**IDS 288-01:  Russian Language and Culture I**

**Fall 2011 and Spring 2012**

Professor**:** Dr. Olga Karamalak

Location: North Carolina Building, Classroom # 2

Time: Mondays-Fridays 2:00pm – 2:50pm

Office Hours: Tuesdays 11:00 – 1:00; Thursdays 11:00 – 1:00.

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I. **Course Description**

IDS 288-01:  Russian Language and Culture I

This 3hr course begins a sequence of four such courses to be taken over the 2011-12 academic year to fulfill the B.A. degree requirement of achieving intermediate level proficiency in a foreign language.  This introductory course assumes no prior knowledge of Russian language and culture and will begin with the basics of Russian conversation and grammar.  The course is taught daily Monday through Friday from the beginning of the Fall semester and ends just before Fall Break.  Pre-requisites:  None.

IDS 288-02:  Russian Language and Culture II

This 3hr course is the second in a sequence of four such courses to be taken over the 2011-12 academic year to fulfill the B.A. degree requirement of achieving intermediate level proficiency in a foreign language.  This second level course may only be taken by students who have successfully completed IDS 288-01 in the first half of the Fall 2011 semester.  Students will continue to build their proficiency in Russian language and their knowledge of Russian culture.  The course is taught daily Monday through Friday from just after Fall Break to the end of the Fall semester.  Pre-requisites:  IDS 288-01(in Fall 2011 semester).

II. **Textbook Requirements**

1. Katzner, K. (1994) English-Russian, Russian-English Dictionary. US: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
2. Robin, R., Evans-Romaine, K., Shatalina, G. (2011) Golosa: A Basic Course in Russian, Book 1. US: Pearson.
3. Robin, R., Evans-Romaine, K., Shatalina, G. (2011) Student Activities Manual to Accompany A Basic Course in Russian, Book 1. US: Pearson.

III. **Learning Outcomes**

* Describe needs and interests in Russian, solve simple communicative tasks about daily routine, home, family and other basic things.
* Define basic likes and dislikes in literature and the arts. Apply the learned material to commit simple transactional situations in stores, post offices, hotels, dormitories, libraries and so on.
* Comprehend simple conversations about daily routine, home, family, school, and work, airport announcements, radio and television advertisements, brief news items such as weather forecast.
* Write short notes to Russian acquaintances, including invitations, thank-you notes, and simple directions.
* Write longer letters and compositions providing basic biographical information, daily routine, home, family, school, and work.
* Read signs and public notices, understand basic personal and business correspondence and get the gist of important details in news reports on familiar topics, weather forecasts and so on.
* Analyze, compare and contrast things about Russian and American customs and traditions, educational and political systems, cultural aspect of life.

IV. **Connection to the Core Curriculum (optional for fall; required for spring)**

Students who are obtaining a B.A. degree in any discipline must complete 12 hours of a Foreign Language, regardless of their actual major or program of study. Completing a study in Russian Culture and Language fulfils the core requirement for students obtaining a B.A. degree. IDS 288 is open to any student interested in language education.

V. **Class Expectations**

Students are expected to be respectful of each other and tolerant of the different levels of learning the language, performing different language activities in groups and pairs. They’re supposed to enrich their horizon about Russia, its geographical position, culture, economics and politics in general.

VI. **Assignments Supporting Learning Outcomes**

**In-class involvement**:

To learn Russian, it is vital that you become actively involved in the wide variety of in-class activities. Your participation grade will be based on how actively you engage in class activities. This means speaking Russian with your classmates, coming to class on time, doing written activities in class, singing with the group, attentively watching videos, reading out loud, participating in skits, etc.

Please take care of your other obligations (texting, emailing, reading books for other classes, etc.) outside of class so that you will not distract your classmates. If you are distracting others from learning Russian, I will have to ask you to leave.

**Weekly Quizzes**:

There will be a short written quiz in class on Fridays. We will review for the quiz in class on the previous day; so if you are unable to attend class, please contact a classmate to find out the upcoming quiz topic.

**Homework**:

In order to learn a foreign language you will need daily exposure, review and practice of the material learned in class, therefore you will have homework due regularly. Please note that late work receives only half credit.

**Attendance Policy**:

Daily attendance in IDS 288 is expected. If you miss class, you will receive a zero on the quiz and on the participation grade for that day unless you bring a note from your doctor, coach or teacher explaining the absence. If the absence is excused, you will receive a grade of “EXC” (excused) for the quiz & participation grade. A grade of “EXC” will not affect your final grade at all. **There are no make-up quizzes or make-up grades for in-class work**.

The same policies apply if you are tardy to class and the daily quiz has already been given. Also, please note that a tardy will lower your participation grade for the day.

**Optional Final Exam**:

During the regularly scheduled exam time during finals week, you will have the option of taking a comprehensive final exam that comes from all the quizzes of the semester. The final exam grade will replace your three lowest quiz grades of the semester. If you score lower on the final than you scored on one or more of your quizzes, I record the higher grade. For instance, if your lowest quiz grades are 85, 55 and 0 and you make an 80 on your final, then I would replace the 55 and 0 with an “80”, but I would leave the 85 as is. So you have nothing to lose by taking the final.

VI. **Grading Scale**

Your grade comes from the following:

* Attendance, in-class involvement (20%)
* Written Homework from the Textbook (20%)
* Friday Quizzes (30%)
* Written Tests (30%)

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| **Grade** | **Point Scale** | **Point Range** | **GPA** | **Rationale** |
| A  |  94-100  | 7 points | 4.0 | Excellent |
| A-minus  |  90-93 | 4 points | 3.6 | Outstanding |
| B-plus  |  87-89 | 3 points | 3.3 | Very Good |
| B  |  83-86 | 4 points | 3.0 |  |
| B-minus  |  80-82 | 3 points | 2.7 |  |
| C-plus  |  77-79 | 3 points | 2.3 | Good/Average |
| C  |  73-76 | 4 points | 2.0 |  |
| C-minus  |  70-72 | 3 points | 1.7 | Needs improvement |
| D-plus  |  67-69 | 3 points | 1.3 | Poor quality of work |
| D  |  63-66 | 4 points | 1.0 |  |
| D-minus  |  60-62 | 3 points | 0.7 |  |
| F  |  59 or lower  | 0 points | 0.0 |  |

VIII. **Academic Integrity**

The goal of the faculty at Lees-McRae College is to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of academic integrity. The attempt of any student to present as their work that which they have not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offender liable to severe consequences and possible suspension.

 Lees-McRae College expects all students to act in a manner that does not infringe upon the rights and responsibilities of others. It is crucial to the development of a college student that one has the right to learn and prosper in a society free from fraudulence and dishonesty. It is the responsibility of each student to help maintain such a learning society.

The College expects that all students will refrain from the following behaviors as described in the student handbook: cheating, plagiarism, collusion and lying. Please refer to the college catalog and student handbook for further details.

IX. **Assistance for Students with Documented Disabilities**

Reasonable accommodations will be made to help students with documented disabilities. All students who have a documented disability should take the initiative to talk with their professor on the first day of class to assure a successful learning experience can transpire. As per policy of Lees-McRae College, any student with a documented disability must self-disclose to their instructors and the Coordinator of Disability Services. No services or accommodations can be made without official notification from the Office of Student Success. Students should make an appointment to meet with Tami Tressler-Blewitt as soon as possible to complete the necessary paperwork and to develop an Individual Accommodation Plan. Mrs. Tressler-Blewitt’s office is in the Student Success and Internship Center and she can be contacted on ext. 2561 or via e-mail at Tressler-blewitt@lmc.edu.

X. **Course Outline**

17 September 2011 – 7 October 2011

# **17 August – 7 September** - Learning the Russian alphabet and sound system, vowel reduction, palatalization, devoicing of consonants in final position, consonant assimilation, print, italic and cursive. Learning greetings and good-byes, formal and informal, introducing and giving information about yourself, family and friends.

Practicing Russian grammar (formal and informal speech situations, gender introduction, gender of modifier “my”, grammatical case introduction, nominative case, the verb to be in Russian present-tense sentences). (Голоса p. 1-42)

**26** **August** – Quiz 1, Dialogue 1

**29 August** – Dialogue 2

**30** **August** - Dialogue 3, Monologue 1

**2 September** – Quiz 2, Essay 1

**7 September** – Test 1 (Голоса p. 1-42)

1. **8 September – 4 October** - Naming common objects, clothing, and basic colors, arrival in Russia, greetings at the airport, reading and listening to ads. Cultural enrichment: slippers at home, documents in Russia. Practicing Russian grammar (grammatical gender, nominative plural of nouns, pronouns, possessive modifiers, this is, these are).

**16** **September** – Quiz 3, Dialogue 4

**23 September** – Quiz 4

**28 September** – Essay 2, Dialogue 5

**30 September** – Quiz 5

**3 October** – Monologue 2, Dialogue 6

**4 October** – Test 2 ( Голоса p 43 – 76)

**5, 6 October** – REVISION

**7 October** – pre-exam

Fall Break

1. **17 – 31 October** - Talking about languages, discussing ethnic and national backgrounds, reading and listening to ads about language-study programs. Cultural enrichment: giving and receiving complements. Practicing Russian grammar (verb conjunction: present and past tense, position of adverbial modifiers, conjunctions).

**21 October** – Quiz 6

**25 October –** Essay 3, Dialogue 7

**27 October** - Dialogue 8, Monologue 3

**28 October –** Quiz 7, Test 3 (Голоса P 77- 112)

1. 1 November – 14 November r Talking about where and what people study, making a presentation about yourself, reading and writing academic schedules, reading university websites. Cultural enrichment: the most popular majors in Russia, higher education, university departments, standardized exams, diplomas and grade system. Practicing Russian grammar (study verbs, accusative case of modifiers and nouns, prepositional case, question words).

**4 November** – Quiz 8, Dialogue 9

**11 November –** Quiz 9, Essay 3

**14 November –** Test 4 (Голоса p. 113 – 146), Monologue 4

1. **15 November – 30 November -** Talking about daily activities and schedules, talking about classes, asking and telling time, making and responding to simple invitations, talking on the phone, reading and writing notes and letters. Cultural enrichment: times of the day – Russian style. Practicing Russian grammar (days of the week, times of the day, time on the hour, new verbs, stable and shifting stress in verb conjunctions, verbs expressing necessity or obligation).

**18 November –** Quiz 10, Dialogue 10

**22 November –** Test 5 (Голоса p.147 – 188), Monologue 5

**28 November –** 2 December - REVISION

**8 December** – Exam 2:00 pm