

**Syllabus**  
**Elementary Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian**  
**BCS 101 (Session I Course #40765) & BCS 102 (Session II Course # 40766)**  
**Critical Languages Institute: Summer 2023**

<b>Classroom:</b>	TBA	<b>Meeting times:</b>	M–F 08:30a–12:35p PDT
<b>Instructor:</b>	Ena Hasečić	<b>Phone:</b>	
<b>Zoom:</b>		<b>Office hours:</b>	as agreed
<b>Office:</b>	TBA	<b>Website:</b>	canvas.asu.edu
<b>E-mail:</b>			

**Required Textbooks:**

1. Alexander, Ronelle & Elias Bursac, Ellen. *Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian: A Textbook with Exercises and Basic Grammar*, University of Wisconsin Press, 2010, ISBN 0299236544.
2. *Čitam i pričam, vježbanka za učenje bosanskog, hrvatskoga, srpskog kao drugog/stranog jezika*, nivo A1 (Udruženje Lingvisti) – note: available only in pdf
3. *Čitam i pričam, vježbanka za učenje bosanskog, hrvatskoga, srpskog kao drugog/stranog jezika*, nivo A2 (Udruženje Lingvisti) – note: available only in pdf
4. Alexander, Ronelle: *Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian: A Grammar with Sociolinguistic Commentary*, University of Wisconsin Press, 2006, ISBN 0299211940.

**Recommended materials:**

BCS-English and English-BCS dictionary.

**About the course:**

This intensive course provides a comprehensive introduction to Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian and to Balkan culture, while ensuring a solid command of the fundamental grammatical structures.

By the completion of this course, all students are expected to acquire a proficiency level of “Novice High” or better in listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

Students at this level should be able to:

- Read and write the language and comprehend short conversations on everyday topics.
- Write and translate simple texts, write short essays, letters, and advertisements.
- Make polite requests, ask for information, respond to requests and descriptions, impart personal information, have simple discussions on familiar, everyday topics, and make apologies.

In addition, the course will help students recognize common knowledge, beliefs, attitudes, and behavioral patterns of the Balkan peoples, and to detect and conform to fundamental verbal and nonverbal cultural norms.

To solidify their language and cultural gains, students are highly encouraged to take advantage of the ASU summer program in Sarajevo.

**Program Structure:**

This class is divided into two sessions. The first session covers the material normally included in the fall semester. The second covers the material normally included in the spring semester.

You will receive two grades; one for each session.

Session I: May 30—June 21 (final exams on June 21)

Session II: June 22—July 14 (final exams on July 13)

\*No class July 4<sup>th</sup>

**Grading system per session:**

Class participation	15%
Homework	15%
Weekly tests, quizzes, presentations	50%
Final examination	20%

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Percent</i>
A+	98–100
A	93–97
A-	90–92
B+	87–89
B	83–86
B-	80–82
C+	77–79
C	70–76
D	60–69
F	0–59

**Class Time versus Homework:**

This intensive course relies heavily on work performed outside the class.

Class time concentrates on activities that you cannot perform effectively without the immediate feedback of an instructor, for example: conversation, structured oral drills, active listening comprehension, etc.

Activities for which no instructor is necessary will typically be performed as homework, for example: reading, writing, and composition; grammar, etc.

In particular, you will be expected to **read ahead** and to **work with material that has not yet been covered in class**. It is your responsibility to learn assigned material before class, then come to class prepared to apply what they have learned. Instructors will not necessarily go over every homework topic in class. Instead, they will concentrate on topics that are particularly difficult or particularly important. Nonetheless, you are responsible for mastering every topic assigned, **including topics not emphasized in class**.

With a course moving at 5 times the usual speed, preparation is critical. Students who come to class unprepared will find it difficult to succeed.

**Attendance and Class Participation:**

Since the course relies so heavily on listening and speaking practice, attendance and participation are mandatory and count toward your final grade.

Class participation will reflect your daily preparation and active participation in class discussions. A student who is chronically late to class, leaves early, or is not prepared to participate will not receive full attendance and participation credit.

Students who miss more than **two classes** over the course of the 7-week session **without prior consent** of the instructor or CLI administration will **receive a zero** for class participation and will be asked to **withdraw** from the course. Absences may be excused on a case-by-case basis. Extenuating circumstances should be discussed with the instructor. However, that does not guarantee that an exception will be made.

Students who need to be absent from class due to religious observances (ACD 304-04: Accommodations for Religious Practices) or due to participation in university-sanctioned activities (ACD 304-02: Missed Classes Due to University-Sanctioned Activities) should notify the instructor at the beginning of the semester about the need to be absent from class and make arrangements to make up missed assignments and in-class work.

### **Homework Grading:**

Homework is your opportunity to practice new structures. It is expected that you will make mistakes; you will not be marked down for doing so. As long as you complete your homework and turn it in on time, you will receive full credit.

### **Grade Appeals**

Grade disputes must first be addressed by discussing the situation with the instructor. If the dispute is not resolved with the instructor, the student may appeal to the department chair per the University Policy for Student Appeal Procedures on Grades.

### **Drop/Add and Withdrawal Dates**

This course adheres to a compressed schedule and may be part of a sequenced program, therefore, there is a limited timeline to drop or add the course. Students should consult with their assigned academic advisor and notify their instructor to add or drop this course. If a student is considering a withdrawal, please review the following ASU policies: Withdrawal from Classes, Medical/Compassionate Withdrawal, and a Grade of Incomplete.

### **Communication and Technology Requirements**

Canvas Email/Messages is an official means of communication among students, faculty, and staff. Students are expected to read and act upon messages in a timely fashion. Students bear the responsibility of missed messages and should check their ASU-assigned email regularly. *All instructor correspondence will be sent to students via their ASU email account.*

This course requires a computer with Internet access and the following:

- Web browsers (Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, or Safari)
- Adobe Acrobat Reader (free)
- Adobe Flash Player (free)
- Webcam, microphone, headset/earbuds, and speaker
- Microsoft Office or Google Drive (Microsoft 365 and Google Drive are free for all currently-enrolled ASU students)
- Reliable broadband internet connection (DSL or cable) to stream videos.

*Note:* A smartphone, iPad, Chromebook, etc. may not be sufficient for completing work in ASU courses. While students will be able to access course content with mobile devices, students must use a computer for all assignments, quizzes and exams, and virtual labs.

### **Technical Support**

This course uses Canvas to deliver content. It is accessible through MyASU at <http://my.asu.edu> or the Canvas home page at <https://myasucourses.asu.edu>. To monitor the status of campus networks and services, visit the System Health Portal at <http://syshealth.asu.edu/>. To contact the help desk, call toll-free at 1-855-278-5080.

## **Language Tutoring and Other Campus Resources**

SILC Learning Support Services offers free language tutoring services. They provide both face-to-face and online tutoring. To check their schedule and sign-up for a tutoring session, go to <https://silc.asu.edu/learning-support-services/tutoring> (scroll down to find the schedule for tutors in for the student's target language).

Please refer to the following additional resources available to ASU students:

- [ASU Academic Success Program](#) (tutoring)
- [Counseling Services](#)
- [Financial Aid](#)
- [Disability Resource Center](#)
- [Major & Career Exploration](#)
- [Career Services](#)
- [Student Organizations](#)

## **Academic Integrity**

Academic honesty is expected of all students in all examinations, papers, and laboratory work, academic transactions and records. The possible sanctions include, but are not limited to, appropriate grade penalties, course failure (indicated on the transcript as a grade of E), course failure due to academic dishonesty (indicated on the transcript as a grade of XE), loss of registration privileges, disqualification and dismissal from ASU. For more information, see <http://provost.asu.edu/academicintegrity>.

## **Accommodating Students with Disabilities**

Students who feel they will need disability accommodations in this class but have not registered with the Student Accessibility and Inclusive Learning Services should contact SAILS immediately. The SAILS Tempe office is located on the first floor of the Matthew Center Building. SAILS staff can also be reached at (480) 965-1234 (v) or (480) 965-9000 (TTY). For additional information visit: <https://eoss.asu.edu/accessibility>.

## **Policy Against Threatening Behavior**

All incidents and allegations of violent or threatening conduct by an ASU student (whether on or off campus) must be reported to the ASU Police Department (ASU PD) and the Office of the Dean of Students. If either office determines that the behavior poses or has posed a serious threat to personal safety or to the welfare of the campus, the student will not be permitted to return to campus or reside in any ASU residence hall until an appropriate threat assessment has been completed and, if necessary, conditions for return are imposed. ASU PD, the Office of the Dean

of Students, and other appropriate offices will coordinate the assessment in light of the relevant circumstances.

### **Reporting Title IX Violations**

Title IX is a federal law that provides that no person be excluded on the basis of sex from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. Both Title IX and university policy make clear that sexual violence and harassment based on sex is prohibited. An individual who believes they have been subjected to sexual violence or harassed on the basis of sex can seek support, including counseling and academic support, from the university. If you or someone you know has been harassed on the basis of sex or sexually assaulted, you can find information and resources at <https://sexualviolenceprevention.asu.edu/faqs>.

As a mandated reporter, I am obligated to report any information I become aware of regarding alleged acts of sexual discrimination, including sexual violence and dating violence. ASU Counseling Services, <https://eoss.asu.edu/counseling>, is available if you wish to discuss any concerns confidentially and privately. ASU online students may access 360 Life Services, <https://goto.asuonline.asu.edu/success/online-resources.html>.

### **Policy on Sexual Discrimination**

Arizona State University is committed to providing an environment free of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation for the entire university community, including all students, faculty members, staff employees, and guests. ASU expressly prohibits discrimination, harassment, and retaliation by employees, students, contractors, or agents of the university based on any protected status: race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, and genetic information.

### **Copyrighted Materials**

All content in this course, including video lectures/meetings, presentations, assignments, discussions, quizzes, and exams is protected by copyright and may not be shared, uploaded, sold, or distributed.

Students must refrain from uploading or submitting material that is not the student's original work to any website, course shell, or discussion used in this course or any other course unless the students first comply with all applicable copyright laws. Instructors reserve the right to delete materials on the grounds of suspected copyright infringement. Any recording of class sessions by students is prohibited, except as part of an accommodation approved by the Disability Resource Center.

## Syllabus Disclaimer

The syllabus is a statement of intent and serves as an implicit agreement between the instructor and the student. Every effort will be made to avoid changing the course schedule, but the possibility exists that unforeseen events will make syllabus changes necessary. Please remember to check your ASU email and the course site often.

## Daily Schedule: (MST/PST)

8:30–10:00 Class  
10:00–10:30 Break  
10:30–11:30 Class  
11:30–11:40 Break  
11:40–12:35 Class

## Course Outline (subject to change):

### SESSION I

Week	Chapters	Material covered
Week 1	<b>Friday (June 2): TEST ONE</b>	<p><b>Culture:</b> General introduction to the BCS language(s) and the countries of ex-Yugoslavia.</p> <p><b>Structures:</b> Alphabet and pronunciation, Writing (special focus on the letters <i>č, ć, dž, đ, lj, nj</i>), Vocabulary; spelling of personal names, Nouns and gender (<i>muški, ženski i srednji rod</i>), Nominativ case, Making simple questions.</p> <p>Demonstrative pronouns in BCS (<i>ovo, to, ono</i>), Adjectival pronouns (<i>taj, ta, to/ti, te, ta</i>), Verb conjugation (singular and plural <i>ti/vi=you</i>, differences, and use), Present tense of verbs; verb to be (<i>biti</i>).</p> <p>Pronouns in Nominativ (<i>ja, ti</i> etc.), Adjectives, Nouns denoting professions and nationalities; Vocative case and politeness formulas; Variant forms: ijekavian and ekavian.</p> <p><b>Lexical fields:</b> Nationalities, Language, Introducing oneself and others; common situations, Objects.</p>
Week 2	<b>Friday (June 9): TEST TWO</b>	<p><b>Culture:</b> States, regions, major centers and cities where BCS is spoken, National, ethnic and religious diversity and post-war situation of the countries of the former Yugoslavia.</p> <p><b>Structures:</b> Accusative case, Everyday life; Days of the week, Colours, Adjectives (<i>određeni i neodređeni vid</i>); Fleeting vowels in adjectives; Adjectives in Accusative.</p> <p>Object pronouns full form and clitic forms (<i>meni/mi</i> etc.), Modal verbs and making sentences.</p> <p>Nominative plural of nouns and Nominative plural of adjectives. The words meaning <i>person, people</i>.</p> <p>Verbal aspect, introduction</p>

		<p><b>Lexical fields:</b> Dialogues (common situations – At the street; At home etc.); Days of the week; Months; Seasons; Weather and climate, Reading simple texts and listening to simple children’s songs.</p>
Week 3	<b>Friday (June 16): TEST THREE</b>	<p><b>Culture:</b> Introduction to South-Slavic literature, Most important and popular writers (Ivo Andrić, Meša Selimović etc.), Literary traditions and trends and Prominent contemporary writers.</p> <p><b>Structures:</b> Accusative case, Interrogative pronominal adjectives</p> <p>Numbers, <i>What time is it?, What day is today?</i>, Planning, Professions (introduction), Making ads.</p> <p>Genitiv case; uses of the Genitive case and examples; prepositions with Genitive; pronouns in the genitive case. <i>In a new city or country.</i> Partitive genitive.</p> <p>Verb conjugation (present tense + modal verbs).</p> <p>Long and <i>longer</i> adjectives.</p> <p><b>Lexical fields:</b> Literature, Culture, Professions, Basic actions, Directions, Traveling, Reading simple texts and listening to simple songs.</p>
Week 4	<b>Wednesday (June 21): TEST FOUR / SESSION I FINAL EXAM</b>	<p><b>Culture:</b> Women writers, women in South-Slavic literatures and culture; Artistic and musical traditions and trends; Film and popular culture; National and traditional food and drinks.</p> <p><b>Structures:</b> Family; Making Family tree. <i>Amidža ili stric; daidža ili ujak?</i> Food; fruit, vegetables, Traditional food in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, and Serbia. Vocabulary differences.</p> <p>Numbers, Genitive plural; uses of the genitive plural and examples; prepositions with Genitive; pronouns in the Genitive case.</p> <p>The possessive adjective <i>svoj</i>;</p> <p><b><u>Preparation for the final exam</u></b></p> <p><b>Lexical fields:</b> Actions, Colors, Clothes, Food and drinks, Animals.</p>

## SESSION II

Week	Chapters	Material covered
Week 4 (cont.)	<b>Friday (June 23): TEST FIVE</b>	<p><b>Culture:</b> South-Slavic culture and cultural heritage, Past and present time; Nation, war and culture, The Balkans, Europe, East and West, Communism and Religion.</p> <p><b>Structures:</b> Dativ case and Locativ case; <i>How similar are these cases?</i> Dative and locative personal pronouns;</p> <p>The form <i>sam, samo, sama</i>, Word order, The words <i>like</i> and <i>love</i>; <i>When do we use them?</i></p>



		<p>Ordinal numbers.</p> <p>Past tense, introduction.</p> <p>Instrumental case; use; prepositions; use; the instrumental case of pronouns. Instrumental of means. Verbs of transport; <i>Čim ideš na posao? S kim ideš u kino?</i></p> <p>Prepositions meaning “to [a person]</p> <p>Plural case forms (Nominative, Accusative, Dativ, Locativ, Instrumental)</p> <p>Vocative case, continued</p> <p><b>Lexical fields:</b> Transportation, Sports, Having Fun, Weekend, Numbers, At the doctor.</p>
Week 5	<b>Friday (June 30): TEST SIX</b>	<p><b>Culture:</b> Social structure and social life, Personal and every-day life, Cult of neighborhood, Shopping.</p> <p><b>Structures:</b> Neuter nouns with added syllable <i>-et</i> (<i>dijete, jaje</i>), Irregular plurals (<i>djeca, braća, gospoda</i>) <i>dijete, brat, gospodin, se</i>-verbs, continued</p> <p>The future tense; word order in the future and variant spellings; preposition <i>na</i> in future time expressions; questions and negation in the future tense; <i>htjeti</i> and <i>željeti</i>; <i>Hoću kafu! ili Želim kafu</i></p> <p>Negated prepositional phrases, Something/anything, <i>what</i> clauses</p> <p><i>In Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia we don't say...</i></p> <p><b>Lexical fields:</b> Proverbs and phrases in BCS, Plans for the future; Picnic, Shopping. Reading simple texts and listening to simple songs.</p>
Week 6	<p><b><u>(July 4: No Class!)</u></b></p> <p><b>Friday (July 7): TEST SEVEN / SESSION II FINAL EXAM</b></p>	<p><b>Culture:</b> Civil, national and religious holidays; Tradition and modernization.</p> <p><b>Structures:</b> Past tense; usage of the past tense; word order in the past tense, Past and future tense of “existential” <i>ima</i> and <i>nema</i></p> <p>Subjectless sentences</p> <p><i>Bio jednom jedan lav</i>, Dušan Radović (interpretation of the song); Aphorisms; Body parts</p> <p>Verbal nouns, Verbs of transport</p> <p>Comparison of adjectives; Comparison of adjectives expressed by consonant softening, Comparison of adverbs, Comparison <i>than</i>, The verb <i>trebati</i>; Verbs of body position</p> <p>Professions (continued); <i>Struka i posao, Treba mi posao! – oglas i intervju</i></p> <p>The instrumental case (continued)</p> <p><b>Lexical fields:</b> Holidays and celebrations, Describing, Professions Job search.</p>

<p>Week 7</p>	<p><b>Thursday (July 13): SESSION B FINAL EXAM</b></p>	<p><b>Culture:</b> Education system in the Balkan; Geography (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia), Weather and climate, Flora and fauna, Tourism, Sport.</p> <p><b>Structures:</b> Cardinal numbers, review; Agreement with cardinal numbers; Fractions and approximate numbers</p> <p><i>Koji</i> as relative conjunction; Collective nouns</p> <p>Present verbal adverb; Past verbal adverb</p> <p>Ordinal numbers in naming dates; The “exact future”; The conjunction <i>što</i>; Words meaning “ought, might, may”; Ordinal numbers, continued</p> <p>Aorist and imperfect; The conditional mood; The word “welcome”</p> <p>Use of the conditional in “toned-down” statements or requests; Indirect discourse; <i>Da</i> introducing proposed actions; Conditional sentences; Conditional of purpose</p> <p>Imperative mood</p> <p><b>Lexical fields:</b> Giving directions; Post office, In a train; At the market, Writing a letter, Presents and gifts. Reading simple texts and listening to simple songs</p>
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