UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH  
Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures  
RUSS 1420: Kinotalk (Fourth-Year Russian I)

Tuesdays/Thursdays 11.00-12.15  
CL 340  
Student coordinator: Ellen Kantor elk28+@pitt.edu

Nancy Condee condee@pitt.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This fourth-year Russian course provides extensive practice in oral communication at the advanced level. It will be organized around cinema of the Soviet and post-Soviet era, in all likelihood to include work by Mikhailov, Bodrov, and Balabanov. Key critical material (reviews, commentaries, etc.) in the original language will also be included.

ATTENDANCE
Students are expected to attend all classes. More than three unexcused absences will affect the final grade. More than five will result in failure, regardless of the student's prior standing. Excused absences, such as illness or death in the immediate family, must be documented. Absent students are responsible for acquiring relevant class notes and handouts from fellow students. Work assigned in a student's absence will not be given a later deadline without prior agreement with the instructor.

WRITTEN WORK
Quizzes on the assigned reading will be given without notice.

EVALUATION
Participants will be graded on the basis of the following items:
- Oral work (preparation and in class) 30%
- Written work 20%
- Independent initiatives 10%*
- Quizzes 10%
- Mid-term 10%
- Test 20%

*Note: The entry "Independent initiatives" assesses student efforts to learn about a film's context and critical debates independent of the assignments. It is the student's responsibility to demonstrate (in class discussion, in written work, etc.) that he or she has from time to time taken the initiative to consult independent film sources. For a head's start, see the following websites:

- **English-language sources:**
  - International Movie Database http://www.imdb.com/

- **Russian-language sources:**
  - Animator http://www.animator.ru/
  - Izkusstvo kino http://www.kinoart.ru/main.html
  - Kinovedcheskie zapiski http://www.kinozapiski.ru/
  - Seans http://www.seance.ru/

DISABILITY POLICY
If a student has a disability that requires special teaching, testing accommodations, or other classroom modifications, he or she must notify the instructor and the Office of Disabled Student Services (DDS) no later than the Add/Drop date (Friday, 5 September). The student may be asked to provide documentation of the disability to determine the appropriateness of accommodations. To notify DDS, call 648-7890 (Voice or TDD) to schedule an appointment. The office is located in 216 William Pitt Union.
**TEXT** Students will receive handouts and other printed material, but the course will structure itself principally around a single textbook, available in the bookstore.


**SCHEDULE** (assignments due on the date indicated)

**WEEK 1**
Tuesday, 26 August
Syllabus

Thursday, 28 August
*Kinotalk*, Chapter 1

**WEEK 2**
Tuesday, 2 September
Introduction, vocabulary, discussion, analysis

Thursday, 4 September
Cinema criticism, context, questionnaire, summary

**WEEK 3**
Tuesday, 9 September
Introduction, vocabulary, discussion, analysis

Thursday, 11 September
Cinema criticism, context, questionnaire, summary

**WEEK 4**
Tuesday, 16 September
Introduction, vocabulary, discussion, analysis

Thursday, 18 September
Cinema criticism, context, questionnaire, summary

**WEEK 5**
Tuesday, 23 September
Introduction, vocabulary, discussion, analysis

Thursday, 25 September
Cinema criticism, context, questionnaire, summary

**WEEK 6**
Tuesday, 30 September
Introduction, vocabulary, discussion, analysis

Thursday, 2 October
Cinema criticism, context, questionnaire, summary

**WEEK 7**
Tuesday, 7 October
Introduction, vocabulary, discussion, analysis

Thursday, 9 October
Cinema criticism, context, questionnaire, summary

WEEK 8

**Tuesday, 14 October: no class (Fall Break)**

**Thursday, 16 October**
Mid-term examination

WEEK 9

Tuesday, 21 October
Introduction, vocabulary, discussion, analysis

Thursday, 23 October
Cinema criticism, context, questionnaire, summary

WEEK 10

Tuesday, 28 October
Introduction, vocabulary, discussion, analysis

Thursday, 30 October
Cinema criticism, context, questionnaire, summary

WEEK 11

Tuesday, 4 November
Introduction, vocabulary, discussion, analysis

Thursday, 6 November
Cinema criticism, context, questionnaire, summary

WEEK 12

Tuesday, 11 November
Introduction, vocabulary, discussion, analysis

Thursday, 13 November
Cinema criticism, context, questionnaire, summary

WEEK 13

Tuesday, 18 November
Introduction, vocabulary, discussion, analysis

Thursday, 20 November
Cinema criticism, context, questionnaire, summary (Ellen)

WEEK 14

Tuesday, 25
Kinotalk, Chapter 13. Conclusion

Thursday, 27: NO CLASS (Thanksgiving)
WEEK 15

Tuesday, 2 December
   Course review

Thursday, 4 December
   Test