

Ukrainian Level 1

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Introduction

This is a course for students who have little or no prior knowledge of Ukrainian and who wish to attain a level of competence which will allow them to communicate effectively in a number of straightforward situations. Students will also be introduced to the reading of simple texts, including works of literature, in Ukrainian.

The course provides a knowledge of basic Ukrainian grammar and vocabulary as well as an introduction to the culture of Ukraine and Ukrainians, wherever they may live.

Course Details

Title	Ukrainian Language Level 1
Course Code	SEEEU101
Course Value	1 course unit
Duration	Taught in Autumn and Spring Terms
Prerequisites	Open to students who have little or no knowledge of Ukrainian
Course Leader	Marta Jenkala

Aims

The course aims to:

- enable students to learn Ukrainian *ab initio* and to attain (in all language skills) a level of competence at which they can function in Ukrainian, at a basic level, in straightforward everyday situations
- prepare students for the reading of selected texts in Ukrainian in the next stage of their degree (in courses requiring reading of literary and other texts) and for interaction with native speakers of Ukrainian, whether in this country or when visiting Ukraine
- introduce students to some of the problems and techniques of translation
- initiate and develop awareness of and interest in basic aspects of Ukraine and societies where Ukrainian is spoken
- provide students with a sound linguistic foundation for the Ukrainian Level 2 Course.

Outcomes

By the end of the course students who have successfully fulfilled all the course requirements (attendance, assignment completion, assessments, examination) should be able to:

- understand authentic basic spoken Ukrainian (including straightforward radio and television materials etc.) presented at a measured pace; extract required information and record it accurately and coherently in English
- express orally simple facts, opinions and emotions and describe uncomplex sequences of events in Ukrainian; participate in conversations relating to everyday life and on straightforward topics; using straightforward language speak about selected aspects of Ukraine, its life and culture
- understand authentic straightforward written texts in Ukrainian; extract required information (with the help of a dictionary) and record it accurately and coherently in English
- translate simple Ukrainian texts into English with accuracy and readability
- demonstrate the ability to read and understand straightforward literary, historical and/or journalistic works in Ukrainian for the purposes of further studies in literature, history and/or social science course units in Year 2
- write (with the help of a dictionary) straightforward texts in Ukrainian using a basic range of grammatical structures and vocabulary accurately and coherently
- demonstrate an understanding of basic grammatical concepts and an active knowledge of basic Ukrainian structures and vocabulary.

Teaching

Ukrainian grammar, vocabulary and basic language skills are taught by means of presentation, whole-class discussion, small-group, pair and individual exercises, using coursebooks and tutor-prepared texts, audio and video materials as well as computer and internet resources. Students are introduced to straightforward authentic texts early in the course, and are given training in the most effective use of dictionaries. Work done in class is consolidated by means of regular assignments and self-access tasks.

The course consists of 100 hours of contact time (5 hours per week). In addition, students are expected to spend a minimum of 2 hours' independent study for each hour of work in class.

Assessment

Monitoring of progress

The regular, punctual and satisfactory completion of weekly assignments is a prerequisite for completion of the course, but does not contribute to the final assessment. Students' progress will be carefully monitored by means of regular tests, exercises and home assignments, in particular in the early stages of the course.

Examination

The course is examined by:

- an oral test of 15 minutes consisting of reading aloud, presentation and a discussion in Ukrainian (15% of the overall mark)
- an aural test of approx. 45 minutes (15% of the overall mark)
- a three-hour written paper, normally held in May (70% of the overall mark).

The written examination consists of four parts:

- a series of tasks assessing knowledge and understanding of Ukrainian grammar
- a comprehension and information retrieval task consisting of a passage of approx. 250 words in Ukrainian followed by questions in English, to be answered in English
- translation into English of a Ukrainian passage of approx. 200 words
- writing in Ukrainian: an essay of approx. 200 words on a topic selected from a list of three or four titles.

The use of dictionaries is permitted **in the written paper only**.

NB Progression to the Ukrainian Level 2 course is contingent upon passing the Level 1 examination.

Key Reference Works

No single coursebook will be used; course materials produced by the teacher will be provided.

In addition, students will find the following useful:

- *Stefan Pugh & Ian Press, *Colloquial Ukrainian*, London, 1994
- George Y. Shevelov, 'Ukrainian', in Comrie & Corbett: *The Slavonic Languages*, London, 1993.

For self-help with vocabulary and the spoken language:

- *Olena Bekh and Jim Dingley, *Teach Yourself Ukrainian*, London 1997
- **Learn Ukrainian*, EuroTalk Interactive, London, 2000.

NB: Items marked * have accompanying cassettes and/or CDs.

A list of relevant websites and online reference materials will be provided at the start of the course.

Students will require a dictionary at an early stage in the course. The following is recommended (and will be available for students to buy):

- *English-Ukrainian/Ukrainian-English Dictionary*, Kyiv-Irpin, 1999.

The following bookshops stock Ukrainian books and other materials:

- Ukrainian Booksellers, 49 Linden Gardens, London W2 4HG
- Grant & Cutler, 55-57 Great Marlborough Street, London W1F 7AY.

Books may be ordered online from:

- Bay Foreign Language Books: baylanguagebooks.co.uk
- Ukrainian Bookstore, Edmonton, Canada: ukrainianbookstore.com.

An extensive collection of Ukrainian books and other materials is held at:

- Shevchenko Library and Archive, 49 Linden Gardens, London W2 4HG
Tel:020 7229 8392.