Spring 2008

Instructor: Yuliya Basina
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Office: Cathedral of Learning 1433
Office Hours:
M W 11:00-11:40am
T 3-3:40 PM
(or by appointment)

Class meets: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 10:00-10:50 AM CL 136

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Fourth Year Russian II is a continuation of a year-long course designed to help students to master their Russian. The objectives of this part of the course are to further develop students' ability to independently use their knowledge of Russian grammar, syntax, and style with a special focus on the translation. In addition to regular readings, discussions, and lectures, we will be working on the development of basic translation skills, both written and oral. Each student will be responsible for 3 oral presentations (on the topics of the last three chapters of Russian in Use textbook), 6 translation assignments (3 – from Russian to English and 3 – from English to Russian – all graded as a part of the HW), and the final translation project (English to Russian).

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Web materials:
In order to prepare for oral presentations and translation projects, students might want to use the following Russian Media sites:
   2) ITAR Tass: http://www.itar-tass.com/
   3) Argumenty i Fakty: http://www.aif.ru/
   4) Pravda: http://www.pravda.ru/
   5) Izvestia: http://www.izvestia.ru/
   6) Kommersant: http://www.kommersant.ru/
   7) Nezavisimaja: http://www.ng.ru/
Other media sources in Russian are available in SMI Ru: http://www.smi.ru/
The link to the Russian Radio: http://audio.rambler.ru/radio.html
**EVALUATION AND GRADES:**
Class participation and homework: 15%
3 Oral presentations (5% each): 15%
Quizzes: 10%
Midterm Examination: 20%
Final Examination: 20%
Final translation project: 20%

TOTAL: 100%

The following grading standards will be used in assigning grades in this course:

93-100 A 80-82 B- 68-69 D+
90-92 A- 78-79 C+ 65-67 D
88-89 B+ 73-77 C 64-54 E
83-87 B 70-72 C- 53 and below F

**ATTENDANCE AND ABSENCES:**
This class meets three times a week. Students are expected to attend all classes and be on time. Students will receive daily grades for each meeting of the course. Attendance will be recorded each class.

More than three unexcused absences will affect the final grade. More than seven will result in automatic failure of the course, regardless of the student's prior standing. Excused absences, such as illness or death in the immediate family, must be documented. Work assigned in a student's absence will not be given a later deadline without prior agreement with the instructor.

If you miss a class it is your responsibility to find out from your classmates what important information was announced or passed out during the session you missed. You are also responsible for obtaining the copy of the article assigned for the next class. Therefore, you should exchange e-mail addresses or phone numbers with another student in the class or contact me through e-mail or come to my office hours to review material.

**ASSIGNMENTS AND COURSE WORK:**
By the end of each week, students will receive a detailed schedule and H/W assignments for the following three sessions. Students are expected to do their oral and written homework regularly. The written homework should be submitted to the instructor at the beginning of each class. Later homework will not be excepted unless some extenuating circumstances (sickness, family emergency and etc.). Students will get daily grades for their homework assignments and class participation.
Oral presentations (about 5-7 minutes each) will be followed by group discussions. Text passages for written translations will be distributed during the semester.

The final translation project (3-5 pages -- printed out, double spaced, 1" margins, 12p. Times New Roman) has to be submitted during the last week of classes (April 20). Students will choose the topic and discuss it with the instructor. The main goal of this assignment is to help students to use their Russian and their translation skills in the area of their professional interests. The topic has to be selected no later than by February 2. The first draft is due during the week of March 16.

EXAMINATIONS AND QUIZZES:

There will be two in-class examinations during the semester. The Midterm exam will be administered on Friday, March 7; the date for the Final exam will be announced later. Except for medically excused absences, there will be no make-up exams. Quizzes will be based on materials either covered in class during the preceding meeting or contained in the homework for that meeting. Students who take an unexcused absence on the day of any quiz will receive an automatic “F” for that quiz; students with an excused absence for the day of any quiz will not be penalized. No quizzes will be re-scheduled and there will be no make-up quizzes.

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) as early as possible in the semester. 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.

PLAGIARISM:

As “Student Obligations and Adjudication” (University Policy 02-03-03) states, “students have an obligation to exhibit honesty, and to respect the ethical standard of his (their) chosen profession in carrying out (their) academic assignments”. According to the University of Pittsburgh’s policy, a student “violates this obligation” if he/she: “a) presents as one’s own, for academic evaluation, the ideas, representations, or works of another person or persons without customary and proper acknowledgement of sources; b) submits the work of another person in a manner which represents the work to be one’s own; c) knowingly permits one’s work to be submitted by another person without the instructor’s authorization”.

The penalties for academic misconduct like plagiarism can be very severe. The immediate consequence of plagiarism will be receiving a grade zero for the particular assignment and can lead to an F for the course.

For the references, please, check the Academic Integrity Code, School of Arts and Sciences online: http://www.fcas.pitt.edu/academicintegrity.html