香港中文大學 CUHK | 語言學及現代語言系 Department of Linguistics and Modern Languages

Term 2, 2025-26

Course Code & Title:	**RUSS 1000** **Russian I**	
Language of Instruction: Russian / English		**Units:** 3 units

Course Description

This course invites students without prior knowledge of Russian to explore the basic features of the Russian language. Supported by audio-visual aids, students will receive intensive practice in spoken and written Russian through interactive class work, homework and online exercises. They will become familiar with basic concepts of Russian grammar and learn how to interact in some simple everyday situations.

Learning Outcomes

After taking this course, students are expected to:

- present basic personal information & introduce themselves.
- express their opinion and give arguments.
- be able to use Russian language in order to provide basic needs while traveling in any Russian speaking country.
- comprehend major linguistic features of Russian language.

Course Syllabus

Unit of the book. Situations & topics	**Speaking & speech patterns**	**Grammar of the lesson**	**Cultural awareness**
Getting acquainted. (Hand-outs)	Call a person, introduce yourself, address others. Basic grammatical constructions in Russian language.	Learning basic phonetic rules & alphabet.	The Cyrillic alphabet. The etiquette of meeting people.
Knowing ach other. (Hand-outs)	Introducing your occupation. Speaking about origin and native language.	Intonation constructions in Russian language. Gender (masc, fem, neuter).	The concept of the gender in Russian language.
Unit 1. Learning the occupations.	Speaking about your occupation, making a dialogue.	Singular-plural of nouns. Revision of basic phonetic rules & alphabet.	Review of media in Russian.

Unit 2.1 Speaking about your belongings.	Leaning to express your opinion.	Constructions: 'What do you think? – I think that…' Making dialogues, agree & disagree.	The family and family traditions in Russia.
Unit 2.2 Introducing family.	Introducing your family members. Speaking about what is important.	Possessive pronouns: mine \ yours.	The concept of possession and its mythological background.
Unit 3.1 Learning about the verbs.	'What do I have'. Introduction to the verbs and conjugation.	'I have ' – taking about possessing things.	Russian as the language of verbs.
Unit 3.2 Learning the verbs of group 1	Essential verbs of everyday life.	Numerals. Conjugation of verbs.	Everyday life in Russia. Review of media in Russia.
Unit 4.1 Speaking about the food.	Food routine. Menu and vocabulary for food. Going to the restaurant.	Russian verbs (Conjugation type 1).	Food customs and table etiquette.
Unit 4.2 Introducing your day.	Speaking about your daily routine.	Days of the week. Parts of the day.	Daily routine in Russia.
Unit 5. Expressing the time.	Speaking about time.	Verbs of going (Verbs of motion).	Holiday traditions.

Course Components							
Teaching Mode							
On-site face-to-face interactive classwork: 100%							
Learning Activities							
Interactive classwork[1] (hr) in /	out class	Extra-curricular activities (hr) in /	out class	Web-based teaching (hr) in /	out class	Homework / Self-study (hr) in /	out class
3		0.5		1		3	
M		O		M		M	

M = Mandatory / O = Optional

[1] Interactive classwork focuses on student-centered activities such as pair work, group work, role-playing and student-teacher interaction.

Assessment Scheme		
Task nature	**Description**	**Percentage**
Participation and oral expression	Arriving on time, active contributions during class (Q & A, dialogues, translations).	15%
2 Quizzes	Two small tests on the content covered in previous classes. Details will be given in class by the teacher.	30% (15% for each quiz)
Written Expression	One in-class essay. Details will be given in class by the teacher. Notes and textbook not allowed.	25%
Oral exam	A. Presentation of one of the given topics. B. Answering the teacher's question on the same topic. Details will be given in class by the teacher. Notes and textbook not allowed.	30%

Notes:
You are required to arrive on time.
You are required to attend at least **75%** of the class. Treat 75% attendance as the minimum, not the maximum.
The success of your own learning will highly depend on your attendance.
Should you miss more than 25% of the class, you will automatically fail the course.
Unauthorised absence from any assessment will result in grade F for that assessment.
For missed tests, make-up tests will not be arranged unless the student can provide an official supporting document, such as a medical certificate.
It is upon the teacher´s discretion to mark homework which was submitted late.
If you are unable to attend, get informed about what content and homework you missed and make it up yourself.

Assessment Rubrics				
Grade Descriptors:				
A	**B**	**C**	**D**	**F**
Outstanding performance in all learning outcomes and meeting all specified assessment requirements. Can fully understand and appropriately use familiar everyday expressions and basic phrases aimed at the fulfilment of needs of a concrete type. Can ask and answer questions about personal details in a competent way. Can interact in areas of immediate need or on familiar topics appropriately.	Good performance in all learning outcomes. Can understand and mostly appropriately use familiar everyday expressions and basic phrases aimed at the fulfilment of needs of a concrete type. Can ask and answer questions about personal details in a suitable way. Can interact in areas of immediate need or on familiar topics mostly appropriately.	Satisfactory performance in the majority of learning outcomes. Can partially understand and use familiar everyday expressions and basic phrases aimed at the fulfilment of needs of a concrete type. Can ask and answer questions about personal details in a basic way. Can interact in areas of immediate need or on familiar topics partially appropriately.	Barely satisfactory performance in a number of learning outcomes. Can rarely understand and use familiar everyday expressions and basic phrases aimed at the fulfilment of needs of a concrete type. Can hardly ask and answer questions about personal details. Can poorly interact in areas of immediate need or on familiar topics.	Unsatisfactory performance in a number of learning outcomes and/or failure to meet specified assessment requirements. Cannot understand and use familiar everyday expressions and basic phrases aimed at the fulfilment of needs of a concrete type. Cannot ask and answer questions about personal details. Cannot interact in areas of immediate need or on familiar topics.

Learning Resources
Required Readings and Course Materials
По-русски - легко! - Speak Russian easily! Textbook on the oral speech development E.V. Guskova ISBN 978-5-88337-717-3 (9785883377173)
Online Tutorial Resources and Recommended Readings
Russian Tutorials http://webhome.auburn.edu/~mitrege/russian/tutorials/ Time to speak Russian https://timetospeakrussian.com/course/elementary_level/ Master Russian http://masterrussian.com/ Learn Russian https://learnrussian.rt.com

Course Schedule (Subject to changes):

Week	Date	No Class Days	Assignments	Content	Cultural awareness activity (in-class)
Week 1	Friday, Jan 9			Getting acquainted.	General facts and figures on Russia
Week 2	Friday, Jan 16			Knowing each other.	Presentation slides and fun test
Week 3	Friday, Jan 23			Unit 1. Learning about the occupations.	Short film screening
Week 4	Friday, Jan 30			Unit 2.1 Speaking about your belongings.	Russian character issues
Week 5	Friday, Feb 6			Unit 2.2 Introducing family.	Animation screening
Week 6	Friday, Feb 13		***Quiz I*** ***(On the hand-outs, Unit 1-2.1)***	Unit 3.1 Learning about the verbs.	Daily-life and family issues discussion
Week 7	Friday, Feb 20	Lunar New Year Vacation (No class)			
Week 8	Friday, Feb 27			Unit 3.2 Learning the verbs of group 1.	Short film screening

Week 9	Friday, Mar 6	Reading Week (No Class)			
Week 10	Friday, Mar 13		***Quiz II (Unit 3)***	Unit 4.1 Speaking about the food.	Food preferences and etiquette
Week 11	Friday, Mar 20			Unit 4.2 Introducing your day.	Daily life in Russia
Week 12	Friday, Mar 27			Unit 5. Expressing the time.	Talks and videos on Food traditions
Week 13	Friday, Apr 3		***In-class Essay (Unit 1-4)***	Revision	
Week 14	Friday, Apr 10			Revision	
Week 15	Friday, Apr 17		***Oral Expression (Unit 1-5)***		

Class sections and teacher's contact details:

Class	Time	Classroom	No of weeks	Teacher	Email
RUSS 1000	Friday 8:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	YIA 508	13	Ms. Irina Ustyugova	irina.curiosity@gmail.com

For further information and inquiries you are welcome to contact:

Contact	Telephone	Email	Office
M. Louis MUNSCH (Course Coordinator)	3943 7910	louis.munsch@cuhk.edu.hk	Rm G23, Leung Kau Kui Building (KKB) Office Hours: upon appointment
General Office	3943 9836	lin@cuhk.edu.hk	G17, Leung Kau Kui Building (KKB) Office Hours: Monday to Thursday: 8:45am to 1:00pm and 2:00pm to 5:30pm Friday: 8:45am to 1:00pm and 2:00pm to 5:45pm

Details of Course Website
CUHK Blackboard: https://blackboard.cuhk.edu.hk

Feedback for Evaluation
Our language programme highly values students' feedback and comments and is happy to use them for reflection on our teaching and improvement. Students are very welcome to provide comments and feedback on the course at any time to their course teacher or the course level coordinator through email or in personal conversation. In addition, students' feedbacks will be collected in the middle of the term through an open-ended questionnaire and the teacher will discuss the feedbacks in class and make improvements if necessary. The course will also follow the university's course evaluation exercise at the end of the term, and students' feedbacks will be used for future course planning and teaching.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism
Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/. With each assignment, students will be required to submit a signed declaration that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures. • In the case of group projects, all members of the group should be asked to sign the declaration, each of whom is responsible and liable to disciplinary actions, irrespective of whether he/she has signed the declaration and whether he/she has contributed, directly or indirectly, to the problematic contents. • For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via VeriGuide, the statement, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon students' uploading of the soft copy of the assignment. • Students are fully aware that their work may be investigated by AI content detection software to determine originality. • Students are fully aware of the AI approach(es) adopted in the course. In the case where some AI tools are allowed, students have made proper acknowledgment and citations as suggested by the course teacher. Assignments without a properly signed declaration will not be graded by teachers. Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide. The submission of a piece of work, or a part of a piece of work, for more than one purpose (e.g. to satisfy the requirements in two different courses) without declaration to this effect shall be regarded as having committed undeclared multiple submissions. It is common and acceptable to reuse a turn of phrase or a sentence or two from one's own work; but wholesale reuse is problematic. In any case, agreement from the course teacher(s) concerned should be obtained prior to the submission of the piece of work. The copyright of the teaching materials, including lecture notes, assignments and examination questions, etc., produced by staff members/ teachers of The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) belongs to CUHK. Students may download the teaching materials produced by the staff members/ teachers from the Learning Management Systems, e.g. Blackboard, adopted by CUHK for their own educational use, but shall not distribute/ share/ copy the materials to a third-party without seeking prior permission from the staff members/ teachers concerned.

Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools in Teaching, Learning and Assessment

Use of some AI tools is allowed

Students may use some AI tools in some learning activities and/or assessments on the following conditions:

1. The AI tools to be used are restricted to the following tools: Chat GPT (to generate the topic or story to tell), AI grammar check (to prepare the homework and verify the mistakes), Google AI (to seek for the answers to the questions related to the discussion at the class). All mentioned above is allowed to be used ONLY for the preparation of the homework assignment and strongly prohibited to be used during the tests at the class. Collaboration of AI tools is only allowed for the following purposes/tasks: homework mistakes verification, preparation for oral discussions, creating the text for oral assignments.
2. The input contributed by the AI tools are properly acknowledged and cited; and
3. The input together with the prompts used to elicit the AI responses should be highlighted or included as appendices wherever appropriate.

In case of queries, students should seek advice from the course teacher.

Acknowledging support from AI tools

Students are required to acknowledge all functional uses of an AI tool and cite it when they paraphrase, quote, or incorporate into their own work any content (whether it is text, image, data, or other format) that was created by it.

i. An example of acknowledgement

'I acknowledge the use of (name of AI tool – e.g. ChatGPT (https://chat.openai.com/) to (specify the support, e.g. plan my essay, generate some ideas for the content, ask for examples of data collection instruments, get the dates of historical events, etc.).

ii. An example of citation

OpenAI. (2023). *ChatGPT* (Mar 20 version). https://chat.openai.com/chat

(Students are reminded that due to the rapid developments of AI tools, some citation formats may be updated regularly.)

iii. An example of including texts generated by an AI tool in their work

"The following text was generated by an AI tool/language model (ChatGPT):"
[Insert the text generated by ChatGPT here.]

iv. An example of including texts generated by an AI tool and the prompts that were used to elicit the text from the AI tool

"[The prompt], as generated by an AI language model (ChatGPT):"
[Insert the text generated by ChatGPT in response to the prompt.]

Students are reminded to learn and use the AI tools responsibly and ethically and be aware of the limitations.

Improper/unauthorized use of AI tools in learning activities and assessments will constitute acts of academic dishonesty which will be handled in accordance with the University's *Procedures for Handling Cases of Academic Dishonesty.*

Students are reminded to clarify with the course teacher and obtain permission if necessary when in doubt.

For more information, please subscribe to our Instagram accounts!

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