:
 - The student contacts the faculty member with the appropriate documentation.

- The incomplete contract is completed by the faculty member and must be signed by both the faculty member and the student.
- Students will be notified by email to check their grades and to speak to their counselor about the impact of the incomplete.
- All course work should be completed by the twenty-first (21st) day after the end of the current semester or term, exclusive of official College closings.
- When a student completes the work satisfactorily, the faculty member will submit a change of grade.
- If work is not completed satisfactorily, the Registrar will change the INC to an F. Students will be notified by e-mail.
- For the purpose of calculating academic standing, the INC will be treated as an F.

Academic Honesty: Cheating and plagiarism are serious offenses and have serious consequences. Please read the Academic Honesty section in your course information in Canvas.

Grading Standard:

Tests (6)

NOTE: for online classes, at least 2 tests will be on Lockdown Browser.

- Test on Unit 1.1 **20 points**
- Test on Unit 1.2 **20 points**
- Test on Unit 2.1 **20 points**
- Test on Unit 2.2 **20 points**
- Test on Unit 3.1 **20 points**
- Test on Unit 3.2 **20 points**

Oral Quizzes (6) **120 points**

Final Exam **30 points**

Homework **140 points**

Special Project **30 points**

Participation / Discussion **60 points**

Total Points **500 points**

Final Grading Scale

- A (92-100%)
- A - (90-91%)
- B+ (88-89%)
- B (82-87%)
- B - (80-81%)
- C + (78-79%)
- C (70-77%)
- D (61-69%)
- F (60% and lower)

College Policies:

As an academic institution, Brookdale facilitates the free exchange of ideas, upholds the virtues of civil discourse, and honors diverse perspectives informed by credible sources. Our College values all students and strives for inclusion and safety regardless of a student's disability, age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, country of origin, immigration status, religious affiliation, political orientation, socioeconomic standing, and veteran status. For additional information, support services, and engagement opportunities, please visit www.brookdalecc.edu/support.

For information regarding:

- Academic Integrity Code
- Student Conduct Code
- Student Grade Appeal Process

Please refer to the [Student Handbook](#) and [Catalog](#).

Notification for Students with Disabilities:

Brookdale Community College offers reasonable accommodations and/or services to persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who wish to self-identify must contact the Accessibility Services Office at 732-224-2730 (voice) or 732-842-4211 (TTY) to provide appropriate documentation of the disability and request specific accommodations or services. If a student qualifies, reasonable accommodations and/or services, which are appropriate for the college level and are recommended in the documentation, can be approved.

Mental Health:

24/7/365 Resources:

- Monmouth Medical Center Psychiatric Emergency Services at **(732) 923-6999**
- 2nd Floor Youth Helpline – Available to talk with you about any problem, distress, or hardship you are experiencing. Call or text at **888-222-2228** or visit the website at <https://www.2ndfloor.org/>

Faculty Counselors:

- Students who need to make an appointment with a faculty counselor can do so by calling 732-224-1822 (non-emergency line) during business hours. Faculty counselors are licensed mental health professionals who can assist students and refer them to other mental health resources.

Diversity Statement:

Brookdale Community College fosters an environment of inclusion and belonging. We promote a safe and open culture, encourage dialogue respecting diverse perspectives informed by credible sources, and uphold the virtues of civil discourse. We celebrate all identities with the understanding that ultimately, diversity, equity, and inclusion cultivate belonging and make us a stronger Brookdale community.

**The syllabus is intended to give student guidance in what may be covered during the semester and will be followed as closely as possible. However, the faculty member reserves the right to modify, supplement, and make changes as the need arise.*