

Intermediate Albanian Syllabus

Summer 2009
Arizona State University
Critical Languages Institute

Instructor: Dr. Mimoza Rista-Dema

Course Description and Objectives:

The intermediate Albanian course will provide students with language instruction so that they can further enhance their proficiency and communicative competence in Albanian. This course is for all students who have basic knowledge of Albanian and who are capable of reading and writing elementary-level texts. Students will have ample opportunity to practice grammar and the skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing that they have previously acquired. They will also be able to understand and produce intermediate-level communicational patterns in a form of various types of texts. Students will further develop their ability to comprehend and use Albanian not only in general contexts, but also in specific ones related to their areas of specialty.

The main textbook for the intermediate Albanian course is *Gjuha Shqipe për të Huajt dhe Shqiptarët Jashtë Atdheut (The Albanian Language for Foreigners and Albanians Who Are Abroad)* written by Gjovalin Shkurtaj and Enver Hysa. During the eight-week period, units 7 to 30 of this text will be covered in detail. In addition to the reading excerpts of the main textbook, coursework will include intermediate-level readings and activities from other textbooks and authentic sources. Students will use *Spoken Albanian* by L. Newmark, *Colloquial Albanian* by I. Zymberi, and *Shqip? S'ka Problem* by M. Zelexhiu and F. Hoxha to practice listening comprehension and speaking. News broadcast, selected movies and other audio and video materials will be available so that students can further enhance their listening and speaking skills. Coursework will also include a variety of exercises and activities that will aim at developing their compositional skills in Albanian.

Textbooks:

- Shkurtaj, Gj. and E. Hysa. 2001. *Gjuha Shqipe për të Huajt dhe Shqiptarët Jashtë Atdheut (The Albanian Language for Foreigners and Albanians Who Are Abroad)*. Tiranë: TOENA.
- Newmark, L. (1996) *Spoken Albanian*. Ithaca: Spoken Language Services.
- Zymberi, I. (1991) *Colloquial Albanian*. New York: Routledge.

Supplementary:

- Toma, A., Z. Karapici, and L. Radovicka. 1989. *Gjuha Letrare Shqipe*. Tiranë: Shtëpia Botuese e Librit Shkollor.
- Stefanllari, R. and B. Hintz. 2006. *541 Albanian Verbs*. Tiranë: Albatros.
- Zelexhiu, M. and F. Hoxha. 2005. *Shqip? S'ka problem*. Tiranë: Geer.

Grading:

Attendance and Participation:	20 %
Homework:	15 %
Weekly quizzes:	15 %
Midterm:	20%
Final exam:	30 %

Tentative Syllabus (topics and grammar)**Week 1**

Introduction and Syllabus; Diagnostic exam. **Topics:** Talking about home, family, and daily routine. **Grammar:** Review of proper nouns, articulated and other kinds of adjectives, ordinal numerals. Review of verb conjugation – present tense of active verbs PUNOJ ‘work’, HAP ‘open’, PI ‘drink’, MARR ‘take’ and the non-active verb QUHEM ‘be called’. Declension of singular nouns and articulated nouns (definite form); declension of articulated adjectives; adverbs of manner. Nominative prepositions NGA ‘from (a place)’, TE(K) ‘to (a place) and accusative prepositions NË ‘in’, NËPËR ‘through’, ME ‘with’, PA ‘without’, PËR ‘for’, MBI ‘on’, NËN ‘under’. The conjugation of active verbs (in present tense of indicative mood) BËJ ‘do’, VË ‘put’, RRI ‘stay’, HA ‘eat’ and non-active verbs LAHEM ‘wash (myself)’, VISHEM ‘get dressed’ GËZOHEN ‘be happy’. (Shkurtaj, Gj. and E. Hysa 2001, units 7, 8, 9) Weekly test.

Week 2

Topics: History and culture – Albania, the Albanians, important historic sites. **Grammar:** Relative pronouns, demonstrative pronouns AI, AJO, articles preceding adjectives, present tense of non-active verbs, imperfect forms of verbs JAM (BE), KAM (HAVE), prepositions preceding ablative nouns - PREJ ‘from’, AFËR ‘close to’, LARG ‘far (from)’, PARA ‘in front of’, SIPAS ‘according to’. Plural of nouns, degrees of comparison of adjective and adverb, The verb SJELL ‘bring’– SILLEM ‘behave’. Present tense of infinitive and future tense of indicative verbs. (Shkurtaj, Gj. and E. Hysa 2001, units 10, 11, 12) Weekly test.

Week 3

Topics: Travelling around Albania – The Albanian Alps (Vermoshi), Durrësi beach. At the concert. **Grammar:** Imperfect active verbs HAP ‘open’ SHKRUAJ ‘write’ FLAS ‘speak’, BËRTAS ‘shout’. Imperfect forms of infinitive, imperfect indicative verbs, imperfect infinitives (non-active), irregular verbs VETE ‘go to’, SHOH ‘see’, ZË ‘catch’. Sentence types with the verb PELQEJ ‘like’ and its combinations with dative clitics. Word derivation – noun forming suffixes ‘-IM’ and ‘-ESË’. Articled adjectives formed from past participles. Subject-verb agreement and phrase agreement (noun + noun + adjective) (Shkurtaj, Gj. and E. Hysa 2001, units 13, 14, 15) Weekly test.

Week 4

Topics: Letter writing. Excerpt from I. Kadare’s “The General of the Dead Army”. At the restaurant. **Grammar:** Articled nouns (kinship terms – I BIRI, E BIJA, I ATI, E ËMA, I VËLLAI, E MOTRA), declensions of kinship terms; possessive adjectives;

transitive and intransitive verbs, transitive and intransitive uses of verbs KALLOJ 'cross/pass', HUMB 'lose', THËRRAS 'call', LEXOJ 'read'. Declensions of possessive pronouns and their corresponding clitics (dative & accusative). Çfarë + ablative nouns (Shkurtaj, Gj. and E. Hysa 2001, units 16, 17, 18) Weekly test.

Week 5

Topics: At a bar. Parents talk. My uncle visited Korça. **Grammar:** Uses of dative and accusative clitics. Word formation – Tiranë vs. tiranas, Korçë vs. korçar, etc. Simple past tense of active and non-active verbs: MËSOJ 'learn', LAJ 'wash', HAP 'open', KAM 'have', JAM 'be', THEM 'say', HYJ 'enter', DAL 'exit', JAP 'give', LË 'leave', SHOH 'see', VIJ 'come', NXJERR 'take out' (active); ZEMËROHEM 'get angry', GËZOHHEM 'be happy', KËNAQEM 'be satisfied', FSHIHEM 'hide', MËSOHEM 'get used (accustomed) to', KTHEHEM 'come back' (non-active). Declension of singular and plural possessive adjectives. Form and use of past participle - PUNUAR '(have) worked', PYETUR '(have) asked', etc. Conjugation of verbs in present perfect, pluperfect, and past perfect of irregular verbs. (Shkurtaj, Gj. and E. Hysa 2001, units 19, 20, 21) Weekly test.

Week 6

Topics: A wedding party in Shkodra. A snow day in Tirana. Talking with friends. **Grammar:** Optative mood – present and perfect forms of active and non-active verbs. Conditional conjunction NË (meaning -në qoftë se) 'if'. Exclamatory mood – active and non-active verb forms. Conditional mood – present and perfect forms of active and non-active verbs. The conditional conjunctions – NË QOFTË SE, PO, SIKUR, PO QE SE, NË RAST SE 'if/in case' and their specific uses. (Shkurtaj, Gj. and E. Hysa 2001, units 22, 23, 24) Weekly test.

Week 7

Topics: 'Nëna' (Mother), an excerpt taken from a novel by Nasi Lera. Albanian customs reflected in proverbs. The principal's order (a piece of reading about some Albanian school traditions). **Grammar:** Non-finite verb forms – past participles and present participles of active and non-active verbs. More on past and present participles – negative forms PA TROKITUR 'without knocking'. Infinitive of purpose PËR TË BISEDUAR 'in order to talk'. Imperative mood. Clitics with imperatives. (Shkurtaj, Gj. and E. Hysa 2001, units 25, 26, 27) Weekly test.

Week 8

Topics: 'On the street again', an excerpt from Kadare's *The General of the Dead Army*. A visit to Kruja. Memories from Apollonia and Berat, historic places. **Grammar:** Phrase-level word order: noun + adjective. Kinship terms with possessive adjectives preceding nouns YT VËLLA 'your brother', IME MOTËR 'my sister'. Demonstrative adjectives following nouns DJALË I TILLË 'such a boy'. Local word order – verb + adverb. Basic sentence word order: subject – verb-object. Free word order and its discourse functions. More on word order – nouns followed by articulated and other adjectives SHKOLLË E RE VERORE 'new summer school'. noun + adjective + possessive/ablative nouns (Shkurtaj, Gj. and E. Hysa 2001, units 28, 29, 30) Weekly test.