

Hungarian as a Foreign Language

Summary

Name of Discipline:	Hungarian as a Foreign Language
Teacher(s):	Bökös Borbála-Mária
Contact(s):	bokosborbala@partium.ro
Weekly Hours (course + seminar/lab/practice):	1 course + 1 seminar
Credits:	5
Language of Instruction:	English
Year of Study (recommended):	All years

Prerequisites

A good command of English language is necessary (min. B2 level).

Course Content

Abstract

This course is designed for absolute beginners who wish to learn Hungarian as a foreign language. Over 14 weeks, students will build foundational skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing Hungarian. The course will cover essential grammar, vocabulary, and everyday communication, while also introducing students to Hungarian culture, customs, and traditions.

Course Objectives:

- To develop basic communication skills in Hungarian for everyday situations.
- To understand and apply fundamental Hungarian grammar rules.
- To build a practical vocabulary for common topics and scenarios.
- To gain insights into Hungarian culture and traditions.
- To foster confidence in using Hungarian in real-life contexts.

Topics

Week	Topic
Week 1	Introduction to Hungarian Language and Culture - Topics: The Hungarian Alphabet, Pronunciation, Greetings, and Basic Phrases - Lesson: Introduction to the unique sounds of Hungarian, basic greetings, and common

	<p>phrases.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cultural Component: Overview of Hungary, its culture, and the significance of the language. - Grammar Focus: Vowels, consonants, and pronunciation rules. - Communication Practice: Introducing yourself, saying hello and goodbye.
Week 2	<p>Basic Sentence Structure and Question Formation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Topics: Word Order, Simple Sentences, and Yes/No Questions - Lesson: Understanding the typical Hungarian sentence structure (Subject-Verb-Object), forming simple sentences, and asking yes/no questions. - Cultural Component: The significance of politeness in Hungarian culture. - Grammar Focus: The structure of declarative and interrogative sentences. - Communication Practice: Introducing yourself, asking and answering simple questions.
Week 3	<p>Numbers, Time, and Dates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Topics: Counting, Telling Time, and Discussing Dates - Lesson: Learning numbers, days of the week, months, and how to tell time. - Cultural Component: Hungarian holidays and traditions associated with dates. - Grammar Focus: Ordinal and cardinal numbers, time expressions. - Communication Practice: Asking for and giving the time, discussing birthdays and events.
Week 4	<p>Nouns and Cases I: The Basics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Topics: Singular and Plural Forms, Introduction to Cases (Nominative and Accusative) - Lesson: Understanding noun cases and their uses, forming singular and plural nouns. - Cultural Component: Introduction to Hungarian cuisine, discussing food items. - Grammar Focus: Nominative and accusative cases in singular and plural. - Communication Practice: Talking about food, ordering in a restaurant.
Week 5	<p>Personal Pronouns and Possession</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Topics: Personal Pronouns, Possessive Pronouns, and Structures - Lesson: Using personal pronouns and expressing possession in Hungarian. - Cultural Component: Family structures in Hungary, discussing family members. - Grammar Focus: Personal pronouns, possessive endings, and possessive structures. - Communication Practice: Talking about your family and belongings.
Week 6	<p>Adjectives and Descriptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Topics: Adjective-Noun Agreement, Describing People and Objects - Lesson: Learning how to use adjectives to describe nouns, understanding agreement. - Cultural Component: Describing Hungarian cities and landmarks. - Grammar Focus: Adjective placement, agreement with nouns in gender and number. - Communication Practice: Describing physical appearance, objects, and places.

Week 7	<p>Verbs and Conjugation I: Present Tense</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Topics: Regular Verb Conjugation in the Present Tense - Lesson: Conjugating regular verbs in the present tense, focusing on -ni verbs. - Cultural Component: Daily routines and habits in Hungary. - Grammar Focus: Present tense conjugation patterns for regular verbs. - Communication Practice: Talking about daily activities and routines.
Week 8	<p>Verbs and Conjugation II: Irregular Verbs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Topics: Irregular Verb Conjugation in the Present Tense - Lesson: Conjugating common irregular verbs in the present tense. - Cultural Component: Hungarian music and dance, discussing hobbies and leisure activities. - Grammar Focus: Conjugation of essential irregular verbs. - Communication Practice: Discussing hobbies, asking about likes and dislikes.
Week 9	<p>Nouns and Cases II: The Dative and Locative Cases</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Topics: Expressing Location and Indirect Objects - Lesson: Using the dative and locative cases to talk about locations and indirect objects. - Cultural Component: Navigating Hungarian cities, discussing directions and locations. - Grammar Focus: Dative and locative cases and their usage. - Communication Practice: Asking for and giving directions, discussing locations.
Week 10	<p>Future and Past Tense</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Topics: Introduction to the Future and Past Tenses - Lesson: Learning to express future and past actions, forming future and past tense verbs. - Cultural Component: Hungarian history and major historical events. - Grammar Focus: Basic conjugation rules for the future and past tenses. - Communication Practice: Talking about future plans and past experiences.
Week 11	<p>Pronouns and Reflexive Verbs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Topics: Reflexive Pronouns, Reflexive Verbs, and Reciprocal Actions - Lesson: Understanding and using reflexive verbs in daily contexts. - Cultural Component: Hungarian personal and social etiquette. - Grammar Focus: Reflexive pronouns and verb conjugation. - Communication Practice: Talking about personal routines and reflexive actions.
Week 12	<p>Complex Sentences and Conjunctions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Topics: Forming Complex Sentences, Using Conjunctions - Lesson: Building complex sentences using conjunctions like <i>és</i> (and), <i>de</i> (but), <i>mert</i> (because). - Cultural Component: Hungarian literature and famous authors.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Grammar Focus: Coordinating and subordinating conjunctions. - Communication Practice: Writing and speaking using more complex sentence structures.
Week 13	<p>Everyday Conversations and Common Expressions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Topics: Idiomatic Expressions, Common Phrases, and Politeness - Lesson: Learning everyday Hungarian expressions, phrases, and polite forms. - Cultural Component: Understanding Hungarian social norms and behaviors. - Grammar Focus: Use of polite forms and expressions in different contexts. - Communication Practice: Role-playing common social interactions (e.g., shopping, asking for help).
Week 14	<p>Review and Practical Application</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Topics: Comprehensive Review, Final Practice, and Application - Lesson: Reviewing key grammar points, vocabulary, and cultural insights from the course. - Cultural Component: Hungarian festivals and celebrations, reviewing cultural highlights. - Grammar Focus: Revising all grammatical structures covered in the course. - Communication Practice: Engaging in a simulated real-life conversation, incorporating all learned material.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the course, students will be able to:

- Communicate effectively in basic Hungarian in everyday situations, such as greetings, shopping, and asking for directions.
- Understand and apply fundamental Hungarian grammar rules, including verb conjugation, noun cases, and sentence structure.
- Use a practical vocabulary related to common topics such as family, food, and daily activities.
- Engage in simple conversations with native Hungarian speakers, using correct pronunciation and intonation.
- Recognize and appreciate key aspects of Hungarian culture, customs, and traditions.
- Write short texts in Hungarian, such as emails, messages, or short descriptions, demonstrating basic grammatical accuracy.
- Feel confident in continuing to learn Hungarian at a higher level, building on the foundational skills acquired in this course.

This syllabus is designed to provide a comprehensive introduction to Hungarian, combining language learning with cultural immersion to ensure a well-rounded educational experience.

Assessment

Class Activity (active involvement in discussions, practice tasks, class assignments) 50%

Moodle tests: 50%

Requirements to Pass

Minimum 30% in Class Activity and minimum a 5th grade obtained from Moodle Tests.

Bibliography:

Erdős József, Prileszky Csilla. Halló, itt Magyarország! I-II. Hungarian for foreigners. Budapest: Akadémiai, 2014.

Durst, Péter. Hungarian. The Easy Way 1-2. Szeged: Design, 2015

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