

**RUSSIAN 122**  
**BASIC PROFICIENCY IN RUSSIAN**

**BULLETIN INFORMATION**

RUSS 122 - Basic Proficiency in Russian (4 credit hours)

**Course Description:**

Practice and further development of essential listening, reading, speaking, and writing skills.

Prerequisites: RUSS 121

**SAMPLE COURSE OVERVIEW**

This course will continue to introduce students to the Russian language by focusing on the four essential language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students will build on the basic skills acquired in RUSS 121. Students will gain confidence and proficiency in specific communicative tasks and will develop further their understanding of the structure of the Russian language and the culture of the Russian people, with an emphasis on using language in its cultural context.

**ITEMIZED LEARNING OUTCOMES**

**Upon successful completion of Russian 122 students will be able to:**

1. Communication
  - a. Communicate using complete sentences in writing and speech to express immediate needs and interests
  - b. Express possession, attribution, and absence or nonexistence
  - c. Demonstrate use of the future and past tenses, including "be"
  - d. Demonstrate use of "going" verbs in additional contexts
  - e. Express necessity and possibility
  - f. Demonstrate employment of basic time expressions
  - g. Demonstrate comprehension of and use with accuracy all six cases
  - h. Demonstrate comprehension of and use the basics of verbal aspect.
2. Culture
  - a. Demonstrate understanding of the essentials of "small-c" culture necessary to function in Russia, including making and responding to invitations; family roles

and personal characteristics (age, resemblances, employment); enrolling and graduating from schools; shopping; restaurants; and living conditions.

- b. Describe more complex aspects of Russia's cultural heritage, including Russian folksongs, the role of poetry in Russian culture, and well-known figures such as the poet Aleksandr Pushkin, the songwriter Bulat Okudzhava, and the Tolstoy family.
3. Connections
    - a. Demonstrate more advanced understanding of Russian society, family life, housing, education, daily rituals, and culture.
  4. Comparisons
    - a. Make conclusions about their own language and culture, as they compare family structures, foods and home décor, cultural figures, and shops and restaurants, along with other aspects of Russian and American life.
  5. Communities
    - a. Participate in experiences that increase understanding of Russian life and the Russian-speaking world.

#### **SAMPLE REQUIRED TEXTS/SUGGESTED READINGS/MATERIALS**

1. *Golosa (Voices) Book 1, 4<sup>th</sup> edition*: (1) textbook (TB), ISBN 9780131986282; (2) Student Activities Manual (SAM) ISBN 9780131986299; and (3) audio, available in mp3 format at <http://www.gwu.edu/~slavic/golosa/audio/audio1-4e.htm>
2. Sona Vocabulary Assistant: Assignments will include required practice with Sona Vocabulary Assistant (<http://www.sonasoftware.com/vocabulary>), an interactive program for Mac OS X and Windows. Designed by Dr. Curtis Ford of the USC Russian program, Sona helps you master new words by integrating vocabulary from the text in a variety of interactive exercises and games. As a student of Russian at USC, you can use Sona Vocabulary Assistant free of charge on your own computer; see the class Blackboard page for a registration key to use the software. To download, please visit <http://www.sonasoftware.com/vocabulary/download.html>. Word lists keyed to our text can be downloaded at <http://www.sonasoftware.com/vocabulary/downloads/golosa/index.html>. For help, please consult <http://www.sonasoftware.com/vocabulary/help.html>

#### **SAMPLE ASSIGNMENTS AND/OR EXAMS**

1. 3 unit tests: chapters 6, 7 & 9
2. 5 vocabulary quizzes: chapters 6-10
3. 1 midterm test: chapters 6-8
4. Final examination: chapters 6-10

5. Preparation for class, homework, and enthusiastic participation. You will have homework 4 nights per week; it should be completed before the class immediately following the assignment. Bring your workbook to each class, and be prepared to ask questions about any assignment that you did not fully understand.

## **SAMPLE COURSE OUTLINE WITH TIMELINE OF TOPICS, READINGS/ASSIGNMENTS, EXAMS/PROJECTS**

### **Week 1:**

- Class 1:** Introduction to the class.  
Unit 6, What are we talking about? (Russian housing, invitations), pp. 178-180. Go over unit vocabulary.  
*HW (Homework): Listen to Conversations (living conditions in Russia), and write out your answers in Russian.*
- Class 2:** Dialogues 1-3: Russian and American homes and dormitories, pp. 183-184.  
*HW: read Cultural life (formal and informal address, Russian apartments, rooms, dachas [summer cottages], and dormitories), TB 183, 185. In SAM, do Numerals, pp. 131-132 (thousands, cost vocabulary), Phonetics and Intonation, pp. 132-3, & oral drills 1-2.*
- Class 4:** Dialogues 4-5: carpets as wall decorations, Russian dachas [summer cottages], exercises on the dialogues, TB 188. Grammar 6.1 – “to want,” TB 191-2.  
*HW: In SAM, do oral drill 3 and written ex. 1. Start memorizing a dialogue. Sona i6: adjectives.*
- Class 5:** Grammar 6.2 – verbs of position, TB 192-193. Russian folksong.  
*HW: In SAM, do oral drill 4 and written ex. 2-4 and 18-20. Sona i6: nouns.*

### **Week 2:**

- Class 6:** Grammar 6.3 – Genitive case forms, and 6.4 – “to eat,” TB 193-97.  
Interviews and reports: where do you live?  
*HW: In SAM, do oral drills 5-7 (several times!) and written ex. 5-8. Sona i6: nouns2.*
- Class 7:** Grammar 6.5 – absence, TB 198-99. Practice song.  
*HW: In SAM, do oral drills 8-13 and written ex. 9-12. Sona i6: other.*
- Class 8:** Numerals: review numerals 1-100,000. Practice “to want” & genitive endings. 6-33: Let’s listen: Apartment-hunting, TB 212-213.  
*HW: Study vocabulary. Work on a composition about your house, dorm, or apartment (to turn in with unit HW).*

### Week 3:

- Class 9:** Vocabulary quiz. Grammar 6.6 – possession/attribution and 6.7 – quantity, TB 199-202. Role-plays: renting a furnished apartment in Moscow.  
*HW: In SAM, do oral drills 14-16 and written ex. 13-16. Complete composition.*
- Class 10:** Grammar 6.8 – “who has” and 6.9 – review of uses of genitive, TB 195. Video: *Goodbye, Summer*, part 4, and discussion.  
*HW: Read 6-31 Let’s read: Russian real estate transactions, TB 205-8. Be prepared to answer the questions in section 3, p. 206, in class. Do SAM written ex. 17.*
- Class 11:** Turn in composition. Go over Let’s read; ex. 5, p. 208. Review Unit 6.  
*HW: Prepare for test, remember your memorized dialogue!*
- Class 12:** Test on Unit 6.  
*HW: Read over Unit 7 What are we talking about?, TB 218-223.*

### Week 4:

- Class 13:** Unit 7 What are we talking about? (families and professions), TB 218-223. Begin Dialogues: Russian and American families, different types of employment, TB 224-225.  
*HW: Read questions on TB 223, listen to Conversations (where were you born, where do your family members work), and write out your answers in Russian.*
- Class 14:** Finish Dialogues, TB 224-225. Exercises on the dialogues 7-4 – 7-7 (how many brothers and sisters do you have? adjectives to describe family members), TB 226-229. Intonation: review IC-1 and IC-2 (SAM pp. 17, 33-34, 155).  
*HW: Find a photo of your family to bring to class and be prepared to talk about it in Russian. In SAM, do do Phonetics and Intonation, pp. 155-156, oral drills 1-2. Sona i7: workplaces. Sona i7: adjectives.*
- Class 15:** Family photos! Grammar 7.1 – “born and grew up” and 7.2 – expressing age, TB 231-2.  
*HW: In SAM, do oral drills 3-4 and written ex. 1-2. Sona i7: professions.*
- Class 16:** Grammar 7.3 – introduction to genitive plural, TB 233-7. Review unit vocabulary.  
*HW: Study TB 7.3 through p. 237, practicing the exercises. In SAM, do oral drills 5-10 and written ex. 3. Sona i7: relatives.*

### Week 5:

- Class 17:** Grammar 7.3, continued, TB p. 238. Grammar 7.4 - quantity, TB 239-241. Video: *Goodbye, Summer*, part 5, and discussion.  
*HW: In SAM, do oral drills 11-16 and written ex. 4-7. Sona i7: verbs etc.*
- Class 18:** Grammar 7.5 – comparing ages, TB p. 241-242. Let’s listen: Audio email on families), TB p. 254.  
*HW: Study for vocabulary. quiz. In SAM, do oral drills 17-19 and written ex. 8-10. Work on a composition about your family.*
- Class 19:** Vocabulary quiz. Grammar 7.6 & 7.7 – pronouns in the accusative and naming, TB 242-3. Russian musician Bulat Okudzhava.  
*HW: In SAM, do oral drills 19-20 and written ex. 9-10. Complete composition.*
- Class 20:** Grammar 7.8 – the accusative case, TB 243-244. Cultural Life (teaching professions in Russia), TB p. 221.  
*HW: In SAM, do oral drill 21 and written ex. 11-12.*

### Week 6:

- Class 21:** Turn in composition. Review Unit 7 and Okudzhava song.  
*HW: In SAM, do written ex. 13-14.*
- Class 22:** Review Unit 7.  
*HW: Prepare for test; review vocabulary and memorized dialogue.*
- Class 23:** Test on Unit 7.  
*HW: Read over Unit 8 What are we talking about?, TB 260-261.*
- Class 24:** Unit 8 What are we talking about? (Russian stores, purchasing, gift-giving), TB 260-261. Go over unit vocabulary, TB 293-296.  
*HW: Read questions on TB 262, listen to Conversations (purchasing birthday gifts, the Russian writer Viktor Pelevin), and write out your answers in Russian. Read Cultural life sections (Pelevin, types of stores in Russia, metric sizing), TB 262-66. Sona i8: adj-verbs.*

### Week 7:

- Class 25:** Dialogues: birthdays, shopping, book purchases, TB 264-267. Exercises on the dialogues, TB 267.  
*HW: Start memorizing a new dialogue. Sona i8: adverbs etc.*
- Class 26:** Intonation: review IC-3 (SAM pp. 58-59, 80-81, 184-185). Exercises on the dialogues, TB 268-271 (asking about departments in stores,

communicating courteously with salespeople). Grammar 8.1 – past tense of “to be,” TB 273.

*HW: In SAM, do oral drills 1-2 and written ex. 1. Sona i8: nouns 1 & nouns 2.*

**Class 27:** Grammar 8.2 – past of possession, 8.3 – verbs of motion, TB 274-7. Aleksandr Pushkin poem: “I Loved You,” introduction.  
*HW: In SAM, do oral drills 3-7 and written ex. 2-5. Sona i8: expressions.*

**Class 28:** Pushkin poem. The significance of Pushkin (the “father of Russian literature”) and of poetry—including poetry memorization and recitation—in Russian culture.  
*HW: Study vocabulary.*

### Week 8:

**Class 29:** Vocabulary quiz. Grammar 8.4 – the dative case, 8.5 – uses of the dative, TB 278-283. Role-plays: shopping, where to buy a good book, TB pp. 271-2.  
*HW: In SAM, do oral drills 8-12 and written ex. 8-11.*

**Class 30:** Review of soft consonants (SAM 181-183). Practice soft and hard consonants. Let’s listen (Jenny and Lina go shopping), TB pp. 291-2.  
*HW: In TB, read 8-29 Let’s read (Russians and American compare shopping experiences), 288-290, and be prepared to go over sections 1-2 (comprehension exercises), p. 290, in class Friday.*

**Class 31:** Grammar 8.6 – subjectless expressions, 8.7 – “to like,” TB 284-5. Drill dative endings and uses. Review Pushkin poem.  
*HW: In SAM, do oral drills 13-19, written ex. 12-17.*

**Class 32:** Go over Let’s read, 288-90. Video: *Goodbye, Summer*, part 6, and discussion.  
*HW: Review Russian! Work on a composition about shopping (favorite stores, places you've worked, an interesting shopping incident, or a topic of your choice).*

### Week 9:

**Class 33:** Review for midterm.  
*HW: Complete composition; review for midterm.*

**Class 34:** Turn in composition. Review & drills: grammar, numerals, vocabulary, Pushkin.  
*HW: Prepare for midterm. Memorize a unit 8 dialogue.*

**Class 35:** MIDTERM, Units 6-8.

**Class 36:** Unit 9 What are we talking about? (Russian food, restaurants, food stores), TB 298-302. Go over unit vocabulary, TB 332-6.  
*HW: Read questions on TB p. 303, listen to Conversations (ordering and eating in a Russian restaurant), and write out your answers in Russian. In SAM, do Numerals A, Б, 209-210. Sona i9: adj etc.*

**Week 10:**

**Class 37:** Begin Dialogues: going to a café, ordering at a restaurant, cooking, TB 304-306. Exercises on the dialogues, TB 306-7. Grammar 9.1 - "to eat" and "to drink." Grammar 9.2 – instrumental case, TB 309-313, and 9.3 – verbs.  
*HW: Start memorizing a dialogue. In SAM, do oral drills 1-2, and written ex. 1-4. Sona i9: nouns1 and nouns2.*

**Class 38:** Review vowel reduction, SAM 211-212. Finish Dialogues, TB 304-306. Exercises on the dialogues (food preferences, ordering and purchasing food), TB 306-7.  
*HW: In SAM, do oral drills 1-5 and written ex. 5-7. Sona i9: nouns3 and other nouns.*

**Class 39:** Grammar 9.4 – future of "to be," TB 315-316, and 9.5 – future tense, TB 317. Role-plays: at a restaurant, TB p, 308.  
*HW: In SAM, do oral drills 6-8 and written ex. 8-10. Begin work on a 1-page, double-spaced composition about food: favorite meals, a restaurant experience, etc. Sona i9: verbs.*

**Class 40:** Review grammar. Oral translation: Americans in Russian restaurants, TB p. 308.  
*HW: Finish Wednesday's HW writing assignment.*

**Week 11:**

**Class 41:** Grammar 9.6 – verbal aspect, TB 317-20. Cultural Life: Russian food stores, mealtimes, metric weight and volume, TB pp. 301-4.  
*HW: In SAM, do oral drills 9-13 and written ex. 11-14. Sona i9: verbs2.*

**Class 42:** Grammar 9.7 – question words and pronouns, TB p. 321. Let's read (reading a Russian menu), TB pp. 322-3.  
*HW: In SAM, do oral drills 14-18 and written ex. 15-18. Study for vocabulary. quiz.*

**Class 43:** Vocabulary quiz.  
Video: *Goodbye, Summer*, part 7, and discussion.

*HW: Finish composition.*

**Class 44:** Turn in composition. Review Unit 9.  
*HW: Prepare for test. Remember your memorized dialogue.*

**Week 12:**

**Class 45:** Test on Unit 9.  
*HW: Start looking over unit 10 What are we talking about?, TB 338-9.*

**Class 46:** Unit 10 What are we talking about? (whom do you look like, types of higher education in Russia, where are you from), TB 338-9. Go over unit vocabulary, TB 374-376.  
*HW: Read questions on TB 339-340, listen to Conversations, and write out your answers in Russian. Read Cultural life sections (higher education in Russia), TB 340 and 342.*

**Class 47:** Dialogues (applying to graduate schools, switching from formal to familiar speech, where do you live, where are you from, Americans' and Russians' differing attitudes toward moving), TB 341-342. Exercises on the dialogues, TB 342-343.  
*HW: Start memorizing a dialogue. In SAM, do Numerals, p. 237. Sona i10: nouns etc.*

**Class 48:** Class interviews: interview a partner about where s/he is from and about his/her family and tell the rest of your classmates about your partner.

**Week 13:**

**Class 49:** Grammar 10.1 – expressing resemblance and 10.2 – directions on the compass, TB 348-9.  
Video: *Goodbye, Summer*, part 8, and discussion.  
*HW: In SAM, do oral drills 1-3 and written ex. 1-2. Sona i10: verbs.*

**Class 50:** Intonation: introduce IC-4 (SAM 238); review IC-5 (SAM 132-133). Grammar 10.3 – enrolling & graduating, and 10.4 – “in which year?,” TB 349-352. Role-plays: Tell a Russian host family about your own family and your home, TB p. 347.  
*HW: In SAM, do oral drills 4-9 and written ex. 3-6. Sona i10: verbs2.*

**Class 51:** Grammar 10.5 – “in” and “ago” with time expressions, TB 352-4. Start Grammar 10.6 – aspect in the past tense, Sections I and II, TB 354-356.  
*HW: Read over TB 10.6 on aspect. In SAM, do oral drills 10-12 and written ex. 7. Sona i10: other.*

**Class 52:** Grammar 10.6, continued – III and IV. Cultural Life, TB p. 364: The Tolstoy: Leo Tolstoy, A. K. Tolstoy, A. N. Tolstoy, and Tatiana Tolstaia.



*HW: In SAM, do oral drills 13-18 and written ex. 8-11. Study for vocabulary quiz.*

**Week 14:**

- Class 53:** Vocabulary quiz. Grammar 10.7 – review of motion verbs, TB 358-360. Exercises on the dialogues, TB 343-346 (selections). Russian folksong.  
*HW: In SAM, do oral drills 19-20 and written ex. 12-13. Begin work on a short autobiography, drawing on vocabulary you know from this and previous chapters.*
- Class 54:** Grammar 10.8 – "have been doing...", TB 362. Review unit 10 and practice song.  
*HW: In SAM, do oral drill 21 and written ex. 14-16. Complete composition.*
- Class 55:** Turn in composition. Let's listen 10-36 (working in the Moscow division of Microsoft), TB 370-371.  
*HW: Let's read 10-33 (twentieth-century Russian writers), TB 363-365; be prepared to answer the questions on TB 363 and 365 in class.*
- Class 56:** Go over Let's read, TB 363-365. Review for final exam.  
*HW: Review for final and make a list of questions/problems you have to ask about in class.*

**Week 15:**

- Class 57:** Review for final. Drills and student questions.  
*HW: Study for final; remember your memorized dialogue!*

**Final exam according to University Final Exam schedule**