

SLAVIC 341 Structure of Russian  
LING 342 Structure of Various Languages: Russian  
Fall 2002

Instructor: Dr. Elisabeth Elliott                      MW: 2:30-3:50 p.m.  
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**Course description:**

The primary goal of this course is to provide an introduction to the theory and practice of Russian phonology and morphology. An increased understanding of the sound system (phonology and phonetics) and word-structure (morphology) of Russian, together with an awareness of the issues relevant in their description, will improve the student's grasp of the language, both as a practical communicative medium and as a linguistic system in and of itself. The study of Russian phonology and morphology will comprise about 3/4 of the quarter. In the remaining time we will explore other significant and interesting topics pertaining to the structure of Russian, such as syntax, foreign borrowings, forms of address, gender of nouns, sentence intonation, etc.

The course will include lectures, discussion, readings, homework assignments, and two examinations (a midterm and a final). (\*Graduate students will additionally be required to give a 10-15 minute presentation on a topic decided upon with the instructor; this assignment will count as a homework grade). Regular attendance and class participation are expected. In the event of an absence from class, it is the student's responsibility to find out what was covered and to make up the material. Excessive unexcused absences will adversely affect your grade. In order for an absence to be excused, you must contact me or leave a message on my voicemail in my office *before class*. Excused absences are those due to illness or some dire emergency, the circumstances of which are beyond your control. Advance purchase airplane tickets do not constitute an excused absence, nor justification for taking any exams on dates other than those scheduled. All homework is to be handed in on the day that is due. By doing your homework on time, you can make the most of the information learned in class, contribute to class discussion in a productive manner (which will reflect in your participation grade), and best prepare for the exams. Please review all corrections made by the instructor. Late assignments will be accepted at the instructor's discretion and only with the instructor's prior permission.

**Grading:**

The student's grade for the course will be determined as follows:

Final Examination	40%
Midterm Examination	25%
Homework	25%
Class performance and participation	10%

**Texts:**

William S. Hamilton. *Introduction to Russian Phonology and Word Structure*. Slavica Publishers, 1980.

Various articles and other reading selections to be provided by the instructor.