

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

• ELEMENTARY BOSNIAN/CROATIAN/SERBIAN

SVEUČILIŠTE U PITTSBURGHU

УНИВЕРЗИТЕТ У ПИТСБУРГУ



Početni tečaj B/H/S



Почетни курс Б/Х/С

date

Fall
Semester
2019-2020

Aug 26 -
Dec 14

time

MW
6.30 -
7.45pm

202 CL

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Ljiljana Đurašković
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OFFICE: 1228B CL
OFFICE HOURS: M W 1.00-2.00pm & by
appointment

This is an introductory course in B/C/S language for students with little or no previous knowledge of the language. It is designed to establish a foundation in understanding, speaking, reading and writing of B/C/S language using basic vocabulary and grammar structures common to everyday situations.

Cultural material will also be dealt with considerably during the course through video and audio presentations and through student presentations.

Students who have completed this course should be able to hold simple basic conversations about daily routine, home, family, school and work; read and understand simple texts; write short and simple compositions about general things in their life; and, finally, should be familiar with most important aspects of Balkan cultural heritage.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Ronelle Alexander and Ellen Elias-Bursac, *Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian: A Textbook with Exercises and Basic Grammar*, Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2006.

Ronelle Alexander and Ellen Elias-Bursac, *Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian: Audio Supplement to Accompany Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian, a Textbook*, Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2006.

RECOMMENDED BOOKS

Ronelle Alexander and Ellen Elias-Bursac, *Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian: Grammar with Sociolinguistic Commentary*, Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2006.

Morton Benson, *An English – Serbo-Croatian Dictionary*, Philadelphia: University of Philadelphia Press, 1979 (or more recent editions).

FOREIGN LANGUAGE GOALS

Foreign language courses develop your skills in communication across ethnic, cultural, ideological, and national boundaries, and help you develop an understanding of other cultures and patterns of thought.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

During this course you will learn basic BCS morphology and syntax, by focusing on the four language skills, namely speaking, listening, reading, and writing. We will learn both Latin and Cyrillic alphabets and cover the basic dialectical differences between Bosnian, Croatian, and Serbian. You will familiarize yourself with the Balkan cultures even more and increase your ability to use effective strategies for language learning and communication. In addition, you will describe cultural differences in countries other than your own, and demonstrate an appreciation of these differences.

THE INSTRUCTOR'S ROLE

As a language teacher (and a native speaker and native of Montenegro) I will do my best to make our time in the classroom interesting, inspiring, and productive. We will evaluate the result at the end of the semester.

THE STUDENT'S ROLE

By registering for this course, you have chosen an opportunity to learn a major South Slavic language. The learning process requires your complete cooperation inside and outside the classroom. A very important part of your work is homework; to this, I will add that it is expected for students to hand in their homework on the day for which it was assigned. However, **if the instructor assigned it on Monday, August 26, last day to hand the homework in is Monday, September 2, otherwise you will receive no credit for the homework.**

Auditors must speak to the instructor to discuss the terms of the audit as soon as possible.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is mandatory for all class sessions. Since in-class practice is a part of the learning process, it is not possible to “do the work” without physically being in class. According to the policy commonly applied in the Slavic Department, absences are only excused due to personal ill health and other documentable extenuating circumstances.

Instructor will not review or re-teach material to students who were absent from class. Students absent from class will receive a zero for that day.

PARTICIPATION

Students should come to class fully prepared. Active class participation is important to your skill development and to the success of the course. Class participation and preparation will be assessed every day, and your final score will be calculated on a scale from 0 to 5.

CELLULAR PHONE POLICY

All cellular telephones must be switched off before coming to class. The use of all mobile devices during class is prohibited. Absolutely no text-messaging will be allowed. Deductions in the participation grade will be taken for each infraction.

B/C/S RULE

You are required to use B/C/S in the classroom. While English is occasionally necessary, we will be using exclusively B/C/S more and more as the class's proficiency advances.

GROUP WORK AND RESPECT FOR OTHERS

This class relies heavily on all students working together. Some students will quickly grasp a given grammar concept or memorize new vocabulary while others might require more time to process language information. Personality types can also play a role in how people learn languages. Please be patient and respectful to your peers at all times. Remember that you need interaction with your classmates to activate what you have practices in written work. Students are expected to work on class activities in pairs and groups comprised of any of their peers. Disrespectful attitudes to others' learning is counterproductive and will not be tolerated.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Cheating/plagiarism will not be tolerated. Students suspected of violating the University of Pittsburgh Policy on Academic Integrity, noted below, will be required to participate in the outlined procedural process as initiated by the instructor. A minimum sanction of a zero score for the quiz, exam or paper will be imposed. (For the full Academic Integrity policy, go to www.provost.pitt.edu/info/ai1.html.)

DISABILITY RESOURCE SERVICES

If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and the Office of Disability Resources and Services, 140 William Pitt Union, 412-648-7890, as early as possible in the term. Disability Resources and Services will verify your disability and determine reasonable accommodations for this course.

E-MAIL COMMUNICATION POLICY

Each student is issued a University e-mail address (username@pitt.edu) upon admittance. This e-mail address may be used by the University for official communication with students. Students are expected to read e-mail sent to this account on a regular basis. Failure to read and react to University communications in a timely manner does not absolve the student from knowing and complying with the content of the communications. The University provides an e-mail forwarding service that allows students to read their e-mail via other service providers (e.g., Hotmail, AOL, Yahoo). Students that choose to forward their e-mail from their pitt.edu address to another address do so at their own risk. If e-mail is lost as a result of forwarding, it does not absolve the student from responding to official communications sent to their University e-mail address. To forward e-mail sent to your University account, go to <http://accounts.pitt.edu>, log into your account, click on **Edit Forwarding Addresses**, and follow the instructions on the page. Be sure to log out of your account when you have finished. (For the full E-mail Communication Policy, go to www.bc.pitt.edu/policies/policy/09/09-10-01.html.)

HOMEWORK

Written homework will be assigned for practically every class meeting and must be turned in on the day it is due. Late homework will not be accepted. Instructors will return homework promptly

Last, but – by no means – least, your own ideas are always more than welcome – only through open and creative interaction can we hope that to be successful.

GRADING:

QUIZZES: There will be **two oral quizzes** during the semester. The instructor may conduct short written quizzes, but only with the prior announcement.

TESTS: There will be two written quizzes/tests, midterm and a final exam during the semester. The test dates are as follows:

Test 1: Wednesday, September 25, 2019

Test 2: Wednesday, November 6, 2019

MIDTERM EXAM: Monday, October 16, 2019
FINAL EXAM: Wednesday, December 11, 2019

PRESENTATION

Students are required to prepare one presentation on the Balkan Culture topic. Your presentation should be in English. All topics will be discussed in class with your instructor.

Your final grade will be calculated according to the following scale:

| | |
|---|------------|
| Tests and Quizzes | 40% |
| 2 Oral Quizzes – 10% | |
| Test 1 – 10% | |
| Test 2 – 10% | |
| Presentation and Quizzes– 10% | |
| Exams | 30% |
| Midterm Exam – 15% | |
| Final Exam – 15% | |
| Attendance and Class Participation | 20% |
| Written Homework | 10% |

Your final percentage will determine your final grade, as follows:

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|----------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|----------|---------------|
| A | 93 - 100 | B+ | 88 - 89 | C+ | 78 - 79 | D+ | 68 - 69 | E | 64 & below |
| A- | 90 - 92 | B | 83 - 87 | C | 73 - 77 | D | 65 - 67 | | |
| | | B- | 80 - 82 | C- | 70 - 72 | | | | |

TENTATIVE CLASSROOM SYLLABUS¹

¹ Subject to change

| DAY | DATE | LESSON | TOPIC | TEXTBOOK PAGES |
|-----|--------------|--------|---|---------------------------|
| M | August 26 | 1 | <i>Dobar dan!</i> Greetings, introduction to B/C/S, syllabus, books, alphabets, pronunciation. | |
| W | August 28 | 1 | <i>Hajde da pišemo!</i> Practicing Cyrillic and Latin alphabets. <i>Kako se zoveš?</i> | 1,2,6-7. |
| W | September 4 | 1 | <i>Kako se zoveš?</i> <i>Hajde da pišemo!</i> Practicing Cyrillic and Latin alphabets. | 1,2,6-7 |
| M | September 9 | 1 | <i>Šta/što je ovo? Ko (tko) je ovo?</i> | 2-5, 6 |
| W | September 11 | 1 | <i>Šta/što je ovo? Ko (tko) je ovo?</i> <i>Čije je ovo?</i> | 2-3, 6, 35 |
| M | September 16 | 1 | <i>Čije je ovo?</i> | 4-5. |
| W | September 18 | 1 | <i>Kakvo je ovo ?</i> <i>Hajde da brojimo, studenti!</i> (Vocative case and numbers/numerals) | 2-6, 19 |
| M | September 23 | 2 | <i>Ovo su knjige/student!! (N Pl)</i> | 2-5, 6, 35. |
| W | September 25 | | TEST 1 | |
| M | September 30 | 2 | <i>Šta radiš? Učimo glagole.</i> | 20,21,22 |
| W | October 2 | 2 | <i>Šta (što) imaš? Imaš li...?</i> | 22-24. |
| M | October 7 | 2 | <i>Koga vidiš? Što vidiš?</i> | 22-25. |
| W | October 9 | 2 | <i>Kupujem onog psa!</i> | 24-28. |
| M | October 14 | | REVIEW | |
| W | October 16 | | MIDTERM EXAM | |
| M | October 21 | 3 | <i>Kako ste?(Acc plural)</i> | 35-38. |
| W | October 23 | 3 | <i>Kuda ideš?</i> | 65-70. |
| M | October 28 | 3 | <i>Šta više voliš?</i> | 41-42 43-44 (handouts) |

| | | | | |
|---|-------------|---|-----------------------------------|--------|
| W | October 30 | 4 | <i>Odakle ste?</i> | 47. |
| M | November 4 | 4 | <i>Sto je pored prozora.</i> | 53. |
| W | November 6 | | TEST 2 | |
| M | November 11 | 4 | <i>U restoranu.</i> | 51-53. |
| W | November 13 | 4 | <i>I još nešto da ti kažem...</i> | 53-55. |
| M | November 18 | 4 | <i>Ovo su Markove knjige.</i> | 49-53. |
| W | November 20 | 5 | <i>Imam 2, 3 jabuke...</i> | 63-65. |
| M | December 2 | 5 | <i>Koliko imaš prijatelja?</i> | 63-65. |
| W | December 4 | 5 | <i>Koliko je sati?</i> | 65-67. |
| M | December, 9 | | PRESENTATION | |