COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
Foreign Language (Croatian) A 1. 1 Užsienio kalba (kroatų) A 1. 1	

Academic staff	Core academic unit(s)
Coordinating: Aleksandra Čičak	Faculty of Philology

Study cycle	Type of the course unit
First (BA)	Individual study

Mode of delivery	Semester or period when it is delivered	Language of instruction
Online / remotely	Spring semester	English, Croatian

Requisites	
Prerequisites: none	**Co-requisites (if relevant):** none

Number of ECTS credits allocated	Student's workload (total)	Contact hours	Individual work
5	130	64	66

Purpose of the course unit
The objective of the course is to enable participants to acquire mastery of the Croatian language standard and to develop their competence in comprehending spoken and written texts, engaging in oral interaction and production, as well as written production in the Croatian standard language on familiar topics and those related to everyday life situations (such as school, work, and family...).

Learning outcomes of the course unit	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
After completing the course, students will be able to: pronounce palatal sounds; recognize familiar words; use common greeting formulas; introduce their own and others' occupations and nationalities; introduce their family; express possession, direction of movement, time (months of the year), place, and spatial relations; engage in (simple) discussions on topics of personal interest.	Communicative methods (exercises) and active teaching methods (dialogues, understanding of situations, visual and audio information, pair work, group tasks, individual tasks, discussion); • classical information methods (keywords, concepts, explanations of structures, demonstration of visual, audio and video recordings, etc.); • active teaching methods (dialogues, discussion of audio and video material, pair work, discussion, etc.).	Summative assessment: 1) Attendance, classwork 2) tests (2); 3) final written exam; 4) final oral exam

Content	Contact hours							Individual work: time and assignments	
	Lectures	Tutorials	Seminars	Workshops	Laboratory work	Internship	**Contact hours, total**	**Individual work**	**Tasks for individual work**

Unit 1: GOOD DAY, WELCOME! **Communicative competence:** Introducing oneself, greeting, thanking, and apologizing. Numbers from 0 to 10 **Grammatical and orthographic competence:** Personal pronouns, present tense of the verb ***to be***, interrogative pronouns who and what, nouns: masculine, feminine, and neuter gender, disappearing a, demonstrative pronouns this, that, that one over there. **Orthography:** The Croatian alphabet, capital letter at the beginning of a sentence, capital letters (personal names and surnames, names of countries, cities, streets, squares, and nationalities). **Cultural competence:** Giving personal information, famous Croatian sculptures.				**8**			**8**	**8**	Reading, pronunciation and grammar tasks. Oral and written exercises.
Unit 2: MY FAMILY: **Communicative competence:** Family members, occupations, numbers from 11 to 1,000,000. **Grammar:** Interrogative pronoun *whose*?, present tense of the verb *to be called*, possessive pronouns *my, your, his, her, our, your, their*, present tense of the verb *to have*, sibilant change in the nominative plural of masculine nouns. **Orthography:** Writing the pronouns You and Your with a capital letter as a sign of respect. **Cultural competence:** Names for family members, Croatia and the number of its counties, inhabitants, islands, national parks, mountains, and telephone numbers.				8			8	8	Dialogue creation. Grammar tasks. Oral and written exercises.
Unit 3: WHAT IS SOMETHING LIKE? WHAT IS SOMEONE LIKE? **Communicative competence:** What is someone like? What is something like? Whose is something? Whose is someone? (possession of people and objects), colors, my country and my city. **Grammar:** Interrogative pronoun what kind of?, descriptive adjectives, possessive adjectives (-ov/-ev, -in), relational adjectives (-ski, -ški, -čki). **Orthography:** Capital initial letter (possessive adjectives derived from personal names); lowercase initial letter (relational adjectives). **Cultural competence:** Croatia, Zagreb, Meštrović's sculptures, Croatian streets and promenades.				6			**6**	**6**	Listening tasks (audio recordings), discussion. Speaking, writing, reading exercises, grammar tasks.

Unit 4: WHAT DO WE HAVE? WHO DO WE HAVE? **Communicative competence:** What does Croatia have? What does your country have? **Grammar:** Present tense of verbs ending in -ati → -am (e.g., čitati, pjevati…), verbs with the accusative, accusative as the direct object, accusative of nouns, accusative of interrogative pronouns who and what (koga, što), accusative of personal pronouns (long and short forms), prepositions za and na + accusative, long plural of masculine nouns (-ovi/-evi), indeclinability of feminine surnames. **Orthography:** Writing the beginning and the end of a sentence. **Cultural competence:** What does Croatia have? Croatian bridges, Faculty of Philosophy.				6			6	**6**	Oral and written listening, speaking, writing, reading, grammar and translation exercises. Dialogue creation.
Preparation for the oral test of language skills Tests: tasks to test language skills				4			4	4	Preparation for the test, writing the test.
Test 1. Discussion of the test.				2			2	2	
Unit 5: LET'S GO TO THE EXHIBITION **Communicative competence:** Where are you going? I'm going to… I'm going to the… Time (days of the week, hour, minute, today, tomorrow…), spatial relations (near, far, down, up…). **Grammar:** Present tense of the verb ići (to go), ići + u/na + accusative (destination of movement), ići + po + accusative (purpose of movement), declension of numbers. **Orthography:** Writing the days of the week. **Cultural competence:** Trg bana Jelačića / Ban Jelačić Square				6			6	**6**	Listening, speaking, writing, reading, grammar tasks. Oral and written exercises.
Unit 6: CLOTHING AND FASHION **Communicative competence:** Clothes, fashion accessories and other items, footwear, jewelry, selling and buying. **Grammar:** Present tense of verbs ending in -iti → -im, present tense of verbs ending in -jeti → -im, verb zanimati + accusative + nominative. **Cultural competence:** The tie – a Croatian invention.				6			6	**6**	
Unit 7: WHAT DO CROATIANS EAT AND DRINK? **Communicative competence:** Food and drinks, typical food and drinks in Croatia and worldwide, tableware and eating utensils. **Grammar:** Present tense of the verb jesti (to eat), present tense of the verb piti (to drink).				6			**6**	**6**	Listening, speaking, writing, reading, grammar tasks.

Cultural competence: Typical food and drinks in Croatia, food and Croatian regions.									

Unit 8: MY LITTLE HOUSE, MY LITTLE FREEDOM **Communicative competences:** Housing, countries, travel, summer vacations, occupations, months of the year. What is Croatia known for? What are other countries known for? **Grammar:** Present tense of verbs ending in -ovati/-ivati → -ujem, locative of nouns, locative of places, topics, times, locative of personal pronouns, locative of interrogative pronouns who and what (o komu, o čemu), prepositions with the locative. **Cultural competence:** Croatian names of the months, houses in Croatia, weekends in Croatia.				6			**6**	**6**	Listening, speaking, writing, reading, grammar tasks. Dialogue creation.
Preparation for the oral test of language skills Tests: tasks to test language skills				4			**4**	**6**	Preparation for the test, writing the test.
Grammar review. Test 2. Discussion of the test.				2			**2**	**2**	
Total				**64**			**64**	**66**	

Assessment strategy	**Weight %**	**Deadline**	**Assessment criteria**
Summative assessment			
Attendance, classwork	10 %	continuous	Regular attendance and active classwork is required
Tests: one after the fourth unit and one after the eighth unit.	30%	During the semester	Tests: tasks to test language skills Rating: Below 50% – Fail (1) 51% to 64% – Sufficient (2) 65% to 77% – Good (3) 78% to 89% – Very Good (4) 90% to 100% – Excellent (5)
Written exam	30%	During the sesion	Exam: text comprehension, text creation, lexical, grammatical, pragmatic competence. Rating: Below 50% – Fail (1) 51% to 64% – Sufficient (2) 65% to 77% – Good (3) 78% to 89% – Very Good (4) 90% to 100% – Excellent (5)

Oral exam	30%	During the sesion	Speech on one of the program topics. The following are assessed: a) the content of the speech on a given topic, i.e. whether the content corresponds to the topic, the coherence of the text, etc. (max. 3 points); b) the form of the speech on a given topic, i.e. the formal structure of the text, cohesion measures, etc. (max. 2 points); c) the language of the speech on a given topic, i.e. the complexity of the vocabulary used in the text, the number of grammatical errors (max. 5 points). Number of points collected: max. 10 points.
When preparing written assignments and completing independent study tasks (e.g., generating material for analysis or discussion, analyzing and editing texts, checking spelling and grammar, creating presentation visuals, and performing other routine tasks), generative artificial intelligence (GAI) tools may be used. They must be used in accordance with the Vilnius University Faculty of Philology Guidelines on Generative Artificial Intelligence (https://www.vusa.lt/lt/vu-dirbtinio-intelekto-di-naud), the objectives established in the course description, and the principles of academic integrity, ethics, transparency, and responsibility set out in VU legal acts. The student must declare the use of GAI, indicating the extent and purpose of its use (or the parts of the work for which GAI was used). The student must also be able to explain and substantiate the content generated by GAI or prepared with its assistance and assume full responsibility for the final content of the submitted work.			

Author (-s)	**Publishing year**	**Title**	**Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication**	**Publishing house or web link**
Required reading				
Matovac, Darko	2022.	Basic Croatian Grammar for Croatian Language Learners		Croatian University Press
Mikulić, Marica Čilaš Machata, Milvia Gulešić Udier, Sanda Lucija	2023.	Razgovarajte s nama! Udžbenik hrvatskoga jezika za razine A 1 – A 2		Hrvatska sveučilišna naklada
Udier, Sanda Lucija	2017.	Hrvatska na prvi pogled - udžbenik hrvatske kulture		FF Press
Recommended reading				

Update: 30. 10. 2026.