Course Description and Goals
When combined with its second-semester continuation, RUS 2220 offers an intensive and comprehensive continuation of Russian language study focusing on developing speaking, listening, reading and writing skills. If successfully completed, students will be able to communicate in a wide variety of everyday settings in Russian and speak in extended paragraphs about themselves and on a wide variety of topics. The course will also expose students to a variety of aspects of Russian culture, current events, and everyday life.

Credit and Prerequisites
This course carries four credits and counts toward the UF Russian major and minor. Prerequisite: RUS 1131 or instructor’s permission.
Course Requirements and Grading
You will be required to:

- Attend class meetings;
- Participate actively and intelligently in class exercises;
- Complete the assignments scheduled for each class meeting and be prepared to work with them in class;
- Take 5-6 unit tests and occasional short quizzes;
- Complete tasks designed to enhance your cultural competence;
- Take in-class comprehensive final exam.

Your course grade will be determined by the quality and consistence of your daily performance and periodic quizzes, tests and other assessment activities as follows:

- Daily grind (attendance/participation/homework): 30%
- 5–6 Unit Tests: 40%
- Final exam: 15%
- Quizzes: 10% (short periodic checks of your mastery of new vocabulary, grammatical points, conversational skills, or cultural knowledge).
- Cultural competence: 5% (periodic opportunities to explore Russian culture beyond the classroom)

Tests
Test grades will be calculated according to the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93 – 100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90 – 92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87 – 89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83 – 86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80 – 82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77 – 79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73 – 76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70 – 72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67 – 69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>63 – 66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>60 – 62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>less than 60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Make-up test policy: Make-up tests will be offered only in the case of legitimate conflicts well-documented in advance.

Attendance, Homework and Class Participation
The weight of credit given to attendance, participation and homework reflects the special nature of foreign-language learning, which, like mastering a sport or musical instrument, depends first and foremost on consistency, persistence, and daily training. Class meetings will be highly interactive and demand active and meaningful use of new language models; for this reason, unlike many other courses, missed contact hours will be difficult if not impossible to make up.
Cultural Competence
Language study becomes formalistic without contextualizing it in the living, breathing culture. In this course, we will understand culture not only in terms of big-“C” accomplishments of Russian literature, music, and the arts, but also in terms of little-“c” attitudes, belief systems, and outlooks that shape Russians’ perspectives, behaviors, and everyday lives. To successfully complete this component of the course, you will simply need to engage in periodic cultural explorations over the course of the semester and share your discoveries in a variety of formats: in-class presentations, blog or discussion forum posts, website reviews, interviews, creative works, etc. Areas of exploration include but are not limited to: Russian literature and poetry, fine art, popular culture, sports, cooking, geography, history, business, science, politics. Some of these opportunities will be provided for you (e.g. through public lectures, film screenings, or posts to the course Cultural Resource Center), others will come from your own independent explorations. See separate Cultural Competence Guidelines for details.

Course Etiquette, Communication and Technology
• Class will begin and end promptly. Please be on time and refrain from gathering up materials until I indicate that class is over.
• Outside of class and office hours, feel free to reach me by email (mgorham@ufl.edu) with inquiries or issues that are not clarified in class meetings, the course syllabus, the online “Weekly Assignments” page, or posted handouts. If you do send email, practice your informal, but official, communication skills by including a proper form of address. “Dear Professor Gorham” or even “Hi Dr. Gorham” are fine, but “Hey” or omitting a greeting altogether are not. Also be sure to clearly identify yourself somewhere in the message – at least in the opening message of a communication string. If you abide by these simple rules of email etiquette, you can expect an answer within 1 working day.
• All phones must be turned off and left off during class meetings. Laptops may be used during class for course-related activities only. Students found in violation of this policy may be asked to leave class and/or have their participation grade reduced.

Students with Disabilities
Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to me when requesting accommodation.

Academic Honesty
All students must be familiar with and will be held accountable to the University's "Academic Honesty Guidelines." Please review these guidelines at: www.generalcounsel.ufl.edu/Rules/Chapter%204/4017.pdf, and contact me with any questions or concerns.
Course Materials

**Required texts**


**Recommended text**


**Online Learning Platform:** All assignments and grades will be posted at the Canvas site for this course, available at [https://lss.at.ufl.edu/](https://lss.at.ufl.edu/).

**Overview of Course Schedule**

Unit 1: 8–10 days (Preliminary test date: Sept. 8)
Unit 2: 8–10 days (Preliminary test date: Sept. 23)
Unit 3: 8–10 days (Preliminary test date: Oct. 8)
Unit 4: 8–10 days (Preliminary test date: Oct. 27)
Unit 5: 8–10 days (Preliminary test date: Nov. 12)
Unit 6: 8–10 days (Preliminary test date: Dec. 8)
Final Exams: 16 December
  - Section #8129: 16B – 10 AM – 12 noon
  - Section #6558: 16D – 3-5 PM