



**PEOPLES' FRIENDSHIP UNIVERSITY OF RUSSIA**

**(RUDN UNIVERSITY)**

**FACULTY OF PHILOLOGY**

**INSTITUTE OF MODERN LANGUAGES, INTERCULTURAL  
COMMUNICATION AND MIGRATION**

**Course Syllabus**

**“International Autumn school of RUDN University: Volunteering. Migration.  
International communication”**

The program is developed on the basis of the federal state educational standard of higher education 450302 Linguistics (2020); by the order of the Rector of RUDN University "On the approval of the Regulations on the point-rating system for assessing the quality of mastering basic educational programs" (RUDN, 2013).

**Who can apply:** undergraduate students

**Course platform:** Microsoft Teams

*Total hours: 72 academic hours*

*Head of the Program: \_\_\_\_\_ Head of the Department of Foreign Languages,  
Director of IMLICaM  
(Faculty of Philology, RUDN University)  
Yuliya N. Ebzeeva*

The program is designed to improve the level of professional competence and expand the existing system of knowledge, skills and abilities among foreign students planning or continuing a professional career. **International Autumn School of RUDN University provides an online course on the following topics: Volunteering. Migration. International communication.**

The aim of the course is to provide students with additional knowledge and sound understanding of what volunteering is, international communication and migration, what classifications of migration exist and what are recent trends in the field, to introduce students to theories and challenges of modern world, to orient students to proceed with field research on the basis of received knowledge. This course examines international migration and intercultural communication from both theoretical and empirical perspectives to provide students with an understanding of the factors behind current trends in international population movements and their impacts on the migrants themselves and the countries of origin and destination.

### **Is this a course for you?**

This course is specifically designed for undergraduate students who want to take their communication skills to the next level in order to become more effective in their professional circles. This course is for those who want to expand their knowledge in modern migration processes and get better understanding of volunteering movements in the world.

### **What will you learn?**

After completing this training course, participants will:

- Understand how culture influences communicative processes;
- Increase awareness of their own cultural perspective and bias;
- Learn to recognize and avoid intercultural pitfalls;
- Be able to differentiate between national culture, professional culture and organizational culture;
- Increase conceptual and regionally specific understanding of cultural communicative preferences;
- Acquire competences that allow for effective communication across cultural barriers;

- Learn more about migration processes in the world;
- Know different aspects of volunteering

This course does not require any particular prior training.

### **Course content**

1. Intercultural communication: linguistic and psychological aspects
  - Theory of intercultural communication
  - Culture: functions, general characteristics and elements
  - Essence of intercultural communication
  - Social and psychological aspects of intercultural communication
2. Student Volunteering and its social impact
  - Areas of student volunteering
  - Motivation and psychological aspect
  - Volunteers' training
  - Volunteering and job placement
3. Interpreting and Migration
  - Migration vs. Immigration: differences in meaning
  - Migration and its types
  - Migration translation services
  - Key vocabulary list related to migration
4. Student charity activity as a reflection of global social challenges
  - Psychological profile of a student doing charity
  - Top examples of world charity experience
  - Charity organizations in Russia
  - Students' benefits of charity

### **Question list for round table discussions**

1. Intercultural communication: linguistic and psychological aspects
  - What is intercultural communication?
  - What makes intercultural communication (IC) special?

- What is the role of culture in communication?
  - What are the earliest examples of IC?
  - What areas of IC are found in everyday life?
  - Describe your current intercultural contacts (international and/or domestic). To what degree do you interact with people from other cultures? In what settings?
  - What international developments add to spreading IC?
  - What did Marshall McLuhan mean by the global village? How has this term changed over time?
  - What demographic and economic realities are we witnessing at present
  - Comment on the dominant culture in a country to your choice.
  - What are the main roots of IC problems? How can they be solved?
2. Student Volunteering and its social impact
- What is a volunteer project?
  - Why do people volunteer?
  - Would you like to work as a volunteer?
  - Have you ever done any volunteer work?
  - Is volunteering worth the time it takes?
  - Do you know anyone who has done volunteer work? Where and why did they volunteer? Could you and would you like to work as a volunteer in the same way?
  - What could you do to help if you had no money?
  - What is your definition of volunteer work?
  - Have you ever benefitted by someone's volunteer work?
  - What is volunteer screening?
  - What organizations do volunteer work? What kind of work do they do?
  - Have you and your family ever worked on a volunteer project together? What did you do?
  - Have you ever volunteered to help victims of natural disasters? Why?
  - Would you volunteer to help people outside your community?
  - Would you volunteer to help people outside your country?
  - How can volunteers benefit from their work?
  - What types of volunteer work would be unpleasant for you?
  - Is there a history of volunteerism in your country?
  - Can you find information about volunteering in your country and two other countries

- Can a volunteer be treated the same as paid staff?
  - Should you volunteer if your main reason is to benefit monetarily or materialistically?
3. Interpreting and Migration
- Which countries do you think take in the most *immigrants*?
  - How do countries decide whom to allow in? What factors do they consider?
  - Do many people *emigrate* from your country? Where do most of them go?
  - Why do people usually leave your country? What are they looking for?
  - Have you considered emigrating? If you were to emigrate, where would you go? Why?
  - Which country in the world is the safest to live in? How important is safety to you?
  - Which country has the best education system? In what ways is it good?
  - Where in the world are good economic opportunities? Where is it relatively easy to make money?
  - Which country would be the most enjoyable to live in? What makes it a fun place?
  - Are there many immigrants in your country? Where do they come from?
  - What kinds of jobs do immigrants typically do in your country?
  - When did your ancestors arrive in your country or in your area? Do you know where they came from?
  - What challenges do you think an immigrant faces in a new country?
  - Do you know any recent immigrants? How did you meet them?
  - In what ways does *immigration* benefit a country?
  - What are some possible negative effects of immigration?
  - Do you think immigrants should learn to speak the language of their new country? How well do they need to speak it?
  - If you married someone from another country, how would the two of you decide where to live?
  - Do developed countries have a responsibility to welcome *refugees* from parts of the world that are experiencing difficulties? Why or why not?
  - Some people believe there should be free migration throughout the world. What would be the result of anybody being able to go anywhere?
4. Student charity activity as a reflection of global social challenges
- Have you ever worked for a charity? How long did you work there? Was it a well run charity? Did you enjoy this work?

- Do you give money to registered charities? (e.g. Red Cross, World Wildlife Fund, Green Peace) Can you name some other registered charities?
- Do you think having large charity organizations is a good idea? Why or why not? What are some of the good points? What are some of the bad points?
- Do you think that locally run charity organizations are more effective?
- Are there any charities in (your town/city)?
- How much of what you do is for yourself? How much is for other people?
- If you have something that you do not need or want anymore, do you consider giving it away? If so, what things have you given away?
- If you see a person that looks lost on the street, do you try to help them? Why or why not?
- Would you interfere if you saw a fight in public? In what scenario would you interfere?
- Have you ever hitchhiked? Have you ever picked up a hitchhiker? Why or why not?
- Do you donate blood regularly? Why or why not?
- Would you consider donating an organ while you are alive, like a kidney or a lung?
- Have you ever done volunteer work? If so, describe the work you did.
- What do you think about giving money to charity?
- Do you trust charitable organizations? Which organizations are most trustworthy?
- How often do you pass homeless people who are asking for money in the street? How do you feel in that situation? What do you do?
- Some people say that street beggars choose not to work and do not deserve charity? What do you think about that idea?
- Can you imagine living in the street? What would be most uncomfortable about that situation? How would you survive?
- What is more responsible for the rise in the number of homeless people? Government policies? Economic conditions? Poor mental healthcare? Individual failures?
- Has your family helped you in your life? In what ways?
- Among people who you are not related to, who has helped you most in your life?
- Do people help each other because it makes them feel good? If so, is helping others essentially a selfish act?
- When people are wealthy or successful, do they have a special responsibility to 'give back' and help others?
- Do you think that excessive charity can harm people whom you help?

## **Final assessment**

### **Individual/team project defense:**

Project topic is chosen by the team or individually.

Project topic is tied to the subject of the course and is chosen out of the questions for discussion.

The team may also come up with its own topic.

Duplicating is not permitted.

An oral talk outlining the project's objectives, tasks, etc., supported by the slides, should be given.

Max. time is 10 mins. for presenting and 10 mins. for the discussion.

### **Course platform: Microsoft Teams**

### **List of references**

1. Bourdieu, Pierre. 1991. Language and symbolic power. Cambridge, UK: Polity.
2. Bratt Paulston, Christina. 2005. Biculturalism: some reflections and speculations. *Intercultural discourse and communication: The essential readings*, ed. by Scott F. Kiesling and Christina Bratt Paulston, 277–87. Oxford, UK: Blackwe.
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4. De Swaan, Abram. 2001. *Words of the world: The global language system*. Cambridge, UK: Polity.
5. Eckert, Penelope, and Sally McConnell-Ginet. 1992. Think practically and look locally: language and gender as community-based practice. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 21.461–90.
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8. Goldin, I., G. Cameron and M. Balarajan. 2011 *Exceptional People: How Migration Shaped Our World and Will Define Our Future*. Princeton University Press, Princeton.
9. Faist, T. and N. Glick-Schiller (eds.) 2009 *Migration, development and transnationalization: A critical stance*. *Papers in Special Section, Social Analysis*, 53(3):106–122.
10. Skeldon, R. 2018 *International migration, internal migration, mobility and urbanization: Towards more integrated approaches*. Migration Research Series, Paper No 53, IOM, Geneva.
11. Deutscher, Guy. 2010. *Through the Language Glass: Why the World Looks Different in Other Languages*. New-York: Metropolitan Books.
12. Steiner, George. 1998. *After Babel: Aspects of Language and Translation*. Oxford University Press. USA





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### **Study Plan**

**“International Autumn school of RUDN University: Volunteering. Migration.  
International communication”**

**Aims:** advanced training, acquiring additional professional competences in the field of linguistics.

**Who can apply:** undergraduate students

**Course duration:** 72 *academic hours*

**Including:** 40 classroom hours.

**Study mode:** 10 hours per week

№	Topics	Total	Including		
			Lectures	Practice	Self-study

1	Intercultural communication: linguistic and psychological aspects	10	8	2	8
2	Student Volunteering and its social impact	10	8	2	8
3	Interpreting and Migration	10	8	2	8
4	Student charity activity as a reflection of global social challenges	10	8	2	8

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