BALK 350 Intensive Conversation: Bosnian (1.5 units*)

BALK 550 Intensive Conversation: Bosnian (1.0 units*)

**One Bryn Mawr unit is equivalent to four undergraduate semester hours or five graduate semester hours.*

Instructor: TBD

Time: TBD

Location: Bosnian2GO Language School, Skenderija 34, Sarajevo 71000, Bosnia & Herzegovina

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Focuses on the acquisition and activation of new vocabulary. The course covers a series of frequent conversational themes and situations from daily life, including personal traits, art and culture, and current events. Students are expected to participate actively in class discussions, dialogues, and debates, as well as to prepare oral presentations and write short compositions.

The course is also designed to develop students' command of contemporary regional language phonetics and to emphasize the practical acquisition of phonetic accuracy through oral presentations and individualized work.

OBJECTIVE

To focus on the adoption of basic knowledge and language skills necessary to communicate, read and write in the Bosnian language. Second aim includes exploring the cultural, literary, and historical heritage of all people of Bosnia & Herzegovina.

Students are placed in small groups or individualized tutorials for class, based on proficiency level. Textbooks and course materials will be based according to group.

MATERIALS

Content of classes will be complemented through the usage of adequate literature, literary texts and books that will be prepared by the instructor and student (borrowing books from Sarajevo's libraries) with instructions given by the instructor and will include creative exercises, usage of appropriate media such as video, music, movies, theater etc.

Textbooks

Senahid Halilović, "Orthography in Bosnian Language: Handbook," Sarajevo, 1999.
Dževad Jahić, Senahid Halilović, Ismail Palić, "Grammar of the Bosnian Language," Zenica, 2000.
Midhat Riđanović, "The meaning of the content and the content of meaning – semantics,";
Marina Katnić-Bakaršić, "Stylistics," Sarajevo, 2001.
Fatima Pelesić-Muminović, "Bosnian language," Sarajevo, 2016.

"Bosnian language as foreign language," Zenaida Karavdić, International Burch University, Sarajevo, 2011.
"Bosnian Language Dictionary," Senahid Halilović, Amela Šehović, Ismail Palić, Department of Philosophy University of Sarajevo, 2010.
Narcis Saračević, "Dictionary of Sarajevo jargon/slang," Zenica, 2003.

GRADING AND ASSESSMENT

Class attendance is a critical part of progress in language and students are expected to come on time and prepared for each class.

Individual student work includes reading of assigned literary works, historical, current and interesting texts, daily newspapers; working on spelling and grammar exercises, as well as homework and linguistic exercises assigned by the professor; essay writing, student creating and keeping up with their own pocket dictionaries based upon vocabulary learned in class.

Class participation	30%
Homework	20%
Weekly tests, quizzes, presentations	30%
Final examination	20%

Grade	*Percent*
A+	98–100
A	93–97
A-	90–92
B+	87–89
B	83–86
B-	80–82
C+	77–79
C	73–76
C-	70–72
D	60–69
F	0–59

UNITS AND TOPICS (SUBJECT TO CHANGE*)

Week	Topic	Tasks
1	Introduction to Bosnian	Pronunciation exercises History and development of the Bosnian language
2	Travel	Discussing and making travel plans Geography of Bosnia & Herzegovina and the Balkans
3	Folk stories	Understanding and interpreting folk anecdotes and stories Discussion about the history of Bosnia & Herzegovina and Yugoslavia
4	Slavic mythology	Phonetics & Phonology: voice changes and palatalization Literature: interpretation and discussion of Slavic mythology
5	Politics and government	Discussion about politics and government Bosnian politics and history
6	Bosnian poetry	Comprehending Bosnian poetry - Stećci; Mak Dizdar Conversation on Bosnian ballads – Hasanaginica

		Bosnian folk music - Sevdalinka - listening, understanding, interpretation and linguistic analysis.
7	Current events	Vocabulary and grammar review Discussion on current issues in the news Midterm exam
8	Bosnian literature	Literature of the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina – reading and discussing citations from B. Ćopić and B. Nušić
9	Sports and activities	Discussion about sports and hobbies Sports and sport culture in Bosnia & Herzegovina
10	Art and theater	Conversation about Bosnian culture, art, theater plays, writing essays.
11	Medicine and health	Discussion about common medical terms and phrases Healthcare
12	Bosnian literature	Literature of the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina - interpretation and understanding of citations by I. Andrić, M. Selimović, M. Crnjanski, and M. Krleža
13	Current events	Conversation on current issues in the news Final exam

* Based on our previous experiences, we would like to note that changes to the list included in the program are inevitable. It depends on how well the students comprehend the material and as the teachers are not fully familiar with the students' language levels at the beginning the topics can be added or postponed. Some of the topics that students will be interested in may be added, but others may be canceled. We kindly ask to take this issue into consideration.