STEM-based Russian for Advanced Heritage and Non-heritage Students: Challenges and Overcomes



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RUSS 316 Extended Russian Through STEM



Extended Russian Through STEM: The Course Overview

- 2-credit course, meets once a week;
- Designed based on UW STARTALK *Russian in the Sky and Outer Space* (2011-2015) experiences;
- First time offered in the Slavic Department of UW in the fall 2015;
- For mixed group of students: heritage and nonheritage, working in either technical fields or the humanities;
- For students who are already relatively proficient in spoken Russian (Intermediate High) and can read and write (no less then Novice High).

The Main Goal

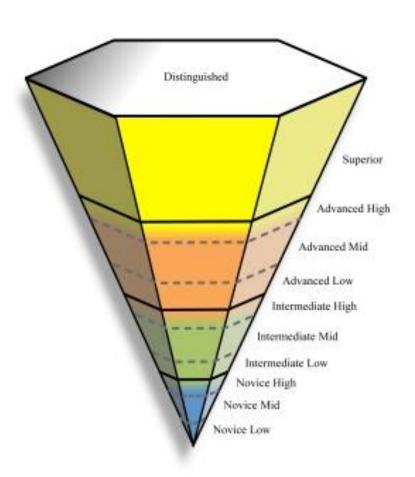
To start using Russian for professional purposes

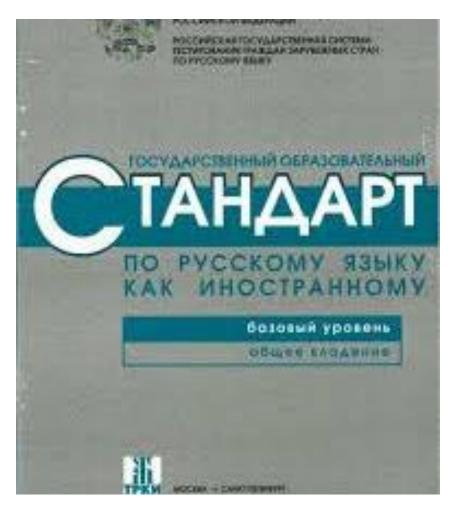
- To extend the language to the STEM fields and gain proficiency in academic style;
- To develop social stylistic registers available to educated native speakers;
- Advanced Mid-High (depend on students' current language skills).

Challenges

- How to set a goal and select a linguistic minimum of course content (only 20 hrs!)?
- Where to find resources and materials?
- How to design helpful and interesting course for every student?
- How to meet needs heritage and non-heritage students?

Standards

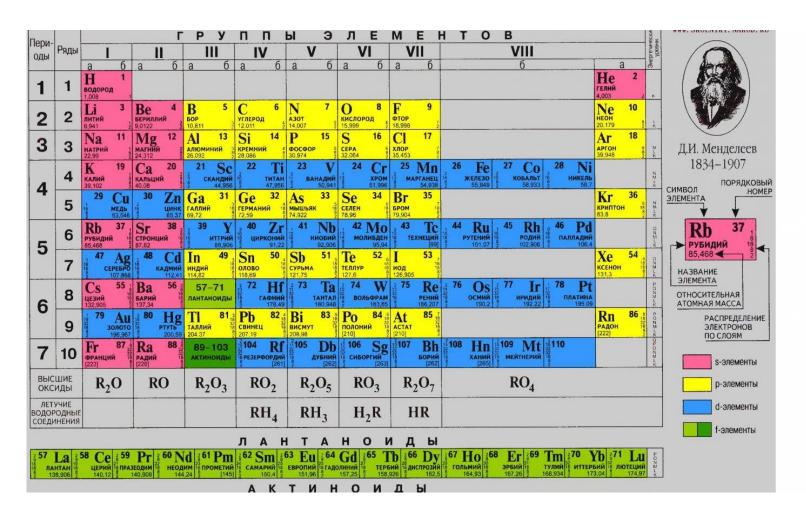




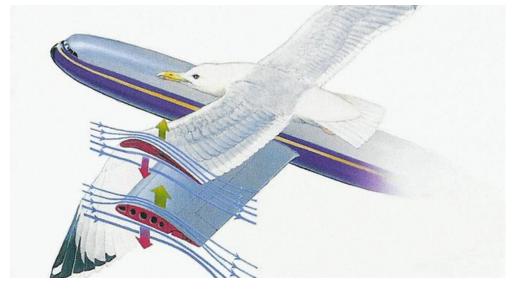
Selecting Topics

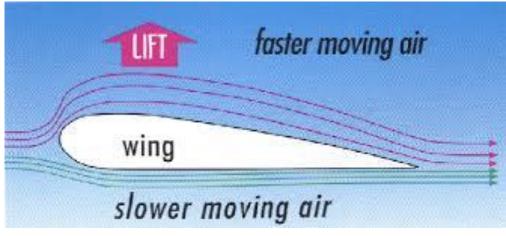
- Chemistry: Elements and compounds,
 Periodic table of elements. Dmitry Mendeleev
- Astronomy: The structure of the Solar system
- Math: Physical quantities and their measurement. How to read a graph
- Physics: Forces acting on a body. Bernoulli's principle and lifting force. Aerodynamics of airplanes. Nikolay Zhukovsky
- Engineering: How to describe and compare objects based on their technical characteristics

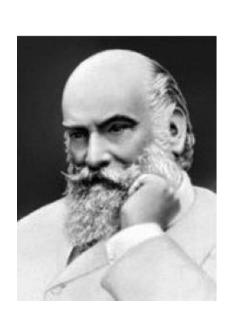
Chemistry: Elements and compounds, Periodic table of elements. Dmitry Mendeleev



Physics: Forces acting on a body. Bernoulli's principle and lifting force. Aerodynamics of airplanes. Nikolay Zhukovsky







Resources and Materials



Authentic materials: Scientific articles, websites, dictionaries, documentary films, video lectures, and business cards

Textbooks and dictionaries for references:

- Callaham's Russian-English dictionary of science and technology by Ludmilla Ignatiev Callaham; Patricia E Newman; John R Callaham. 1996
- Russian context: The culture behind the language. Eloise M Boyle, Genevra Gerhart, ch. 12. 2002
- Russian for Russians. Olga Kagan, Tatiana Akishina, Richard Robin. 2002
- Научный стиль речи. Технический профиль. Пособие по русскому языку для иностранных студентов. Т.Е. Аросева, Л.Г. Рогова, Н.Ф. Сафьянова. 2010 (2012)
- UW Language Learning Center MOODLE

Tasks and the Final Performance Assessment

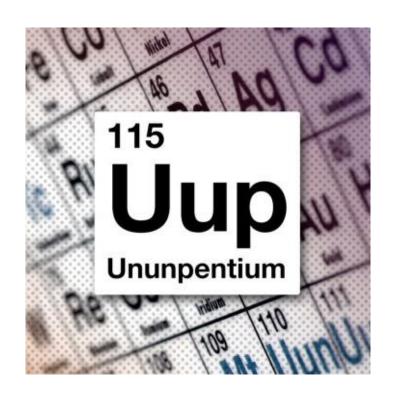
Authentic tasks: reading and discussing articles, filling out conference registration form, describing graphs and diagrams, solving and explaining problems;

Academic Reading: 2 articles (read, work on vocabulary and STEM terms, write summaries and use them for a Final Oral Presentations);

Project-based task: the Final Oral Presentation on a STEM topic of students' choices.

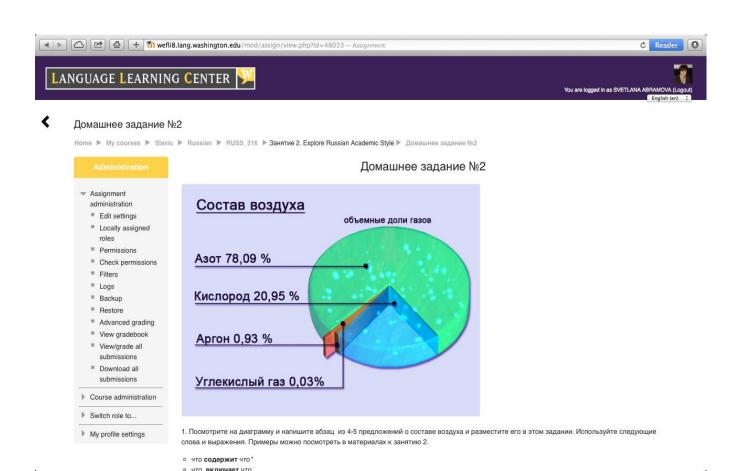
How to Motivate and Engage Students?

- Select topics they already know;
- Add some new interesting information from current research and news;
- Use authentic resources and focus on cultural context;
- Give them an opportunity to work on topics of professional interest.



What Works for HLL and Advanced SLL

- Content-based, task-based curriculum;
- Authentic materials and tasks;
- Using 99% of the target language.



RUSS-316 Course Outcomes

By the end of the course, students demonstrate the ability to:

- Express ideas and opinions when engaged in conversation related to their professional fields;
- Ask questions and exchange general information on STEM topics outside their professional fields of interest;
- Understand the main ideas and some details on STEM topics that are presented through documentary films, video lectures and presentations;
- Understand the main idea and a few supporting facts about famous scientists and scientific discoveries on STEM fields from short articles and summarized descriptions;
- Read and understand the main ideas in nonliterary texts, such as articles, reviews, and summaries on STEM topics;
- Describe their professional interests with clarity and details;
- Deliver an oral presentation on STEM topics in academic style;
- Write a summary based on articles in academic style language.



И.П. Павлова Российская конференция с международным участием

«ЭКСПЕРИМЕНТАЛЬНАЯ И КОМПЬЮТЕРНАЯ БИОМЕДИЦИНА»

памяти члена-корреспондента РАН Владимира Семеновича Мархасина

of Science

Екатеринбург, 10-12 апреля 2016 года

	О конференции	Инф.письмо 1 Инф.письмо 2	Участники	Доклады	Поиск	
© Вход	Новости конференции					
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Войти	Информационное сообще	ение				-
Восстановить пароль	Глубокоуважаемые коллеги!					
Регистрация						_
Регистрация участника конференции	Приглашаем Вас принять участие в Российской конференции с международным участием «ЭКСПЕРИМЕНТАЛЬНАЯ КОМПЬЮТЕРНАЯ БИОМЕДИЦИНА», организуемой Уральским федеральным университетом имени первого Президент					первого Президента
Основная информация	России Б.Н. Ельцина, Институтом иммунологии и физиологии Уральского отделения РАН, Уральским отделением Росс академии наук и Федеральным агентством научных организаций.				элением Российской	
Новости конференции	академии наук и Федеральным	м агентством научных организа	ции.			
Информационное сообщение	Программа конференции включает пленарные доклады и лекции ведущих российских и зарубежных ученых (Бельгия					
Осповатію паправчення	Великобритания, Германия, Испания, Нидерланды, США и др.), а также краткие доклады молодых ученых и стендовые сес					и стендовые сессии.

Student's presentation:

3D-Printed Open-Source Hand Orthosis for Individuals with Spinal Cord Injury

Moving from 2 to 5-credit Course

More time for

- Absorbing authentic materials;
- Interviewing native Russian professionals;
- Polishing presentational skills (writing and oral forms);
- Exploring cultural context, using academic style words and expressions in non-academic settings.