BCS Extra Credit

For extra credit in Bosnia/Croatian/Serbian you can write an essay in English of no fewer than 1000 and no more than 1500 words about a topic of your choice pertaining to the Balkans. For example, you can write about a novel, an important cultural figure, an event, a location, a film, a holiday, a cultural phenomenon, etc. You may NOT write about food or rakija. **Successful completion of this assignment will bring your grade up an entire letter grade**, for example: a B+ will become an A+.

The guidelines are as follows:

\*You must be familiar with and knowledgeable about your topic. This means that if you’re writing about a novel, you should have read the novel. If you’re writing about a film, you should have watched the film, etc.

\*You don’t need in-text citations, but you need at least **1 credible outside source** that isn’t Wikipedia (more if you want), and you must include a bibliography. Sources can be scholarly articles or books, but they may also include op-eds, news articles, etc. (They can be in BCS or English.)

\*The purpose of this extra credit assignment is for you to learn something new and engage with it. In other words, **you need to formulate and express an informed opinion** on your topic. ~An informed opinion is not saying that you did or didn’t like something and leaving it at that—go deeper. Describe the topic, how you feel about, why you feel that way, etc.~

\*Think of this essay as a cross between an analytical essay and an opinion piece. You need to dig deep into your topic and have complex and informed thoughts about it.

Since this assignment could have a huge positive impact on your grade, I expect you to do it well and put time and effort into it. This essentially means all or nothing. If you’re going to do it, do it well and get full credit, or don’t bother. If you have questions, feel free to email me.

The essay is due on the last day of class, **May 3rd**, at the beginning of class.