# SLTG 5234 - Russian Intermediate II

# (with the focus on reading and translation of sources)

**Instructor:** Anatoly Reshetnikov

**Email:**[reshetnikov\_anatoly@ceu-budapest.edu](mailto:reshetnikov_anatoly@ceu-budapest.edu)

**Office hours:** by appointment

**Meeting time (preliminary):** Wednesday, 17:20-19:00

**Location (preliminary):**TBA

## Course description:

The course is designed for students who have had at least three semesters of Russian before. Its main focus is twofold. On the one hand, the course will continue developing students’ skills of reading texts in Russian and ofrecognizing grammatical categories and structures to ensure efficient work with sources and dictionaries while doing research. On the other hand, it will substantially enlarge students’ vocabulary by introducing a range of both high-frequency and specific Russian words and expressions. The course will also address and explain grammatical structures of intermediate level to enhance students’ ability to analyze and write Russian texts, and to communicate in Russian verbally.

## Aims:

* Learn to analyze and process Russian texts under the condition of incomplete familiarity with the words and expressions used within them.
* Improve recognition skills for identifying grammatical structures and categories.
* Improve Russian pronunciation and increase the speed of reading in Russian.
* Ensure transition ofhigh-frequency and specific words and expressions from students’ passive to active vocabulary.
* Learn to use language programs that can help students work with Russian texts while conducting research.

## Homework assignments:

This syllabus includes a list of Russian readers available in PDF format. Due to the high likelihood of significant variance in students’ level of Russian, the readers range from pre-intermediate to upper-intermediate levels. By the end of the first week students will have to select a reader from the list based on a preferred thematic focus and proficiency level, and

1. regularly submit a(loose) translation of any chosen text from the selected reader **before each class**, and
2. regularly identify a text from the selected reader, to which the instructor will pose three questions (sent via email) that the student will need to answer**before the following class**.

**Alternatively,** students can bring a reader, or source materials of their choosing that closer relate to their field of research for instructor’s review and approval, upon which those materials can be used as homework assignments source.

Depending on the progress in class, additional home assignments related to the main textbook may also be given.

## Final exam:

At the end of the semester each student will be required to translate a text in Russian in class with the help of a dictionary and any other materials.

## Grading system:

* Attendance and active participation: 20 %
* Homework assignments: 40 %
* Final exam: 40 %

## Preliminary schedule:

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| Week 1  15.01 | Introduction. Practical exercises. |
| Week 2  22.01 | *The Twelve Chairs. Lesson 6(1).*   * Imperfective stating a fact; have/get something done; would * «Полночи/полночь»; «видеть во сне» |
| Week 3  29.01 | *The Twelve Chairs. Lesson 6(2).*   * Have/get something done * Practical exercises |
| Week 4  05.02 | *The Twelve Chairs. Lesson 7(1).*   * If-less conditionals * Motion verbs |
| Week 5  12.02 | *The Twelve Chairs. Lesson 7(2).*   * Translating English passive * Practical exercises |
| Week 6  19.02 | *The Twelve Chairs. Lesson 8(1).*   * Expressing when something can be seen or heard; “some-…” expressions * «где/где-нибудь»; «устроиться»; «останавливаюсь/остановился» |
| Week 7  26.02 | *The Twelve Chairs. Lesson 8(2).*   * “I wish...” * Practical exercises |
| Week 8  05.03 | *The Twelve Chairs. Lesson 9(1).*   * Expressions “to give something up” and “start” and “end with” * «Оказаться»; «разве/правда» |
| Week 9  12.03 | *The Twelve Chairs. Lesson 9(2).*   * «то, что» constructions * Practical exercises |
| Week 10  19.03 | *The Twelve Chairs. Lesson 10(1).*   * Verbs of pleasure; perfective for repeated action * «пойдем(те)»; «А что такое?»; «может не...» |
| Week 11  26.03 | *The Twelve Chairs. Lesson 10(2).*   * «то, как» in time clauses * Practical exercises |
| Week 12  02.04 | FINAL EXAM |

## Main textbook:

SlavaPaperno, Alexander Nakhimovsky, Alice Nakhimovsky, and Richard L. Leed.*Intermediate Russian.The Twelve Chairs*.Slavica Publishers, Inc. 1985.

## Readers:

IreneThompson*. Reading Real Russian*.2nd edition.1998.

А.С. Куркина, Е.А. Пляскова. *Читаем российские газеты*. Воронеж, 2007.

Алла Родимкина, Нил Ландсман. *Россия день за днем: Тексты и упражнения.* Выпуск 1. Санкт-Петербург: Златоуст, 2009.

Алла Родимкина, Нил Ландсман. *Россия: День сегодняшний.* Санкт-Петербург: Златоуст, 2005.

Алла Родимкина, Нил Ландсман. *Россия: Экономика и общество*. Санкт-Петербург: Златоуст, 2007.

Ирина Курлова. *Приключения иностранцев в России: Рассказы для чтения и обсуждения*. Москва: Русский язык, Курсы, 2007.

М.Б. Катаева и др. *Читаем о России по-русски*. Санкт-Петербург: Златоуст, 1997.

Н.С. Новикова, О.М. Щербакова. *Удивительные истории.* Москва: «Флинта» и «Наука», 2010.

О.М. Барсукова-Сергеева. *Читая сказки...* Москва: «Флинта» и «Наука», 2009.

О.Э. Чубарова (ред.) *Шкатулка: Пособие по чтению для иностранцев, начинающих изучать русский язык.*Москва: Русский язык, Курсы, 2005.

С.В. Начёрная, Л.А. Шахова. *О России на русском*. Тамбов: Издательство ТГТУ, 2008.

## Othertextbooks:

John Langran and Natalya Veshnyeva.*Ruslan Russian 2: A second level communicative Russian course.* RuslanLimited, 2007.

Е.Н. Петухова*. Россия и русские сегодня*. Санкт-Петербург: Издательство СПбГУЭФ, 2001.

Н.Е. Кухаревич, М.Б. Будильцева, Н.И. Киселева. *Я читаю и говорю по-русски: Средний этап.* 3-е издание.

Н.Ю. Царева и др. *Продолжаем изучать русский*. 4-е издание. Москва: Русский язык, 2003.

Т.П. Баркова, Н.М. Немцова. *Русский язык: Работайте самостоятельно!..* Тамбов: Издательство ТГТУ, 2011.

## NB:

*The current version of the syllabus is preliminary. It may be modified after the first introductory session depending on the language proficiency assessment results and students’ fields of research.*