

# UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

## • ELEMENTARY BOSNIAN/CROATIAN/SERBIAN

SVEUČILIŠTE U PITTSBURGHU

УНИВЕРЗИТЕТ У ПИТСБУРГУ



Početni tečaj B/H/S



Почетни курс Б/Х/С

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Ljiljana Đurašković  
**E-MAIL ADDRESS:** ljiljana@pitt.edu  
**PHONE:** (412) 624-5908  
**OFFICE:** 1229C CL  
**OFFICE HOURS:** M W 1.00-2.00pm & by appointment

date

Fall  
Semester  
2017

Aug 28 -  
Dec 13

time

MW  
6.30 -  
8.10pm

129 CL

*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-Bursać, *Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian: A Textbook with Exercises and Basic Grammar*, Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2006.

Ronelle Alexander and Ellen Elias-Bursać, *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-Bursać, *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 28, last day to hand the homework in is Monday, September 4, 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 practiced 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.

## **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

Those students who require special testing accommodations or other classroom modifications are encouraged to notify their instructor and must notify the Office of Disability Resources and Services no later than the end of the first week of classes. Students may be asked to provide documentation of their disabilities to determine the appropriateness of their requests. The Office of Disability Resources and Services is located in 216 William Pitt Union and is available by telephone (voice or TTY) at 412-648-7890.

## **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.

**TEST:** There will be two tests, midterm and a final exam during the semester. The test dates are as follows:

**Test 1:** Monday, October 2, 2017

**Test 2:** Monday, November 20, 2017

**MIDTERM EXAM:** Monday, October 30, 2017

**FINAL EXAM:** TBD

## **PRESENTATION**

**Students are required to prepare one presentation on a 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:

<b>Tests and Quizzes .....</b>	<b>40%</b>
<b>2 Oral Quizzes –</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Test 1 –</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Test 2 –</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Presentation and Quizzes–</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Exams .....</b>	<b>30%</b>

**Midterm Exam – 15%**

**Final Exam – 15%**

**Attendance and Class Participation ..... 20%**

**Written Homework ..... 10%**

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

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

## TENTATIVE CLASSROOM SYLLABUS<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Subject to change

DAY	DATE	LESSON	TOPIC	TEXTBOOK PAGES
M	August, 28	1	<i>Dobar dan!</i> Greetings, introduction to B/C/S, syllabus, books, alphabets, pronunciation.	
W	August, 30	1	<i>Hajde da pišemo!</i> Practicing Cyrillic and Latin alphabets. <i>Kako se zoveš?</i>	1,2,6-7.
W	September, 6	1	<i>Šta/što je ovo? Ko (tko) je ovo?</i>	2-5
M	September, 11	1	<i>Čije je ovo? Kakvo je ovo?</i>	2-3.
W	September,13	2	<i>Ivane, hajde da brojimo!</i>	19.
M	September,18	2	<i>Kakvo je ovo ?</i>	
W	September, 20	2	<i>Šta radiš? Učimo glagole.</i>	20,21,22
M	September, 25	2	<i>Šta radiš? Učimo glagole.</i>	20,21,22
W	September,27		<i>Review 1 (handouts and textbook exercise; 8-12)</i>	
M	October, 2		<b>TEST 1</b>	
W	October, 4	2	<i>Šta (što) imaš? Imaš li...?</i>	22-24.
<b>T</b>	<b>October, 10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b><i>Koga vidiš? Što vidiš?</i></b>	
W	October, 11	3	<i>Kupujem onog psa!</i>	24-28.
M	October, 16	3	<i>Kako ste?</i>	35-38.
W	October, 18	3	<i>Kuda ideš?</i>	65-70.
M	October, 23	3	<i>Šta više voliš?</i>	41-42 43-44 (handouts)
W	October, 25		<i>Review 2 (handouts and textbook exercise; 42-43, 55-57))</i>	
M	October, 30		<b>MIDTERM EXAM</b>	
W	November, 1	4	<i>Odakle ste?</i>	47.
M	November, 6	4	<i>Čije su ovo knjige. Markove.</i>	49-50.
W	November, 8	4	<i>I još nešto da ti kažem...</i>	51-53.
M	November, 13	5	<i>Pet mačaka i pet pasa...</i>	63-64.
W	November, 15	5	<i>(T)Ko dolazi?</i>	67. 68-69 (handouts)
M	November, 20		<b>TEST 2</b>	
M	November, 27	6	<i>Gdje živiš?U Beogradu? Zagrebu? Sarajevu?</i>	81-83.
W	November, 29	6	<i>Ovo je moj stan.</i>	79-80.
M	December, 4	6	<i>O kome/čemu govoriš?</i>	79-80.
W	December, 6		<b>PRESENTATION</b>	

