



Russian 1
2022-23

ELIGIBLE STUDENTS:

Adults: Students ages 18 and above who wish to begin study of Russian with no background

Class Times:
Mondays 8 PM ET

Instructor: Dr. Erin Moulton
E-mail: moultonstraphael@gmail.com

SCHEDULE FOR *RUSSIAN 1*:

CLASS SESSION DATES:

Start date: Tuesday, September 6, 2022
End date: Friday, May 26, 2023

ST. RAPHAEL SCHOOL HOLIDAYS (NO CLASSES):

Monday, September 5, 2022 (Labor Day)
Monday, November 21 – Friday, November 25, 2022 (Thanksgiving)
Monday, December 19, 2021 – Friday, January 6, 2023 (Christmas and New Year's)
Monday, February 20 – Friday, February 24, 2023 (winter break)
Monday, April 10 – Monday, April 17, 2023 (Holy Week/Pascha and Bright Monday)

RUSSIAN 1 COURSE MAP:

OFFICE HOURS: Dr. Moulton will be available by appointment for additional help as needed.

REQUIRED COURSE TEXTS:

We will focus most of our work on the free online textbook *Между нами*.
<https://mezhdunami.org/>

OPTIONAL COURSE TEXTS: Other materials as provided by the instructor.

RUSSIAN 1 COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Students will begin building a foundation to communicate in Russian in both oral conversation and writing. We will encounter the richness of Russian language and culture in both its historical and contemporary contexts. Focus will be on exposure to “real-life” language through in-class conversation, videos, visual arts, and simple literary or practical texts. The course will move through the grammatical building blocks of Russian via authentic communication tasks. As we build our knowledge of the language, we will move into using more and more Russian in the classroom, so that by the end of the academic year, the course will be conducted primarily in Russian. Written homework will be required after each lesson to allow for contemplation and reinforcement of the new material. The course is rigorous but allows time for students to engage the beauty of Russian language and culture. Grammatical concepts introduced will assist students in a deeper understanding of the English language.

In the course, students will learn how to:

- Read, write, and pronounce the Russian alphabet
- Memorize and understand introductory Russian vocabulary
- Distinguish between masculine, feminine, neuter, and plural forms
- Understand and conjugate some basic Russian verbs
- Distinguish between grammatical cases and tenses
- Have elementary-level conversations in formal and informal settings, including, but not limited to, introductions, getting to know others, cardinal numbers, families, nationalities, location and possession, emotions, preferences, and hobbies.
- Encounter Russian culture and history, especially those related to Russian Orthodox tradition.

Course Expectations: Students will be expected to be active participants in each class and to submit assigned homework on time. Students should attempt to spend time each day memorizing new vocabulary. Vocabulary quizzes and oral quizzes will be administered in class. The instructor will review online submissions of homework, give feedback, and grade online submissions of tests or quizzes. Grades will be assigned at the end of each semester.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS IN ACTION

Students will be following the sequence of study contained in *Russian 1*.

Participation is essential to successful language learning. During class students should be actively engaged in drills and discussions throughout the class period. Students are expected to arrive at class on time and with all assigned material completed. The instructor will facilitate learning for the student, but the responsibility for staying up-to-date with classwork and assignments ultimately falls to the student.

Students must submit assignments in Schoology before class begins. If assignments are not submitted before class, it is impossible for the class to proceed effectively.

All assignments will be due into the appropriate Schoology Assignment folder prior to the start of class each day. Students will submit their work by scanning their homework pages and uploading it into the Schoology assignment window. Please make sure your assignment is submitted right-side up. Photographs of completed assignments will not be accepted as they are incredibly difficult to read.

STUDENT EVALUATION: GRADING

While the study of *Russian 1* through St. Raphael School will be “restful” and enjoyable, we also recognize the need to provide grades for students who will be using this course as part of their prepared college transcript. There is a delicate balance to achieve both restful learning and excellent academic performance. Earning a specific grade should not overshadow achievement goals for mastery of this discipline. I will provide both percent mastery grades and narrative assessments at the end of each semester.

Grades will be determined according to regular class attendance, on time submission of assignments, written and oral quizzes, and a final project each semester. At least one final project will be a group project prepared and completed in class, with some additional work done outside of class time.

STUDENT EVALUATION: ASSIGNMENTS, TYPES & WEIGHTS

Dr. Moulton will communicate with students regarding assignment feedback and grading through the free online grading system, Schoology. The teacher will provide students with more detailed information and access to the Russian 1 course page.

Student’s grades will be comprised of:

1. Written assessments (quizzes to be taken in class): 15%
2. Oral quizzes (to be administered in class): 15%
3. Class Participation: 25%
4. Homework assignments: 25%
5. Final project: 20%

STUDENT EVALUATION: ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Students will often take assessment tests and/or quizzes privately at home. Students are on their honor to abide by [Scholé Academy's Learning Philosophy](#) which assumes the personal cultivation of Student-Virtues described in the Student-Parent Handbook.

Additionally, plagiarism is a serious and punishable offense. Proper citation of all sources is essential to the academic endeavor. Remember to cite any source if the information is not common knowledge or is an opinion obtained through any source. A plagiarized assignment will result in a failing grade.

THE VIRTUAL CLASSROOM:

We conduct classes online using Zoom. Students are expected to have cameras on and to participate regularly in class.

Specific information regarding the technology used by Scholé Academy (including required technology) can be found by visiting the [Technology in the Classroom](#) section of the Student Parent Handbook.

ABOUT THE INSTRUCTOR:

Dr. Erin Moulton has a deep love for education and has been teaching in some capacity for over two decades. She holds a PhD in Slavic linguistics from the University of Kansas and has also studied at Washington University in Saint Louis, Missouri, and in Saint Petersburg, Russia. In the past, she served as an instructor of Russian language, literature, and culture at University of Kansas. She has worked professionally as an editor, copywriter, and project manager in the fields of international compliance and revenue operations. She also serves as youth communications liaison for the Orthodox Church in America Diocese of the Midwest and as board president of the Orthodox Christian Translation Society. Erin and her husband, Christian, are parishioners at Holy Trinity Church in Overland Park, Kansas, where she teaches church school and assists in creating a multiyear cycle of curriculum for the parish. Erin and Christian have four children, all of whom she has educated at home over the past 15 years. moultonstraphael@gmail.com