Russian diminutives have the specific ability to express the emotive attitude of the speaker both toward the phenomenon designated by the base stem of the word in the diminutive and toward other phenomena, notably the addressee (Volek 1987: 149–150). In this seminar, Irina Rogojin will discuss different theoretical views on speech acts and how the communication of attitude by diminutives arise through the chain of “suffix – connotation – pragmatic function – perlocutionary effect – expected result”.

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