COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
Language and nationalism **Kalba ir nacionalizmas**	

Lecturer(s)	Department(s) where the course unit (module) is delivered
Coordinator: assist. Vuk Vukotić **Other(s):**	Faculty of Philology, Centre of Scandinavian Studies

Study cycle	Type of the course unit (module)
First	Elective

Mode of delivery	Period when the course unit (module) is delivered	Language(s) of instruction
Lectures and seminars	Spring semester	English

Requirements for students	
Prerequisites: B2 level of English according to CEFRL	**Additional requirements (if any):**

Course (module) volume in credits	Total student's workload	Contact hours	Self-study hours
5	150	48	102

Purpose of the course unit (module): programme competences to be developed

To acquire basic knowledge about the field of nationalism and in-depth knowledge on language and nationalism. These include the main theories and research directions, as well as the skills to apply the knowledge for a small individual study of language and nationalism in one of the chosen fields of study.

Learning outcomes of the course unit (module)	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
Students will acquire: - basic knowledge about the field of nationalism - in-depth knowledge on language and nationalism and linguistic nationalism; - the skill to analyse different instances of nationalism through language and instances of linguistic nationalism; - the ability to identify nationalist principles in different linguistic practices (everyday, political, educational, economic etc.); - a deeper insight into theories that explain relations of language and nationalism; - the skill to compare nationalist practices in different linguistic communities; - the ability to understand a wide variety of texts in English in the field of language and nationalism;	Interactive lectures and seminar discussions; analysis of theoretical texts and empirical material, oral presentations, practical exercises.	Cumulative evaluation: constructive participation in seminars, oral presentation, written essay and examination (could be test-based or written paper-based).

- the ability to demonstrate speaking skills in English in a wide variety of contexts using appropriate terminology, grammar and register; - the ability to gather primary and secondary sources for a broader project in the field of language and nationalism.									
Content: breakdown of the topics	**Contact hours**							**Self-study work: time and assignments**	
	Lectures	Tutorials	Seminars	Exercises	Consultations	Internship/work placement	**Contact hours**	**Self-study hours**	**Assignments**
INTRODUCTION									
Overview. The main research questions and puzzles. Understandings of "language" and "nationalism" in different schools of thought.	4		2				**6**	**10**	1. Reading and analysing texts related to the topic. 2. Presentation of a theoretical paper. 3. Written essay with a presentation of the conclusions.
NATIONALISM									
Overview of classical theories of nationalism	3		2		1		**6**	**10**	
New theories of nationalism and contemporary developments.	3		2		1		**6**	**10**	
LANGUAGE AND NATIONALISM									
The nature of language in different schools of thought. Ontological disputes over language. Ideologization of language in linguistics.	2		2		1		**5**	**10**	
The role of language in nation-building.	2		2		1		**5**	**10**	
The role of linguistic practices in reproduction of the nation.	2		2		1		**5**	**10**	
Historical analysis and case studies of the role of language in nationalism.	2		2		1		**5**	**10**	
INDIVIDUAL WORK OF STUDENTS									
Presentation of a theoretical paper.	0		6		4		**10**	**10**	
Preparation for the final exam (paper-based or test-based)	0		0				**0**	**22**	
								102	
Total	**18**		**20**		**10**		**48**	**150**	

Assessment strategy		**Weight,%**	**Deadline**	**Assessment criteria**
5 cred.	Cumulative evaluation:			
	Participation in seminars	10 %	during the semester	Ability to ask 'why' questions and participate in a meaningful discussion. Students must attend at least 65 % of the seminars.
	Group or individual presentation of a chosen scholarly paper	30%	first part of the semester	Presentation skills, ability to raise interest and engage the audience in dialogue. Clarity and precision. Understanding and critical evaluation of the given texts.
	Examination (test-based or paper-based, depending on the choice of the student)	60%	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.
AI may be used for to look for information, provide secondary explanations, practice examples and task ideas, but must not replace students' own analysis, critical thinking, or creativity. Any use of AI in submitted work must be acknowledged, including language and style adjustment. Students are responsible for checking AI-generated content and ensuring ethical use in accordance with the Faculty of Philology's recommendations and VU regulations.				

Author	Year of publication	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing place and house or web link
Compulsory reading				
Umut Özkirimli	2017	Theories of nationalism: A critical introduction	2nd edition	Red Globe Press
Michael Billig	1995	Banal nationalism		Sage publications
Miroslav Hroch	2015	European nations: explaining their formation		Verso Books
Rogers Brubaker	2013	Language, religion and the politics of difference	Nations and nationalism 19(1)	
Optional reading				
Sinfree Makoni & Alistair Pennycook	2005	Disinventing and (re) constituting languages.	Critical Inquiry in Language Studies: An International Journal 2(3)	
Richard Bauman & Charles Briggs.	2003	Voices of Modernity: Language ideologies and the politics of inequality		Cambridge University Press.
Pierre Bourdieu	1991	Language and symbolic power.		Harvard University Press.
Etienne Balibar & Immanuel Wallerstein	1991	Race, nation, class: Ambiguous identities		Verso
Anthony D. Smith	2009	Ethno-symbolism and nationalism: A cultural approach		Routledge

Last updated: 20 November 2026