

**Department of Modern Languages
College of Liberal Studies
University of Wisconsin-La Crosse**

**Elementary Russian 101: First-Semester Russian
Fall 2016**

This information sheet has been prepared to outline what you can expect and what will be expected of you during this semester.

RUS 101 – Elementary Russian I (4 credits)

Class hours: MTWH – 8:55-9:50 a.m.

Instructor: Natalia Roberts

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Office hours: T 11:00 a.m-12:00 p.m.

Course Goals and Policies

Course Objectives

To establish a solid foundation in the fundamentals of the Russian Language through the development of **speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills** and to foster interest in the language and **culture** of Russia.

Course Goals

Welcome to first-semester of Elementary Russian! After successfully completing this course students will be able to:

- Greet people
- Pass through customs
- Name and describe clothing
- Make and respond to invitations
- Talk about languages
- Read diplomas, transcripts and academic schedule
- Talk about where and what people study

Required:

Голоса / Golosa (Book 1, Fifth Edition, 2012). Richard Robin, Karen Evans-Romaine, Galina Shatalina and Joanna Robin.

Textbook (Available at the University Textbook Rental) and Workbook and Laboratory Manual (Available at the University Book Store).

You are expected to bring both your Textbook and Workbook to class every day!

Course Policies

Test and Quizzes: There will be no make up quizzes, dictations or tests. If you miss a quiz, dictation, test or exam without a valid excuse (illness, family emergency), you will receive a zero for this test. *It is your responsibility to inform the instructor of your absence 24 hours BEFORE the scheduled test.*

The Final Examination will be one hour in length and will consist of the same kinds of activities and tasks represented on the lesson tests. The final exam for this course will be held on December 14, from 8:55 a.m. – 9:50 p.m. to accommodate schedules for all three campuses.

55 minute Tests (one class period) will normally be given after every lesson. All tests will be comprehensive, that is, each one will cover material from previous lessons. More detailed information will be provided in advance of each lesson test.

Attendance: Since proficiency is acquired only through regular and active contact with the target language, you are expected to attend class on a daily basis. I will take attendance daily. If you are unable to attend a class, please contact Natalia Roberts via email at nroberts@uwlax.edu prior to the class session.

Homework Expectations: You can expect to spend approximately 1-2 hours of time on homework for every hour in class. This course entails regular work with **Listening Comprehension Audio Program to accompany Golosa Textbook.**

Homework is due at the beginning of each class. No late homework will be accepted without a legitimate excuse (e.g., illness). If you know that you will have to miss class on a particular date, submit your homework assignment in advance and you will still receive the homework points for that day. Homework will usually be a PASS/FAIL grading item worth 10 points for each day. It will to be collected at the end of each week (on Thursday).

Policy on Incomplete Grades:

Incomplete grades are awarded only because of illness or other unusual circumstances BEYOND THE STUDENT'S CONTROL. The student must submit official evidence and discuss the situation with the instructor.

Students with Disabilities: Any student with a documented disability (e.g. ADHD, Autism Spectrum Disorder, Acquired Brain Injury, PTSD, Physical, Sensory, Psychological, or Learning Disability) who needs to arrange academic accommodations must contact The ACCESS Center (165 Murphy Library, [608-785-6900](tel:608-785-6900), ACCESSCenter@uwlax.edu) and meet with an advisor to register and develop an accommodation plan. In addition to registering with The ACCESS Center, it is the student's responsibility to discuss their academic needs with their instructors. You can find out more about services available to students with disabilities at [The ACCESS Center website](#).

Policy on Religious Holidays: If you will be observing any religious holidays this semester which will prevent you from attending a regularly scheduled class or interfere with fulfilling any course requirement, I will offer you an opportunity to make up course

requirement if you make arrangements by informing me of the dates of your religious holidays three days before any holidays.

Academic Misconduct: Academic misconduct is a violation of the [UWL Student Honor Code](#) and is unacceptable. All work handed in for this class must be the students' own individual work. Plagiarism or cheating in any form may result in failure of the assignment or exam, failure of the course, and may include harsher sanctions. Refer to the UW-La Crosse [Student Handbook](#) for a detailed definition of academic misconduct. For helpful information on how to avoid plagiarism, go to <http://libguides.uwlax.edu/content.php?pid=363671>. You may also visit the Student Life Office if you have questions about plagiarism or cheating incidents. I encourage you to discuss any concerns about plagiarism or cheating with me directly and well before any assignments are handed in. Failure to understand what constitutes plagiarism or cheating is not a valid excuse for engaging in academic misconduct.

Veterans and active military personnel: Veterans and active military personnel with special circumstances (e.g., upcoming deployments, drill requirements, disabilities) are welcome and encouraged to communicate these, in advance if possible, to me. For additional information and assistance, contact the [Veterans Services Office](#). Students who need to withdraw from class or from the university due to military orders should be aware of the [military duty withdrawal policy](#).

I Am a Mandated Reporter: As a faculty member of the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, I am a mandated reporter of sexual harassment (including sexual violence). This means that I am obligated to disclose any detailed or specific information I receive about such incidents involving a member of this campus while that person is a member of this campus, regardless of whether the incident takes place on campus or off. I care about your well-being, and our course assignments sometimes lend themselves to disclosure, but you should not share any details of an incident with me **until you have discussed your options** under the new Title IX guidelines. There are confidential reporters available to students at UWL where you can have this discussion. The contact in Student Life is Ingrid Peterson, Violence Prevention Specialist, at [\(608\) 785-8062](tel:6087858062) or ipeterson@uwlax.edu. I am also happy to help direct you to counseling and support services. Simply ask me to assist you in locating a confidential reporter and I will help you to do so.

Eagle Alert System: This class will be participating in the "Eagle Alert" system through WINGS. The Early Alert system is designed to promote student success. If I notice that you are experiencing difficulties early in the semester (e.g., low scores on assignments or poor attendance), I may enter feedback into the program and you will receive an email indicating that feedback has been left for you. I may also enter positive feedback encouraging you to think about additional opportunities. You will be able to access the feedback through your student center in WINGS. I encourage you to meet with me and/or refer to the helpful campus resources listed on [UWL's Student Success](#) page.

Communication about Class Interruptions: In the event of a campus incident that impacts the availability of teaching spaces, any changes or cancellations will be

communicated to you via your university email account. Depending on the incident, some or all of the information might be posted on the UWL home page.

Student Evaluation of Instruction (SEI): UWL conducts student evaluations electronically. Approximately 2 weeks prior to the conclusion of a course, you will receive an email at your EagleApps address directing you to complete an evaluation for each of your courses. In-class time will be provided for students to complete the evaluation in class. Electronic reminders will be sent if you do not complete the evaluation. The evaluation will include numerical ratings and, depending on the department, may provide options for comments. The university takes student feedback very seriously and the information gathered from student evaluations is more valuable when a larger percentage of students complete the evaluation. Please be especially mindful to complete the surveys.

Expectations for Graded Work: I provide students feedback and/or scores on assignments that require individualized grading before a further assignment of a similar format is due. Generally, I return work that requires individual feedback within 14 days from the date the work was due. I will notify you if I am unable to grade the work within the 21-day time-frame, and will identify a revised return date. If you submit work after the due date, it may not be returned within 14 days. Your graded coursework will be returned in compliance with FERPA regulations, such as in class, during my office hours, or via the course management system through which only you will have access to your grades. After you have completed the course, any copies or records of your graded material that I retain will be accessible up to 7 weeks into the next academic term.

Inclusive Excellence (IE): IE is UWL'S and UW System's diversity initiative. It has three key aspects:

- IE focuses on historically excluded, marginalized, or underserved groups.
- IE asks us to shift our assumptions about diversity issues from a “deficit model” (e.g., assuming that the main reason some students don't succeed as well as other students is because something is wrong with or lacking in the less successful students) to a collaborative model (e.g., assuming that the institution is not successful unless all its members succeed).
- IE promotes the idea that campus success is everyone's responsibility, not just that of the campus experts on diversity.

Course Grade

The course grade for this course will be determined according the following formula:

Class Participation	15 %
Homework	15 %
Quizzes	20 %
Oral Assessments	25 %
Lesson Tests	25 %

* As you can see from weight given class participation and homework in the course grade, attendance is very important to your success in learning Russian.

Letter grades for the entire course will be assigned as follows:

La Crosse

93 % and higher = A
88 % - 92.99 % = AB
83 % - 87.99 % = B
78 % - 82.99 % = BC
70%-77.99% = C
60% - 69.99 % = D
59.99% and lower = F

Stevens Point and Oshkosh

92.5 and higher = A
90 % - 92.49 % = A-
87.5 % - 89.99 % = B+
82.5 % - 87.49 % = B
80%-82.49% =B-
77.5 % - 79.99 % = C+
70%- 77.49% = C
60 % - 69.99 % = D
59.99 % and lower = F