



## **New Opportunities for Ukrainian Language Learners Through Distance Education**

In September of 2006, Saskatchewan Learning will be offering the course **e-mova: Core Ukrainian 10**, a new distance education course for English-speaking students wishing to gain high school credit standing\* in Ukrainian 10. This is a beginner level language course which replaces the Grades 9 & 10 Correspondence School Ukrainian courses previously offered by Saskatchewan Learning.

If you are interested in Ukrainian language learning through a computer-assisted approach to instruction, please fill in the 'Intent to Register' form after reading through the information presented in this package.

The information listed below is given in the pages which follow.

- **How does online language learning differ from classroom instruction?**
- **Who can apply?**
- **Am I a good candidate for online learning?**
- **Computer Needs**
- **Course Overview**
- **Intent to Register - Pre-Registration and Fee Information**

*\* Saskatchewan provincial credits have been recognized in other provinces for student transcripts.*

*If you have any questions, please contact the provincial Ukrainian Education Consultant at (306) 933-8497 or by e-mail: [Nadia.Prokopchuk@sasked.gov.sk.ca](mailto:Nadia.Prokopchuk@sasked.gov.sk.ca)*

Funding or assistance for this project has been provided by:





## How does online language learning differ from classroom instruction?

Research has shown that the best way to learn a language is through **real communication** in authentic environments where the language is supported, heard and actively used for various purposes. When these authentic environments are not available, we do our best to create supportive language learning environments in school classrooms. Each teacher becomes the authentic language model and students are encouraged to participate in classroom activities which mirror real-life situations using the target language.

The experience of the classroom cannot be recreated through computer-assisted instruction. However, online learning offers other benefits, such as:

**ACCESSIBILITY** – Course material may be accessed from different locations.

**FLEXIBILITY** – Materials are available for practise or review wherever and whenever time permits.

**ASSISTANCE** – In addition to the instructor, your parents, grandparents, relatives or a tutor will be able to access the course material in order to provide language assistance.

**INDEPENDENT STUDY** – You will have as little or as much privacy as you need when practising or repeating oral vocabulary, phrases and dialogues.

**WEB SUPPORT** – Links to authentic language resources and contact with other speakers of the language will make language learning a global experience.

Successful Ukrainian language learning online will rely greatly on the **motivation** and **learning style** of each learner. A computer screen, CD-ROM, student handbook, and access to a telephone and fax machine, will provide the necessary tools for language learning. However, students will need to develop strong, independent learning skills in order to be successful online learners. Opportunities to listen, repeat and review oral language online will only be effective if students takes advantage of these opportunities. Students will also need to take the initiative to find other avenues of support for Ukrainian language development so that language skills which are learned online may be transferred to real-life situations.

At the present time, Saskatchewan is the first Canadian province to embark on this very new, innovative approach to Ukrainian language course delivery. Course users will be key players in helping our design team to adapt, change or redesign segments of **e-mova: Core Ukrainian 10**, so that the course can effectively meet the needs of distance language learners. Feedback will be requested during the first (pilot) year of instruction.

**Oral communication skills are a very important part of learning a second language. For this reason, distance learning should be a second choice, if a classroom program is available in your local community.**



## Who can apply?

The online Core Ukrainian 10 (beginner level) course material is intended for:

- Students who are interested in taking Ukrainian 10 for provincial high school credit.

*The course is for language beginners, meaning that the Ukrainian alphabet, writing skills, basic conversation, grammatical structures and patterns are introduced. The material has been prepared specifically for high school students who are interested in taking Ukrainian as one of their high school subjects.*

- Teachers who are interested in using the material as a resource for classroom instruction.

*Qualified teachers may use this material to teach the provincial Core Ukrainian 10 course for credit. The course follows the language guidelines which have been outlined in the Saskatchewan Core Ukrainian curriculum. Teachers from other provinces are welcome to use this material as a resource for classroom instruction.*

- Adult learners who are interested in using the material for independent study or personal enrichment.

*Adult learners may use this material as a learning tool or a language resource for personal study.*



## Am I a good candidate for online learning?

It's difficult to know at this point whether you will be a successful online learner, and even more difficult to say whether you will be a successful **second language learner online**.

Research studies in the area of distance education have shown that successful online learners have several characteristics in common. Most successful online learners:

- Are highly motivated.
- Can work independently.
- Don't give up easily.
- Know how to organize their time and tasks.
- Have the support of a responsible adult who will supervise their progress and provide positive coaching when necessary.

To help with your decision regarding online learning, study the questions below and reflect on your personal learning style.

- Am I willing to work through course material on my own?
- Do I get frustrated easily when I don't understand something for the first time?
- Am I willing to contact my instructor when I have questions?
- Am I willing to read information more than once if I don't understand it?
- Am I willing to experiment with new sounds, symbols and different ways of pronouncing words?
- Can I commit a consistent amount of time each week to my studies at the computer?
- Am I comfortable using the computer for writing, reading and research?
- Can I stay focused and do assignments on time?
- Can I stay organized and meet deadlines?
- Am I able to find support for language learning among family members, in my school or in the community?



## Computer Needs

The online Core Ukrainian 10 course has been prepared for use with Microsoft Windows 1998, 2000 or Windows XP. Although other systems may also work, there is no guarantee that all interactive components will be operational. A high speed internet connection is recommended, using Internet Explorer\* as the web browser. Access to a regular telephone (not a cell phone) and a fax machine will be required.

Before you begin the online course, you will be asked to install the following:

- Ukrainian (Cyrillic) fonts
- Acrobat Reader
- PowerPoint
- Flash Animation

You will be given instructions for installation of the latest versions as part of the course material. There is no additional cost for installation of these features.

*\* If you are using the Mozilla Firefox Browser, interactive components will not be fully operational.*



## Course Overview – e-mova: Core Ukrainian 10

The following overview contains information for **Online Credit Students, Teachers and Adult Learners.**

### Online Credit Students

The duration of the **e-mova: Core Ukrainian 10** online credit course is approximately **150 days**. Students will begin the course either on **September 1 (Fall session)** or **February 1 (Spring session)** of the regular school year. Weekends, weekdays and holidays are *included* in the 150 day total. The months of July and August are *excluded* from the schedule. A mark will be assigned to the student and registered with Saskatchewan Learning when the student completes the course.

This time allotment allows students to have the equivalent of 100 hours of classroom instruction, in accordance with provincial guidelines for all high school credit courses. The course is structured to be completed either during the first or the second semester of a regular school year.

Course delivery will be both synchronous and asynchronous. Course material will be available to students at all times (asynchronous) during the period of enrolment. Contact with the instructor and other students will be pre-arranged at certain intervals (synchronous) and the instructor will also have flexible office hours for questions, oral assignments and general assistance. Fax and telephone will be used for segments of the course. Satellite coverage is also being considered.

If a student is experiencing difficulty completing the course material in a given session, there will be a 75 day window of opportunity in which the student may request to be reassigned to the **next consecutive session**. The student would begin working on the course at the point where he/she discontinued in the previous session and the original registration fee would be honoured. The registration fee is non-refundable if the student chooses to discontinue in the second session.

### Course Description

The online course **e-mova: Core Ukrainian 10** introduces the Ukrainian language to English-speaking students. The course begins with the Cyrillic alphabet and writing skills, then proceeds to basic conversation, grammatical structures and cultural content.

The course is divided into 12 segments, or Units, which span 12 days each.

**Introductory Unit:** This segment provides information about the Ukrainian language and introduces the sounds and corresponding written forms of the Cyrillic alphabet.

**Units 1 - 10:** Each of these segments introduces a new unit of language study. Each unit contains a PowerPoint dialogue presentation, oral and written practise exercises and an assignment worth 5% of the total mark.

**Summary Unit:** The last segment provides time for review and study before the final exam. The exam completes the online course.

The course is further enhanced by **Reference Sections** and **Cultural Enrichment** segments which provide information on selected Ukrainian topics. The Cultural Enrichment segments feature extended learning in Ukrainian and research assignments in English.

Students will have access to an **online teacher** at regular intervals during each 12 day block of time. Students will have opportunities to ask questions, practise oral speech and conduct oral assignments via telephone or teleconference arrangements.

### **Course Schedule At A Glance**

Days 1-12: Introduction to the Ukrainian language and Cyrillic alphabet

Days 13-25: Unit I & Assignment (5%)

Days 26-38: Unit II & Assignment (5%)

Days 39-51: Unit III & Assignment (5%)

Days 52-64: Unit IV & Assignment (5%)

Days 65-77: Unit V & Midterm Exam (15%)

Days 78-90: Unit VI & Assignment (5%) + Cultural Enrichment A (5%)

Days 91-103: Unit VII & Assignment (5%)

Days 104-116: Unit VIII & Assignment (5%)

Days 117-129: Unit IX & Assignment (5%) + Cultural Enrichment B (10%)

Days 130- 142: Unit X & Assignment (5%)

Days 142-150: Course Review; Final Exam (25%)

### **Course Evaluation**

The final mark for the course will be derived in the following manner:

Unit Assignments - 5% each x 9 Assignments	45%
Midterm Exam	15%
Cultural Enrichment Assignments A (5%) and B (10%)	15%
Final Exam	<u>25%</u>
	100%

At the end of the course, students will be able to read and write simple texts, greet family and friends, and communicate by using basic sentences, questions or phrases. Students will also gain a better understanding of elements of Ukrainian culture and history in Canada and other parts of the world.

## Teachers

The course content found in [e-mova: Core Ukrainian 10](#) provides qualified classroom teachers of Ukrainian with the necessary resource material to teach the Grade 10 Core Ukrainian credit course during the regular school term. Teachers will be given permission to access the material by registering with Saskatchewan Learning through the Saskatoon Catholic Cyber School and requesting permission to use the materials as a “hybrid” (teacher and student) resource package. When teachers register as program users, they will receive a yearly password and the corresponding package of materials which accompanies the online program. They will be asked to participate in a one year pilot project using the course materials.

The use of [e-mova: Core Ukrainian 10](#) as a classroom teaching resource has a three-fold purpose.

- (1) It gives students in Saskatchewan and various other locations **access** to a Ukrainian language high school program for credit.
- (2) It ensures that the same level of **quality** programming is available to students regardless of school schedules, teacher availability or other circumstances.
- (3) It allows students the **flexibility** to transfer between in-school and out-of-school credit programs, which follow the provincial Ukrainian language curriculum.

## Adult Learners

Many individuals become interested in learning the Ukrainian language at various phases and stages of life. Saskatchewan Learning supports **lifelong learning**, a term which means that learning does not stop after attaining a secondary or post-secondary education. For this reason, Ukrainian online course materials are being made available to adult learners who wish to pursue language learning at their own pace through independent study, without the assistance of an online teacher.

The online course will be made available to Adult Learners at a nominal fee during the first year, as part of the pilot process. When Adult Learners register for the online program, they will receive a password and the corresponding package of materials which accompanies the online program. If assistance becomes necessary, it is highly recommended that a tutor or speaker of the language in the community be approached to assist with Ukrainian language learning.

Funding or assistance for this project has been provided by:







## Intent to Register - **e-mova: Core Ukrainian 10**

### Online Credit Students

The provincial Ukrainian language distance education course will be delivered through the Saskatoon Catholic School's **Cyber School**. A qualified Ukrainian language teacher will be assigned to this credit course in the fall. Course registration and fees may be directed to the Cyber School beginning on August 15, 2006.

The regular fee for a Cyber School credit course is \$500 per student. Please contact your school principal or appropriate personnel to inquire whether distance education costs are covered by your school division.

### Teachers and Adult Learners

Ukrainian language teachers will be asked to participate in a pilot project using the course material for one year at no cost. Adults interested in using the material for independent learning will be charged a nominal fee. In order to qualify for this pilot, please send in the form below.

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Saskatchewan Learning is now accepting an *Intent to Register* for **e-mova: Core Ukrainian 10** during the coming year, beginning on September 1, 2006.

Send this information by fax (306) 933-7469 or by e-mail to the provincial Ukrainian Education Consultant: [Nadia.Prokopchuk@sasked.gov.sk.ca](mailto:Nadia.Prokopchuk@sasked.gov.sk.ca) After you have completed the Intent to Register, you will be contacted and given information about the course registration process.

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

School Division: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade (Sept. 2006): \_\_\_\_\_

Category (check one):      Student \_\_\_\_\_      High School Teacher \_\_\_\_\_  
Adult Learner \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

All registered users will receive a CD-ROM, a Student Handbook and a password which will enable you to access the course material for the 150-day duration of the course.