Class code: RUSSN-UA 9007-001

Instructor Details
Tatiana Štehlová
tatstehlova@gmail.com, ts51@nyu.edu
00420 737821242
Professors' Office, the 3rd floor
NYU, Male nam.2
Monday 12:30-1:30 or to be arranged via e-mail

Class Details
Russian Advanced I
Days and time TBA
Location to be confirmed.

Prerequisites
Russian Intermediate II or equivalent

Class Description
The course combines the traditional grammatical approach with a communicational, interactive method. Since the size of the classes is usually small we can put a great emphasis on improving speaking in Russian on various subjects. Students will be given short topics to talk about at the beginning of every lesson and most written essays will have to be presented orally in class.

The class also focuses on improving your writing skills. That is why the students are expected to keep a diary in Russian and write several compositions during the course. The students will also read several Russian short stories in original which will be discussed in class. We will review familiar grammar and study some advanced grammatical structures. The greater emphasis is also put on and broadening your vocabulary and the students will do considerable amount of vocabulary exercises as part of the home assignments. Several short lectures on various aspects of Russian culture and history will be given during the course and we will watch two Russian films that would be followed by the discussions.

Russian Prague as a living classroom. This class takes advantage of the multitude of Russian cultural events that Prague offers. Several trips to performances including opera, ballet and classical concerts are arranged as a part of the course. Various fieldtrips are undertaken to allow students to get to know Russian culture more intimately.

The schedule given below might be slightly changed if more time is needed for certain topics or more supplementary material will be provided if we proceed faster.

Language lessons, listening to audio materials, video resources and film viewing; fieldtrips including trips to Museum of Modern Art, Russian ballet, Russian Opera and a concert of
**Russian classical music.**

**Desired Outcomes:** By the end of this course the students will have made progress towards the following goals:

- Students will improve their communication skills in Russian.
- Students will be confident in writing in Russian on various topics.
- Students will get some knowledge and experience of reading Russian Literature in the original.
- Students will be exposed to several aspects of Russian culture.

**Assessment Components:**

| Class attendance, participation and preparation | 15 points |
| Diary, Compositions, Home assignments | 20 points |
| Vocabulary and Grammar Quizzes | 10 points |
| Oral presentations | 10 points |
| Reading and Comprehension | 10 points |
| Midterm Exam | 15 points |
| Final Exam | 20 points |

**Class attendance, participation and preparation:** Students should actively participate in the class and should be aware that the minimum time required for personal study and homework should at least equal the number of class hours per week.

**Diary in Russian:** Please buy a notebook (diary). The number of the entries and the length of each entry are up to the student but every week something has to be written and the diary has to be submitted each Tuesday and will be returned to the student on Thursday. The entries will be corrected but NOT GRADED, **students are free to experiment and use what they learn creatively.**

**Compositions:** There will be one shorter composition (about 250 words) and four longer compositions (about 400 words).

**Vocabulary and Grammar Quizzes:** There will be regular short vocabulary quizzes. The dates of quizzes and the topics will be announced in advance.

**Oral presentations:** There will be three oral presentations each for 5 minutes and four longer presentations for 10 minutes. Most presentations will be based on written compositions. **Students should not read their presentations.**

**Reading and Comprehension:** There will be five long short stories and one small short story and one extract to read: Александр Пушкин (15 pages), Николай Гоголь (30 pages), Лев Толстой (50 pages), Антон Чехов (10 and 15 pages), Виктория Токарева (3 pages), Михаил Булгаков (2 pages). The students will be given about 3-4 weeks for reading long stories. There will be regular consultation sessions on reading in progress.

**Midterm and Final Exam:** Each exam will consist of two parts. Oral part: presentation of an essay written at home (10 minutes). Written part: vocabulary and grammar test in class (60
minutes) and submission of an essay written at home (about 500 words). The topics of the essay will be given in advance.

Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.

Assessment Expectations

Grade A: Excellent work.
Grade B: Very good work.
Grade C: Satisfactory work.
Grade D: Passable work.

Grade conversion

A = 94-100
A- = 90-93
B+ = 87-89
B = 84-86
B- = 80-83
C+ = 77-79
C = 74-76
C- = 70-73
D+ = 67-69
D = 65-66
F = below 65

NYU Prague aims to have grading standards and results similar to those that prevail at Washington Square. At the College of Arts and Sciences, roughly 39% of all final grades are in the B+ to B-range, and 50% in the A/A+ range.

We have therefore adopted the following grading guideline: in any non-Stern course, class teachers should try to ensure that no more than 50% of the class receives an A or A+.

A guideline is not a curve. A guideline is just that—it gives an ideal benchmark for the distribution of grades towards which we work.

NYU Prague aims to have grading standards and results similar to those that prevail at
Washington Square. At the College of Arts and Sciences, roughly 39% of all final grades are in the B+ to B-range, and 50% in the A/A+ range.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendance Policy</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Each unexcused absences will result in your final grade being reduced by 3%. Absences only for medical reasons will be excused. To obtain an excused absence, you are obliged to supply either a doctor's note or corroboration of your illness by a member of the housing staff (either an RA or a Building Manager). Absences due to travel will not be excused.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Late Submission of Work</th>
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<td>Late work will affect your final grade.</td>
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<th>Plagiarism Policy</th>
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<tr>
<th>Required Text(s)</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>The course pack in two parts will be provided at the beginning of the semester.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>Supplemental Texts(s) (not required to purchase as copies are in NYU-L Library)</th>
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<tr>
<th>Internet Research Guidelines</th>
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<td>A list of recommended websites will be given in class.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Additional Required Equipment</th>
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<tr>
<td>Your own copy of Russian-English/English-Russian Dictionary would be useful, but not compulsory.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Session 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unit 1. Part 1.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Theme</strong>: Introduction of the course and The Course Pack.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Grammar Topics</strong>: Revision; active and passive constructions, pages 24-29.</td>
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**Homework assignment**
- **To read a short story by Александр Пушкин** (15 pages). See the text with the vocabulary and the exercises in *The Course Pack, Part II, session 1.1.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 2</th>
<th>Thursday, September 5</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unit 1. Part 2.</td>
<td><strong>Work in class</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Discussion</strong>: The dialogue Давайте обсудим, pages 10-12, the text Альфред Нобель - человек контрастов, pages 15-17 and the interview, page 19.</td>
<td><strong>Listening</strong>: At the University, The Course Pack, Part II, session 2.1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grammar Topics</strong>: The participles in the past and present, pages 31-35 and 37-40.</td>
<td><strong>Word-formation</strong>: От слова к слову, pages 43-44.</td>
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**Homework assignment**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 3</th>
<th>Tuesday, September 10</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unit 2. Part 1.</td>
<td><strong>Work in class</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Discussion</strong>: The dialogue Давайте обсудим, pages 48-49; the life of a composer Михаил Глинка, and poem by Александр Пушкин.</td>
<td><strong>Listening</strong>: A short piece by Михаил Глинка.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Grammar Topics</strong>: Reflexive verbs, pages 69-77; short forms of the adjectives, pages 80-81.</td>
<td><strong>Consultation</strong>: The reading assignment of Russian literature in original.</td>
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</table>

**Homework assignment**
- **Text book**: grammar exercises 18, 19, 20, 23, pages 77-79. To read a text Александр Пушкин: Рождение поэта, pages 51-54 [3 pages], to do 3.1, 3.2, pages 54-55. To memorize a poem by Александр Пушкин on page 184.

**Diaries in Russian are due for submitting.**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Session 4</th>
<th>Thursday, September 12</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unit 2. Part 2.</td>
<td><strong>Work in class</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Discussion</strong>: Мир причерноморья, page 93.</td>
<td><strong>Grammar Topics</strong>: Verbs of motion, revision of prefixes, pages 81-87.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Word-formation**: От слова к слову, page 88. | **Homework assignment**
- **Text book**: to do the grammar exercises 34, 35, 36, 37, pages 87-88.
- **To write a composition** (400 words) about a famous Russian composer, musician, singer, for ideas and
**Session 5**  
Tuesday, September 17

**Russian Classical Music.**

**Work in class**  
*Theme:* Short lecture about Russian Classical Music.  
*Presentations:* Students' oral presentations about a Russian composer/musician.  
*Listening:* Various extracts from Russian opera and ballet.  

**Homework assignment**  
To revise the grammar in Units 1 and 2 for the Quiz.

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**Session 6**  
Thursday, September 19

**A Russian short story by Александр Пушкин.**

**Grammar Quiz on Units 1 and 2.**

**Homework assignment:**  
To read a short story by Николай Гоголь (30 pages). See the text with the vocabulary and the exercises in *The Course Pack, Part II, session 1.2.*

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**Session 7**  
Tuesday, September 24

**Russian film.**

**Homework assignment:**  
To write an essay (about 400 words) about the architecture of Saint. Petersburg and please be prepared to talk about your essay in class (10 minutes).

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**Session 8**  
Thursday, September 26

**Saint. Petersburg: its history and architecture.**

**Work in class**  
*Discussion:* Russian film, its characters and the themes.  
*Listening:* A song about St. Petersburg.  
*Themes and topics:* A short lecture about St. Petersburg, its history and architecture.  
*Presentations:* Students' oral presentations about St. Petersburg.  
*Consultation:* The reading assignment of Russian literature in original.

**Homework assignment:**  
*Text book:* Word-formation, exercises 1, 2, 3, 4, page 137.

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**Session 9**  
Friday, September 27  
(Make up for Tuesday classes)

**Fieldtrip to the Museum of Modern Art, the section of the International art (Russian painters).**

**Homework assignment**  
To write an essay (250 words) about any Russian artist and his paintings we have seen in the museum. Please be prepared to present your essay in class (5 min).

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**Session 10**  
Tuesday, 

**Russian Art**  
**Work in class**  

October 1

*Presentation*: Students’ oral presentations about Russian artists from the Prague Museum of Modern Art.
*Lecture*: Russian Avant-garde art of the turn of the twentieth century.
*Video*: A short video about a Russian Avant-garde painter.
*Listening*: Visiting an Antique shop, The Course Pack, Part II, session 2.3.

**Homework assignment**
*Text book*: To read the text about Михаил Ломоносов for October 9, pages 108-111 (2 pages), to do 3.1, 3.2, pages 111-112.

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Session 11
Thursday, October 3

A Russian short story by Николай Гоголь.

**Homework assignment**
*Text book*: To read the dialogue *Давайте обсудим*, pages 94-96 (2 pages) and to do 3.1, 3.2, page 97.
*Word-formation*: От слова к слову, exercises 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, pages 138-139.
To read a short story by Лев Толстой (50 pages). See the text with vocabulary and exercises in The Course Pack, Part II, session 1.3.

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Session 12
Tuesday, October 8


**Work in class**
*Discussion*: The dialogue *Давайте обсудим*, pages 94-96.
*Listening*: At a job interview, The Course Pack, Part II, session 2.4.
*Grammar Topics*: Aspects of verbs, formation of the forms, usage in the imperative, pages 113-123.

**Homework assignment**
*Text book*: A text about Лев Ландай, pages 100-103 (2 pages), to do 3.1, 3.2, page 104; grammar exercises: 14, 15, 16, 19, 21, pages 120-123.
*The topics for the midterm essay (about 500 words) will be announced.*

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Session 13
Thursday, October 10

Unit 3. Part 2.

**Work in class**
*Discussion*: A text about Лев Ландай, pages 100-103 and Твои возможности, человек, page 140.
*Grammar Topics*: Time expressions in simple and complex sentences, pages 124-130; the gerund, formation and usage, pages 132-133.

**Homework assignment**

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Session 14
Tuesday, October 15

Word formation and vocabulary building. Spelling rules.

**Work in class**
*Grammar*: Revision of Russian Spelling rules.
*Word formation*: Various patterns.

**Homework assignment**
The Course Pack, Part II, session 3.1.

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Diaries in Russian are due for submitting.
Session 15
Thursday, October 17
Fieldtrip to the Russian old and new cemeteries in Prague.

**Homework assignment:**
To write a composition (400 words) about a chosen period of Russian History we have discussed and 'have seen' on the field trip. Please be prepared to present your essay in class (10 minutes).

Diaries in Russian are due for submitting.

Session 16
Tuesday, October 22
Unit 4. Тема 1.

**Work in class**
Discussion: The dialogue Давайте обсудим, pages 142-144 and the text Зеленый крест, pages 147-148.

**Homework assignment**
Text book: To read two texts, pages 151-153 and 155-157 (4 pages); grammar exercises 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, pages 165-167.

Session 17
Thursday, October 24
Unit 4. Тема 2.

**Work in class**
Listening: Visiting a farm, The Course Pack, Part II, session 2.4.

**Homework assignment**

Diaries in Russian are due for submitting.

Please keep the diary in Russian.

Session 18
Tuesday, October 29
Russian film.

**Homework assignment:**
To prepare the oral presentation about one character of your choice (5 minutes).
Text book: To revise grammar in Unit 4; word-formation, pages 138-139.

Session 19
Thursday, October 31
Revision

**Work in class**
Revision: Grammar and the preparation to the midterm exam.
Discussion and consultation: Midterm essay.
Consultation: The reading assignment of Russian literature in original.

Diaries in Russian are due for submitting.

Session 20
Tuesday,
A Russian short story by Лев Толстой.
November 5

**Homework assignment**

*To read two short stories by Антон Чехов (10 pages and 12 pages). See the texts with vocabulary and exercises in The Course Pack Part II.*

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**Session 21**

**Thursday, November 7**

**Midterm Exam**

*Oral part:* Presentation of your Midterm Essay (10 minutes).
*Written part:* Grammar and Vocabulary Test on Units 1-3.
*Midterm Essay to submit.*

**Homework assignment for the Fall Break:**

*Text book:* To read the dialogue Давайте обсудим, pages 142-144 (2 pages), to do 3.1, 3.2, pages 145-146, the text Великий крест, pages 147-148 (1 page) and to do 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, pages 149-150. All due on November 1.

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**Fall Break**

November 11-15

Please keep the diaries in Russian

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**Session 22**

**Tuesday, November 19**

**Russian history and politics.**

*Work in class*

*Themes and topics:* Russian history and contemporary politics.
*Presentation:* Students' oral presentations on a chosen period of Russian history.
*Discussion and presentation:* The film and the characters in it.
*Listening:* News about the political situation on TV The Course Pack, Part II, session 2.5.
*Consultation:* The reading assignment of Russian literature in original.

**Homework assignment**

*Text book:* To read the dialogue Давайте обсудим, pages 178-180 (2 pages), and an extract from Мастер и Маргарита by Михаил Булгаков, pages 198-200 (2 pages) and to do 3.1, 3-2, pages 200-201.

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**Session 23**

**Thursday, November 21**

**Unit 5. Part 1.**

*Work in class*

*Discussion:* The dialogue Давайте обсудим, pages 178-180 and an extract from Мастер и Маргарита by Михаил Булгаков, pages 198-200.
*Grammar Topics:* Expression of purpose and intention in simple and complex sentences, pages 208-211.

**Homework assignment**

*Text book:* A Russian short story Один кубик надежды by Виктория Токарева, pages 188-191 (3 pages), to do the exercises 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, pages 192-193; grammar exercises 1, 2, 3, 11, 15, pages 207-213.

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**Session 24**

**Friday, November 22**

(Make up for Thursday classes)

**Unit 5. Part 2.**

*Work in class*


**Homework assignment**
To read a text on Moscow (4 pages), The course pack Part II, session 2.7.

Diaries in Russian are due for submitting

Session 25
Tuesday, November 26

Москва: its history and architecture.

Work in class
Presentation: A lecture about Moscow.
Video: A documentary film in Russian about Moscow.

Homework assignment
To revise grammar in Unit 5 for the Grammar Quiz.
To write an essay about Moscow (400 words) on a topic of your choice: history, museums, metro, architecture, churches, the Kremlin (10 minutes).

Diaries in Russian are due for submitting.
The topics for the final essay (about 500 words) will be announced.

Session 26
Thursday, November 28

Two Russian short stories by Антон Чехов.

Work in class
Grammar Quiz on Unit 5.
Presentation: The essays about Moscow.
Discussion: Two short stories by Антон Чехов.

Session 27
Tuesday, December 3

The Russian Tea.

Work in class
Video Советы молодым and the discussion.
The Russian Tea.

Session 28
Thursday, December 5
(last day of classes)

Revision of the grammar for the Final Exam.
Grammar Revision.

FINAL EXAM

Session 29
Tuesday, December 10
Final exam

Oral part: Presentation of the Final Essay (10 min).
Written part: Grammar and Vocabulary Test on Units 1-5.
Final Essay to be submitted

Session 30
Thursday,

Consultation after the final exam.
Consultation and the explanation of the corrections of the final essay and the written part of the final