

BCS 201: Second year Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian

Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures

Fall 2023

MTWT 10:00-10:50 AM

Instructor: Tamara Pavlović

Room 1030 LCL

Email: tamara6@illinois.edu

General Information

Office hours

Option 1: Thursdays and Wednesdays from 11 AM to 12 PM at the office **3165 Literature, Cultures, and Linguistics Building**, or via **Zoom** (Email instructor at least 5 minutes before the office hours begin if you are joining over Zoom)

Option 2: By appointment, in person, or over Zoom.

Zoom Link for office hours

<https://illinois.zoom.us/j/82992100406?pwd=cEY0eWxnQmxyVGdhSUJiYnowVGdDUT09>

Meeting ID: 829 9210 0406

Password: 423948

Course Description

This course is designed to help you develop intermediate proficiency in oral expression, listening comprehension, reading, writing, and cultural understanding. The course continues to foster students' grammar skills in the BCS, reinforcing and enhancing their command of declension and conjugation systems, verbal aspects, and other areas of BCS grammar, emphasizing communicative practice in authentic cultural contexts. Cultural audio-visual materials and the use of BCS websites help to reinforce the link between language and culture. Engaging with BCS languages and culture through reading and writing at this level means expanding the kinds of texts

you work with. This semester we will read short poetry and newspaper articles, listen to songs, and watch video clips. Detailed schedules of class activities, learning tasks, graded exercises, and daily homework assignments will be posted on Moodle in advance.

Objectives: Students completing BCS 201 (this class) and BCS 202 (the spring semester class) will achieve intermediate mid proficiency or better in BCS in all modalities: they will be able to hold conversations in BCS in a range of contexts with native speakers of BCS, will be able to read short texts, and will be able to understand some broadcasts in standard language on predictable topics. Students will acquire a basic understanding of some aspects of BCS culture (e.g., some familiarity with some of the great works of BCS writers, composers, and artists, the geography of the Balkans, broad outline of BCS histories). Students completing BCS 201 and 202 will be prepared to take 3rd year Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian (BCS 301) at Illinois in the following fall semester and/or to participate in a study abroad program in one of the target language countries in the region.

BCS in the Classroom: Most of our class sessions will be conducted exclusively in BCS. You will have plenty of opportunities to ask questions in English at the beginning and end of every class session. Moreover, grammar explanations will always be given in English. However, we will be focusing our class experience on using BCS, and to do that, we have to speak in BCS. We will have a lot of pair and group activities when you will be assigned to complete a task in BCS; you are expected to use BCS in these situations, even if you have to work your way around a word or concept you don't know. BCS is made up of many dialects and local variants. Each student and the instructor have their own dominant dialect of BCS. Our course instruction and content will reflect this language diversity while reinforcing the standard variants of the written and spoken language. We will be working in both the Latin script and the Cyrillic script, so you will need to learn and use both for your assignments and readings.

Required textbook

Introduction to the Croatian and Serbian Language, Revised Edition, Thomas F. Manger (University Park: Pennsylvania State Press, 2003), ISBN: 0-271-01536-5

Platforms

Moodle <https://learn.illinois.edu/course/view.php?id=75347>

Flip <https://flip.com/9f0827b5>

Additional platforms may be introduced during the semester (ex. Quizlet, Miro, Padlet). However, no paid subscription will be required or requested.

| |
|------------------------------------|
| Course Structure and Grades |
|------------------------------------|

Grade weighting

1. Preparation and class participation 20%
2. Assignments 30%
3. Oral Practice 20%
3. Wrap up Test 15%
4. Final 15%

Preparation and class participation 20%

Preparation: Your participation will be evaluated based on your preparation, the degree of your enthusiastic participation, and the accuracy and fluency in the performance of classroom activities.

Attendance: Students with 8 or more absences (total) will not receive a passing grade. Make sure to be on time for class. Showing up 5 minutes after the class begins is considered late arrival. Two instances of a late arrival will count as one absence. In the case of illness, religious holidays, family emergencies, or university obligations, please notify your instructor in advance and provide a written note when appropriate. You may be asked to obtain a letter from the Emergency Dean:

300 Turner Student Services Building

610 East John Street

Champaign, IL 61820

(217) 333-0050

Email: HELPdean@uiuc.edu

Each unexcused absence will result in a reduction of the attendance/participation part of your final grade, as will consistent late arrival to class. Please be punctual.

Participation Points

| | |
|----------|---|
| 5 points | Fully prepared, actively, and thoughtfully participating in class discussions and activities (this does not mean you answer every question correctly, merely that you are ready to try to answer every question), staying in BCS in pair and group activities when assigned. |
| 4 points | Present, partially prepared, minimally participating in class discussions and activities and/or using English when BCS is required. Participation is mainly limited to answering instructor's questions with few meaningful contributions. Demonstrates some familiarity with vocabulary and grammar assigned for studying. |
| 3 points | Present but unprepared, minimally participating in class discussions and activities. Participation is limited to answering instructor's questions. Demonstrates little or no familiarity with vocabulary and grammar assigned for studying. |
| 0 points | Absent |

Assignments 30%

General Assignments: These assignments will be graded based on completion and following basic requirements (length and/or language). (For example, reflections and recommendations).

Homework: Your detailed course plan includes daily homework assignments. The assignments must be submitted by the beginning of the next class via Moodle if not stated differently. Your instructor will mark your mistakes on the homework but won't correct them. You have to self-correct your homework and submit the corrected homework at the next class after receiving your graded homework from the instructor.

Your **self-corrected homework** will be graded on the following 5-point scale:

| | |
|----------|---|
| 5 points | complete, 80% correct |
| 4 points | complete, at least 50% correct |
| 3 points | partially incomplete or less than 50% correct |
| 2 points | Mostly incomplete |
| 0 points | Not submitted |

Oral Practice 20%

Oral practice will include interpersonal tasks (short conversations) during class and presentational tasks that will be uploaded through Flipgrid. Speaking is a crucial part of acquiring the language, to increase your spoken language skills, communication abilities, and overall fluency, this course will emphasize oral practice. Instructions for each oral practice will be given promptly. The lowest grade of completed oral practice will be dropped from the final course grade.

Oral Practice Points

| Criteria | 4 points | 3 points | 2 points | 1 point |
|--|--|---|--|---|
| Comprehensibility [Language Control, Sentence Type] | No errors when using practiced structures, time frame, and word order Mechanics (punctuation, accents) show few minor errors. | Errors that impede communication are present but limited. | Errors that impede communication are dominant. | Numerous errors (more than 10) in practiced material often impede communication. |
| Comprehensibility [Vocabulary] | Uses a strong range of (7 or more) practiced vocabulary from a few familiar topics | Errors that impede communication are present but limited. | Errors that impede communication are dominant. | Limited range of (mostly inaccurate) practiced vocabulary. |
| Comprehensibility [Pronunciation] | Uses accurate, comprehensible pronunciation with some native-like sounds | Errors that impede communication are present but limited. | Errors that impede communication are dominant. | Pronunciation errors often impede communication. |
| Comprehensibility [Fluency] | Speaks slowly but mostly at a consistent rate with occasional hesitations | Errors that impede communication are present but limited. | Errors that impede communication are dominant. | Many unnatural hesitations or pauses |
| Quality of Communication [Content] | Exceeds the communication goal with relevant content | Errors that impede communication are present but limited. | Errors that impede communication are dominant. | The communication goal is minimally met with limited content. |
| Quality of Communication [Communication Strategy] | Continues conversation by asking practiced questions. Uses gestures or repetitions to clarify one's message | Errors that impede communication are present but limited. | Errors that impede communication are dominant. | Minimally continues the conversation by responding to questions asked. No clarification strategy used |

Wrap up Tests and Quizzes 15%

Quizzes: During the course of the semester, there will be a dictation on the vocabulary, as well as a written vocabulary test. During dictations, your instructor will read a paragraph in BCS, which you will write down in BCS. Vocabulary quizzes will follow immediately after dictations. You will be given a list of English/ BCS words on the vocabulary tests, for which you must give the BCS/English equivalent. No make-up for quizzes will be given unless you have a valid excuse.

Tests: During the semester, there will be wrap-up tests that will include covered material. Each test will include listening and reading comprehension activities (approximately 15% each), grammar exercises (approximately 50%), a communicative writing task (approximately 15%), and a culture analysis task (approximately 5%). Students will be given a study guide for each test to know how best to prepare for each test. No make-up tests will be given unless you have a valid excuse.

Final Exam 14%

Final oral exam: Final oral exam will be administered by the instructor individually and will consist of two tasks. (1) A reading task in which students read through a dialogue from the textbook that they have prepared in advance; this performance will be assessed based on pronunciation and intonation (no need to memorize the text). (2) A communicative task in which students will be asked to negotiate a situation similar to those practiced in the textbook during conversation hours; this performance will be assessed on the basis of communicative success.

Final written exam: The final examination will be cumulative and include all the materials covered during the Fall Semester. A study guide will be provided.

Letter grades

Letter grades for the entire course will be assigned as follows:

97% - 100% = A+

80% - 82% = B-

63% - 67% = D

93% - 96% = A

78% - 79% = C+

60% - 62% = D-

90% - 92% = A-

73% - 77% = C

Below 60% = F

88% - 89% = B+

70% - 72% = C-

83%- 87% = B

68% - 69% = D+

| |
|------------------------|
| Course Policies |
|------------------------|

Students are expected to show their fellow students and instructor the utmost respect. This means listening carefully to one another, not speaking when others are speaking, and respecting each other's opinions.

Academic Integrity

See part 4 of Article 1 of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Student Code, online at <http://www.admin.uiuc.edu/policy/code/> for questions about plagiarism, cheating, or lying. UIUC will tolerate none of these in connection to schoolwork. Any student caught plagiarizing on a written assignment or cheating on an exam will receive a grade of zero and be subject to disciplinary action.

For your homework assignments, you should feel free to consult your textbooks, dictionaries, grammar books, or notes that might help you. You may not seek outside assistance (e.g., friends, family, native speakers, etc.) for completing graded assignments, including homework. You are also not allowed to use computer-assisted translators or online translating programs.

Late Assignments

All Assignments are expected to be completed on time. Unless documentation is provided and/or advance permission granted, late assignments will be penalized by 20% for each calendar (not work) day they remain late.

Syllabus Changes

The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus and the requirements of the course during the semester. All updates to the syllabus will be represented in the syllabus posted to the Moodle page.

Accommodations

If you have questions about participation, exams, or assignments due to any disability, please email or discuss this with me as soon as possible and provide appropriate documentation from DRES. If obtaining official documentation is inaccessible, still feel free to reach out.

To obtain disability-related academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the course instructor and the Disability Resources and Educational Services (DRES) as soon as possible. To contact DRES, you may visit 1207 S. Oak St., Champaign, call 333-4603,

email disability@illinois.edu, or go to the [DRES website](#). If you are concerned you have a disability-related condition that is impacting your academic progress, there are academic screening appointments available on campus that can help diagnose a previously undiagnosed disability by visiting the DRES website and selecting "Sign-Up for an Academic Screening" at the bottom of the page.

Also, most college offices and academic deans provide academic skills support and assistance for academically related and personal problems. Links to the appropriate college contact can be found by going to this website and selecting your college or school: <http://illinois.edu/colleges/colleges.html>

If you are experiencing symptoms of anxiety or depression or are feeling overwhelmed, stressed, or in crisis, you can seek help through the following campus resources:

Counseling Center

206 Fred H. Turner Student Services Building

7:50 AM-5:00 PM, Monday through Friday

Phone: 333-3704

McKinley Mental Health

313 McKinley Health Center

8:00 AM-5:00 PM, Monday through Friday

Phone: 333-2705

McKinley Health Education offers individual consultations for students interested in learning relaxation and other stress/time management skills, call 333-2714.