Title: Achieving Advanced/Level 2 Competence in the Russian Stateside Flagship
University Context: Diagnostic Tools, Curriculum Design for Individualized Instruction,
and Web-based Learning Modules.
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This presentation will discuss the University of Maryland's participation in the Domestic
Russian Flagship Initiative designed to address the learning needs of American students
striving to attain Advanced/2. UM students are typically non-native, post-study abroad
learners. The presentation will discuss the curricular design and the development of
materials, especially web-based modules intended to customize the study of Russian for
individual learners in a university context who wish to achieve Advanced
(ACTFL)/Level 2 (ILR) competence in speaking, reading and listening. The presentation
will share the experience developing and using 1) materials intended to provide
diagnostic assessment; 2) grammar and structure tutorials that target "problem areas" for
this level; and 3) self-contained, content-based internet modules based on authentic
Russian media sources and designed to improve language competence and expand
cultural knowledge. Also discussed will be the use of the "traditional classroom" time and
space, as well as one-on-one tutoring to help students reach the goal of Advanced
competence.