UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH  
Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures  
[Slovak 0020-1040]  
[ELEMENTARY SLOVAK]  
Spring Semester 2019

Elementary Slovak  
Classroom: 319 Cathedral of Learning  
Time: Monday and Wednesday, 6:00 PM – 7:15 PM  
Instructor: Maria Staskova  
Email: MAS802@pitt.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION:  
After second-semester Slovak you will learn how to communicate on many practical topics, and will begin to pass beyond one-word and simple-sentence responses to the stage of building paragraph-level discourse. You will be a good candidate for a reputable study-abroad program in Slovakia, and you should be encouraged to do this. The ultimate aim of the program is to be able to communicate and get along in Slovakia as a thoughtful and open-minded individual both representative of your own culture and knowledgeable about the language and culture of Slovakia.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK: Martin Votruba, Slovak from Scratch
RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOK: Jozef Mistrik, Basic Slovak, SPN, siedme vydanie 2007, Renata Kamenarova, Krizom-Krazom, Slovencina A1, Univerzita Komenskeho v Bratislave, (Copies will be distributed to students by the instructor as appropriate), Miscellaneous handouts

ATTENDANCE: Students are expected to attend all classes. More than one unexcused absence will affect the final grade. More than two will result in failure of the course, regardless of the student’s prior standing. Airline reservations and other travel plans do not constitute excused absences, unless permission is granted in advance. Absent students are responsible for acquiring relevant class notes and handouts from fellow students. Work assigned in a student’s absence will not be given a later deadline without prior agreement with the instructor.

THE INSTRUCTOR’S ROLE: As a language instructor (and a native speaker and native of Slovakia) I will do my best to make our time in the classroom interesting, inspiring, and productive.

THE STUDENT’S ROLE: By registering for this course, you have chosen an opportunity to learn a beautiful, melodic Slavic language. Since your exposure to the Slovak language is so limited, 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.

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 part of the final grade.
**DISABILITY POLICY.** Students with a disability that requires special teaching or other modifications should notify the instructor and the Office of Disabled Student Services (412-648-7890 Voice or TDD; 216 William Pitt Union) and schedule an appointment no later than the Add/Drop date. The student may be asked to provide documentation of the disability to determine the appropriateness of accommodations.

**INTEGRITY.** Students should familiarize themselves with the Academic Integrity Policy, available at [http://www.as.pitt.edu/fac/policies/academic-integrity](http://www.as.pitt.edu/fac/policies/academic-integrity). Plagiarism results in an F.

**CELL PHONE AND LAPTOP POLICY.** Electronic devices are in the “off” setting during class. Laptops are discouraged; consult with the instructor if you must use them for note-taking.

**EVALUATION.** Students will be evaluated on the basis of four areas of work: discussion; in-class writing; three presentations; and the short, final paper.

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

- Written Quizzes 20%
- Dictations 15%
- Verbal test 15%
- Midterm Exam 20%
- Final Exam 20%
- Class Participation & Homework 10%

**Tentative Classroom Syllabus** (order is subject to change based on class development)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>TEXTBOOK</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>01/07/19</td>
<td>• Reading</td>
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<td>• Pronunciation</td>
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<td>• Vocabulary assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>01/09/19</td>
<td>• Greetings</td>
<td>YouTube, handout</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>• Conjugation of Verb “BYT”</td>
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<td>• Conjugation of Verbs ending with –at and -it</td>
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<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>01/14/19</td>
<td>• Quiz 1 – Conjugation of BYT/MAT</td>
<td>handout</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Conjugation of Verb “MAT”</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Conjugation of Verbs ending with –at and –it (continue)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>01/16/19</td>
<td>• Conjugation of Verbs ending</td>
<td>Votruba, Page</td>
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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
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<th>Topics</th>
<th>Handouts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>01/23/19</td>
<td>Numbers, Accusative (continue), Shopping in the grocery store, Ma Holu Hlavu a Velky, Prepositions governing accusative case</td>
<td>Handouts, Kamenarova, Page 29, Votruba, Page 57, Mistrik, Page 88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>01/28/19</td>
<td>Accusative (continue), Traja Tenori, Personal pronoun in Accusative</td>
<td>Votruba, Page 64,65, Mistrik, Page 44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>01/30/19</td>
<td>Quiz 2 – Accusative + conjugation of verbs + Numbers, Days of the week (+ days in accusative) + dnes, vcera, zajtra</td>
<td>Votruba, Page 62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>02/04/19</td>
<td>Possessives (human being), Possessive pronounCi?, cia?, cie? - Moj, moja, moje</td>
<td>Mistrik, Page 36, Votruba, Page 27, Kamenarova, Page 41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>02/06/19</td>
<td>Numbers (continue), Ordinal numbers – prvý, druhy,…, Numbers with nouns</td>
<td>Handouts, Kamenarova, Page 58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>02/11/19</td>
<td>Reading and listening, Dictation</td>
<td>Handouts</td>
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<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>02/13/19</td>
<td>Adjectives – 3 degrees – slaby, slabsi, najslabsi + dolezity, dolezitejši, najdolezitejši, Irregular adjectives – dobry, zly, maly, velky, Derivation of Adverbs from adjectives</td>
<td>Mistrik, Page 73, Mistrik, Page 67</td>
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<tr>
<td>Day</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Topics</td>
<td>Pages/Handouts</td>
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| M   | 02/18/19   | - Dative – *Komu? Comu?*  
- Personal pronounce in Dative                                                          | Mistrik, Page 44                                    |
| W   | 02/20/19   | - Past Tense verb *BYT, MAT*                                                               | Mistrik, Page 41                                    |
| M   | 02/25/19   | - Past Tense verbs (continue)  
- Colors                                                                                     | Mistrik, Page 41  
Kamenarova, Page 72 and Page 109                      |
| W   | 02/27/19   | - Quiz 3 - Dative, Numbers, Past Tense  
- Reflexive Verbs – *cesat sa, ponahlat sa, tesit sa*                                    | Handouts Kamenarova, Page 137                        |
| M   | 03/04/19   | Midterm Exam                                                                             |                                                     |
| W   | 03/06/19   | - Genitive – *Koho?, Coho?, Od koho?, Od coho*                                          | Mistrik, Page 51                                    |
|     |            | - Genitive (continue)  
- Personal pronounce in Genitive                                                           |                                                     |
| M   | 03/18/19   | - Modal Verbs – *musiet, moct*  
- *Internat Rano*  
- Plurale tantum – *bodinky, nobatice*  
- *Dictation*                                                        | Votruba, Page 66  
Kamenarova, Page 77 and 59                            |
| W   | 03/20/19   | - Future tense  
- *Co budem robit zajtra*  
- *Este/uz*                                                                                  | Mistrik, page 56  
Kamenarova, Page 112                                 |
| M   | 03/25/19   | - Present, past, future repetition  
- Quiz 4 – Genitive, Modal Verbs, Future Tense                                                | Votruba, Page 77  
Kamenarova, Page 125                                 |
| W   | 03/27/19   | - Locative – *O kom? O com?*  
- Propositions with locative  
- *Moj Pekny Byt*  
- Personal pronounce in Locative                                                      | Votruba, Page 77  
Kamenarova, Page 125                                 |
| M   | 04/01/19   | - Months and Seasons  
- Date  
- *Ako casto?*                                                                               | Votruba, Page 80  
Kamenarova, Page 121                                 |
| W   | 04/03/19   | - Modal verbs Past Tense – *musiet a smiet; nemusiet a nesmiet*                      | Votruba, Page 98  
Kamenarova, Page 111 n                               |
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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| M 04/08/19 | Time  
Quarters and Halves  
Z Ameriky na Slovensko  
Kolko je hodin? | Votruba, Page 133  
Kamenarova, Page 103 |
| W 04/10/19 | Instrumental – S kym? S cím?  
Genitive and Instrumental from personal pronouns – mňa, teba, jeho,.....  
Propositions with Instrumental | Mistrik, Page 60  
Kamenarova, Page 90 |
| M 04/15/19 | Imperative – chytaj! | Mistrik, page 87 |
| W 04/17/19 | Verbal Test |  |
| M 04/22/19 | New words by adding prefixes and suffixes – podpisat, analyzovat  
Diminutives of nouns – tvar, tvářicka | Mistrik, page 101 |
| W 04/24/19 | Final Exam |  |