COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
Foreign Language (Estonian) A1 I/IV **Užsienio kalba (estų) A1 I/IV d.**	

Academic staff	Core academic unit(s)
Coordinating: lecturer Maksim Kolossov Other:	VU Faculty of Philology

Study cycle	Type of the course unit
Bachelor	Individual study course

Mode of delivery	Semester or period when it is delivered	Language of instruction
Seminars	Autumn semester	English, Estonian

Requisites	
Prerequisites:	**Co-reguisites (if relevant):**

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

Purpose of the course unit

This is a course that provides the basic knowledge of grammatical structures and spoken language. The aim of the course is to teach the basics of Estonian grammar and vocabulary. The intended outcome of the course is level A1.2 (beginners) in all the language skills

Learning outcomes of the course unit	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
On completion of the course the students will be able * to understand and use Estonian cases, conjugate Estonian verbs in the present and past tenses, use the imperative, use adjectives and cardinal number and expressions of time; * to communicate in everyday situations in the street and socialize in a group, talk and write about her/himself, her/his family, friends, home, studies and hobbies, express (dis)approval; * to understand and create elementary-level oral and written texts (listening, reading and creative reproducing of dialogues, answering questions and making short summaries, doing pronunciation exercises). As a result of these activities a student should reach the primary level of language skills (A1.2)	Interactive communication; pair work; practical exercises. During a course the students read, talk, discuss, write short texts and listen to topic related audio files.	In order to be allowed to take the final exam students need to have: 1) handed in all home assignments in time; 2) passed 2 coverage tests; 3) write 3 texts; 4) participate in at least 75% of the classes.

Content	Contact hours							Individual work: time and assignments	
	Lectures	Tutorials	Seminars	Workshops	Laboratory work	Internship	**Contact hours, total**	**Individual work**	**Tasks for individual work**
INTRODUCTION									
Estonia and Estonian language. The Origins of the Estonian Language. Estonian cases. Course information. First Estonian words and expressions.			4				**4**	**4**	Acquaintance. Estonian songs. Videos introducing Estonia. Adding own opinion (orally in next classes).
THE FIELD(S) OF STUDY									
Personal pronouns, first verbs, conjugation of the verb. Formulas of politeness.			6				**6**	**4**	Reading, listening, translation. Writing original texts about yourself. Grammar exercises.
Let's get acquainted! You will learn how to introduce yourself. Interrogatives. Question words. Verb. Present tense, verbs to be, to live Questions: kes? mis? kas?			6				**6**	**4**	
Languages, countries, nationalities. Where are you from? What is your mother tongue? Singular and plural nominative.			6				**6**	**4**	Reading, listening, translation, writing short texts about yourself and your hometown. Reading short fiction text. Presentation about home city or one Estonian city. Grammar exercises. Preparing for short test.
Where do you live? Cardinal numbers 1-100			6				**6**	**4**	
My family and relatives. How many? How much? Singular Genitive. Whose?			8				**8**	**6**	Reading, listening, translation, preparing the discussion, writing texts about your family and travels. Reading short fiction texts, media texts, writing your opinion based on them. Presenting your daily schedule. Textbook tests. Grammar exercises.
What time is it? When? Months, seasons. My day. Ordinal numbers. Past tense. I-Imperfect (Simple Past). *Ma-* and *da*-infinitive. Do you like …			8				**8**	**6**	
How to get there? Asking for directions, showing the way. Public Transport. Locative cases. Pre- and Postpositions. Imperative. Conditional. Verbs *minema, käima, tulema*. Travelling.			8				**8**	**8**	
At home: house, flat, rooms, furniture; colors. Partitive Singular. Partitive Plural. Between, above, next to, beside, under, out of. Adjectives.			6				**6**	**6**	Reading, listening, translation, discussion, writing texts about your home. Reading short media texts (news), writing your opinion based on them. Introducing your hobby. Grammar exercises.
The most beautiful town is ... Comparison of adjectives. Hobbies and interests. Work and education.			6				**6**	**4**	
INDIVIDUAL WORK OF STUDENTS									
Mina ja minu pere (~100 words)								**2**	
Minu päev (~120 words)								**2**	
Minu kodu (~150 words)								**2**	
Minu hobid (~100 words)								**2**	
Preparation for the final exam								**8**	
Total			**64**				**64**	**66**	

Assessment strategy	Weight,%	Deadline	Assessment criteria
Cumulative evaluation:			
Participation in seminars /class work, homework	15 %	during the semester	Students must attend at least 75 % of the seminars, hand in homework on time.
Tests	35%	during the semester	Students have to pass all small and big tests.
Written exam	25 %	during the examination session	Positive result is at least 55% of correct answers.
Oral exam	25%	during the examination session	Assessment according to a 10-point scale: 10 (excellent). Excellent, exceptional knowledge and abilities. 95-100% of questions answered correctly. 9 (very good). Very good knowledge and abilities. 85-94 % of questions answered correctly. 8 (good). Knowledge and abilities are above average. 75-84 % of questions answered correctly. 7 (average). Average knowledge and abilities; there are a few not essential mistakes. 65-74 % of questions answered correctly. 6 (satisfactory). Knowledge and abilities are below average; there are mistakes. 55-64 % of questions answered correctly. 5 (weak). Knowledge and abilities meet the minimum requirements. 51-54 % of questions answered correctly. 4, 3, 2, 1. Minimum requirements are not met.

Author (-s)	Publishing year	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing house or web link
Required reading				
1. Mall Pesti, Helve Ahi	2015/2016	E nagu Eesti.	1	Kiri-Mari Kirjastus
2. Mall Pesti, Helve Ahi	2018	L nagu lugemik	1	Kiri-Mari Kirjastus
3. Mare Kitsnik, Leelo Kingissepp	2006	Naljaga pooleks	1	AVITA
4. Sirje Rammo, Maarika Teral, Birute Klaas-Lang, Mari Allik	2012	Keel selgeks! Eesti keele õpik täiskasvanutele. Grammatika. Lisad	1	AVITA
5. Material and handouts provided in the classes				
Recommended reading				
Tiina Kattel (vadovė) Giedrė Priks Reda Šmitaitė	2015	*Estų-lietuvių kalbų žodynas*	1	VILNIUS
Jelena Kallas, Mai Tiits, Maria Tuulik, Madis Jürviste, Kristina Koppel	2014	Eesti keele põhisõnavara sõnastik	1	EKSA
Autorite koolektiiv: Karin Kaljumägi, Tiina Alekõrs, Liina Lepsalu, Maria Murumaa-Mengel, Lauri Tankler, Eve Tisler, Maarja Valk, Maike-Liis Piirits, Külli Park, Kristin Parts, Andra Siibak, Inger Pürjema,		Praktiline eesti keel (digimaterjal Taskutargas): https://www.taskutark.ee/study/veebikursus-praktiline-eesti-keel/		Tallinn/Tartu: Kirjastus Maurus

Triinu Palo				
Eesti keele e-kursus		www.keeleklikk.ee		
Keeleõppija sõnaveeb		www.sonaveeb.ee/lite		
Estonian movies				

REVISED 2026.09.29.