



***SOUTH-WEST UNIVERSITY NEOFIT RILSKI***

***FACULTY OF PHILOLOGY***

***66, Ivan Mihaylov Str., 2700 Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria***

***Tel.: +359 73 588 523; E-mail: [filologia@swu.bg](mailto:filologia@swu.bg)***

***<https://flf.swu.bg>***

## **BULGARIAN AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE**

**EDUCATIONAL-QUALIFICATION DEGREE: MASTER**

**PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: TEACHER OF BULGARIAN LANGUAGE TO FOREIGNERS AND BULGARIAN CITIZENS WITH ANOTHER MOTHER TONGUE**  
**STUDY DURATION: 1 YEAR**

**A. Purpose of the Master's degree** with professional qualification: **TEACHER OF BULGARIAN LANGUAGE TO FOREIGNERS AND BULGARIAN CITIZENS WITH ANOTHER MOTHER TONGUE.**

The Master's program has a duration of 2 semesters and is intended for students who have graduated from Bulgarian Philology as a first or second major, Slavic Philology, Balkan Studies, Pedagogy of Bulgarian and Foreign Language Teaching, etc. and who **hold the professional qualification "Teacher of Bulgarian Language and Literature"**.

The main goal of the program is to provide Bulgarian language teachers with advanced specialized training for working in a foreign language environment (in training centers, schools and universities abroad) or with citizens in Bulgaria whose mother tongue is not Bulgarian (among minority or immigrant communities). The emphasis is placed on some specific features in the consideration and presentation of different language levels and categories, as well as on the reception of Bulgarian literature by speakers of another mother tongue. In parallel, students also receive broader training, allowing them to acquire competencies in the field of intercultural communication, as well as to orient themselves in the problems related to the history and culture of ethnic minorities in Bulgaria.

The curriculum is in line with the dynamically changing socio-political situation in the country in the context of globalization and active migration processes, which requires the preparation of competitive, highly qualified Bulgarian philologists with specific skills and knowledge in the field of Bulgarian as a foreign language. The goal is to respond promptly and adequately to the needs of our society for well-prepared philologists, possessing specialized professional training to teach Bulgarian language and literature outside Bulgaria or among communities for whom Bulgarian is not a native language.

The student who completes the master's program **BULGARIAN AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE** receives the educational-qualification degree: **MASTER** with professional qualification **TEACHER OF BULGARIAN LANGUAGE TO FOREIGNERS AND TO BULGARIAN CITIZENS WITH ANOTHER MOTHER TONGUE.**

He/She receives specialized training, allowing him/her to work according to the National Qualification Framework as:

- a) a teacher of Bulgarian in Bulgarian schools outside Bulgaria;
- b) a lecturer of Bulgarian in foreign universities where Bulgarian is taught;
- c) a teacher of Bulgarian in Bulgaria in areas with a mixed population, for part of which Bulgarian is not the mother tongue;
- d) a teacher in immigrant training centers and institutions providing Bulgarian language training;
- e) as an expert and consultant on issues of language training in non-governmental organizations, associations and foundations working for the integration of minorities and communities whose mother tongue is not Bulgarian;
- f) as a consultant and specialist on issues of foreign Bulgarian studies at various levels in the state administration, in cultural institutes and organizations in the country and abroad.

The training in the master's program BULGARIAN AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE provides: in-depth scientific-theoretical and specialized training in Bulgarian with a view to the specifics of teaching it as a foreign language; knowledge related to the peculiarities of intercultural communication; knowledge about ethnic communities in Bulgaria, as well as about the reception of Bulgarian literature and culture in a foreign language environment.

## **B. Requirements for the preparation** of the Master's degree in the program BULGARIAN AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

The student in the master's program BULGARIAN AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE must acquire:

- basic preparation, including disciplines such as: Ethnolinguistics, Psycholinguistics, Minority Communities in Bulgaria, Intercultural Communication; Reception of Bulgarian Literature Abroad, etc.
- specialized training, including disciplines such as: Bulgarian Phonetic System Acquisition in a Foreign Language Environment; Bulgarian Morphological System Acquisition in a Foreign Language Environment; Bulgarian Syntactic System Acquisition in a Foreign Language Environment; Thematic Vocabulary, Lexical Minimum and Non-Equivalent Vocabulary; Phraseological Units and Paremies in Teaching Bulgarian as a Foreign Language, etc.

**Characteristics of the competences** that will be mastered: a) acquisition of knowledge and skills for teaching Bulgarian as a foreign language; b) development of specialized linguistic competence, allowing for rapid orientation in a multicultural environment; c) acquisition of expert knowledge related to the latest resources for modern and effective teaching of Bulgarian to speakers of another mother tongue; d) acquisition of expert knowledge about the requirements and criteria for language proficiency, according to the requirements of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

## CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

### Master's Program: Bulgarian as a Foreign Language

<b>First year</b>			
<u>First semester</u>	ECTS credits	<u>Second semester</u>	ECTS credits
Bulgarian Phonetic System Acquisition in a Foreign Language Environment	4.0	Psycholinguistics	3.0
Reception of Bulgarian Literature Abroad	4.0	Bulgarian Syntactic System Acquisition in a Foreign Language Environment	2.0
Minority Communities in Bulgaria	5.0	Thematic Vocabulary, Lexical Minimum, and Non-Equivalent Vocabulary	2.0
Bulgarian Morphological System Acquisition in a Foreign Language Environment	4.0	Phraseological Units and Parems in Teaching Bulgarian as a Foreign Language	2.0
Ethnolinguistics	4.0	Bulgarian Literature in a Foreign-Language Environment – Issues of Intercultural Communication	2.0
<b>Elective courses (students choose one course from each group)</b>	9.0	<b>Elective courses (students choose one course from each group)</b>	4.0
		<b>Thesis defence or state exam</b>	15.0
	Total 30		Total 30
<b>TOTAL FOR 1 ACADEMIC YEAR: 60 CREDITS</b>			

<b>ELECTIVE COURSES</b>			
<b>№</b>	<b>Name of the course</b>	<b>Semester</b>	<b>ECTS credits</b>
1.	Intercultural Communications	I	3.0
2.	Critical Discourse Analysis of a Text	I	3.0
3.	Balkan Onomastics	I	3.0
4.	Printed and Electronic Resources for Bulgarian as a Foreign Language and the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages	I	3.0
5.	Modern Approaches to Teaching Bulgarian as a Foreign Language	I	3.0
6.	Slavic Etymology	II	2.0
7.	Roma Culture and Identity	II	2.0
8.	Perception and Production of Intonation of Bulgarian language as L2	II	2.0
9.	Language Interference in the Speech of Bulgarians in a Foreign Language Environment	II	2.0

## **DESCRIPTION OF ACADEMIC COURSES**

### **COMPULSORY COURSES**

#### **BULGARIAN PHONETIC SYSTEM ACQUISITION IN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE ENVIRONMENT**

**ECTS credits:** 4

**Weekly workload:** 2 l + 0 s + 6 ind

**Form of assessment:** continuous assessment + exam **Course status:** compulsory

**Semester:** 1st

**Methodological management:**

Department of Bulgarian Language

Faculty of Philology

**Lecturer:**

Assoc. prof. Gergana Padareva, PhD, Department of Bulgarian language

Phone: +359 73 588 528; E-mail: [gerypadareva@swu.bg](mailto:gerypadareva@swu.bg)

**Course outline:**

To provide students with knowledge about the phonological system of the contemporary Bulgarian language (vocal system, consonant system, rhythmic system and intonation system) and the features of the Bulgarian phonetic and phonological system as a basis for its acquisition in a foreign language environment.

**Course topics:**

The course consists of 30 hours of lectures and 90 hours of extracurricular activities. The course examines the phonetics and phonology of the Bulgarian language from a typological perspective. The specificities of the sound structure of the language, the phonemic system and the prosodic system are emphasized, in comparison with other Slavic languages (as related) and with the Balkan languages, as well as with the English language as a universal one. In the teaching process, examples are also given with other languages in order to outline the characteristic features of the Bulgarian language and their importance in communication. Methods are offered for mastering the sound structure and prosody of the Bulgarian language as a second language.

**Teaching and assessment:**

The training includes the presentation of theoretical material, accompanied by examples with a view to the practical mastery of the theory and the possibility of applying this knowledge in practice. The assessment of the acquired knowledge in the subject is carried out through ongoing control and by taking a semester exam.

#### **RECEPTION OF BULGARIAN LITERATURE ABROAD**

**ECTS credits:** 4

**Weekly workload:** 3 l + 0 s + 5 ind

**Form of assessment:** continuous assessment + exam **Course status:** compulsory

**Semester:** 1st

**Methodological management:**

Department of Literature and Ethnology  
Faculty of Philology

**Lecturers:**

Prof. Dr. Stiliyan Stoyanov,  
Department of Literature and Ethnology  
Phone: +359 73 588 528; E-mail: [stilyan@swu.bg](mailto:stilyan@swu.bg)

**Course outline:** The lecture course includes topics that discuss the relationship between the specificity of Bulgarian literature from a theoretical point of view, the specific historical development of Bulgaria, which gives rise to the specific uses of literature and expectations from it. The course is essentially an attempt at a history of Bulgarian literature and a systematization of processes and phenomena in it, moving away as much as possible from stereotyped and very often externally imposed interpretations of the literary text, necessarily connecting literature with the construction of a national identity.

*The academic discipline aims to:*

To comment on phenomena, processes, authors and works in Bulgarian literature in the context of the European and world literary process.

To diagnose the problem of "literature-centricity of our civilization" and, accordingly, the expectations towards literature and the interpretations it implies.

To offer interpretations of key authors and works of Bulgarian literature, emphasizing the difficulties that a foreign reader would experience in understanding them.

**Course content:**

"The Literature-Centricity of Our Civilization" (according to Kiril Krastev) and the problems it poses in teaching and interpreting Bulgarian literature; contexts of perception of the literary text; national literature and national history; specifics of the literary process in Bulgaria; the "misunderstood civilization" syndrome; literature as national memory; literature and social life - aspects of social criticism; literature and the deviations of nationalism; the city and the village in Bulgarian literature; the person for others; big and small stories; women poets in Bulgarian literature; Bulgarian writers writing abroad; specifics of the underground in Bulgarian literature.

**Teaching and assessment:**

Assessment on acquired knowledge by the school discipline is performed through current control and through laying on semester exam. The necessary condition is the preparation of term papers or multimedia presentations on given sample topics. If the overall grade from the activities related to the current control is excellent 5.50 – 6.00, the teacher may exempt the student from the semester exam. In this case, the grade from the current control becomes his grade for the semester exam and it is excellent 6.00.

## **MINORITY COMMUNITIES IN BULGARIA**

**ECTS credits:** 5

**Weekly workload:** 3 l + 1 s + 6 ind

**Form of assessment:** continuous assessment + exam **Course status:** compulsory

**Semester:** 1st

**Methodological management:**

Department of Literature and Ethnology  
Faculty of Philology

**Lecturer:**

Chief Assist. Prof. Ventsislav Bozhinov, PhD, Department of Literature and Ethnology

Phone: +359 73 588 528; E-mail: [ventsislav.bozhinov@swu.bg](mailto:ventsislav.bozhinov@swu.bg)

**Course outline:**

The course "Minority Communities in Bulgaria" aims to introduce the typology of human communities and groups. Based on the acquired theoretical knowledge, students become familiar with the history and cultural characteristics of the main minority communities in Bulgaria. The introductory part of the discipline is dedicated to theoretical questions related to social communities, social groups, and the methods for their study. The main part of the lectures and seminars examines the minority communities in Bulgaria, the state policy towards them, as well as their historical and cultural characteristics.

The objectives of the discipline are: to introduce students to the typology of social communities and groups; to acquaint them with the history, culture, and social problems of the main minority communities in Bulgaria; to prepare students for work in specialized courses such as 'Ethnology of Religion', 'Islam and Folklore Traditions', 'The Roma in Bulgaria – Cultural and Social Status', etc.; and to develop skills for professional work focused on addressing the problems of minority communities.

**Course topics:**

The content of the course begins with clarifying the concept of 'social communities', their distinction from social groups, and the introduction of the sociometric method. Theories of small social groups are discussed. The introductory part also analyzes traditional forms of communities – clan, tribe, caste, estate, and class – as well as processes of migration, the emergence of migrant and refugee communities, and the formation of diasporas as transnational networks.

Key concepts such as 'minority' and 'majority' are then introduced, along with the types of minority communities and the associated notions of identity, image, stereotype, and prejudice. Special attention is paid to the minority policy of the Bulgarian state.

The main part of the course is devoted to various minority communities in Bulgaria. The Roma are examined as a transborder community – their origin, history, group names, educational and social status, as well as their internal hierarchical structure and the issue of preferred identity ('we' versus 'they'). The Turkish community in Bulgaria is studied in terms of its historical, demographic, and cultural characteristics, with a special emphasis on mass migrations. Bulgarian Muslims are presented with their specific cultural characteristics and the problems of 'hidden minorities' and 'ambivalent identity.'

The course also covers Armenians in Bulgaria, Bulgarian Jews (Sephardic and Ashkenazi), Vlachs and Aromanians, Sarakatsani, as well as Gagauz, Tatars, and Greeks. These communities are presented in a historical and cultural context, with a discussion of their identity, traditions, and place in contemporary Bulgarian society.

**Teaching and assessment:**

The teaching process is carried out through lectures and seminars, combined with students' independent work – reading specialized literature, preparing written assignments, working with ethnographic materials, and participating in discussions. Extracurricular activities include consultations, work with research materials, and fieldwork. Assessment is based on continuous evaluation and a written exam, which checks the theoretical knowledge of the students and their ability to analyze the historical and cultural characteristics of minority communities.

## **BULGARIAN MORPHOLOGICAL SYSTEM ACQUISITION IN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE ENVIRONMENT**

**ECTS credits:** 4

**Form of assessment:** continuous assessment + exam

**Term:** 1st

**Weekly workload:** 3 l + 0 s + 5 ind.

**Course status:** compulsory

### **Methodological management:**

Department of Bulgarian Language

Faculty of Philology

### **Lecturers:**

Chief Assist. Prof. Krasimira Hadzhieva, PhD, Department of Bulgarian Language

Phone: +359 73 588 528; E-mail: [kr\\_hadjieva@swu.bg](mailto:kr_hadjieva@swu.bg)

### **Course outline:**

The course presents the specific features of the Bulgarian morphological system. Special emphasis is placed on those morphological features of the Bulgarian language, the acquisition of which would be more difficult for learners with another mother tongue. Cross-linguistic parallels are drawn with other Slavic languages, as well as Balkan and some "Western European" languages. The course aims to create in students skills to analyze and compare various morphological phenomena; to present the necessary terminological apparatus and to assist in its mastery; to prepare students for their future work as teachers of the Bulgarian language to non-native speakers, by supporting the development of skills for the systematic presentation of the morphological features of the Bulgarian language and for their illustration with the help of specific cross-linguistic parallels.

### **Course content:**

Bulgarian morphological system – general features. Parts of speech in the Bulgarian language. Morphological features of Bulgarian nouns in comparative aspect – gender differentiation, numerical plural form, defectiveness in number, vocative forms. Morphological features of Bulgarian adjectives in comparative aspect – inflection in gender and number, definiteness, degrees of comparison. Morphological features of Bulgarian numerals in comparative aspect. Pronouns – general features, types, morphological categories. The category of case of Bulgarian pronouns. Verb – general features. Morphological features of Bulgarian verbs in comparative aspect – type differentiation, coordination of verb tenses, voice and mood. Nonfinite verbs. Word order of Bulgarian clitics.

### **Teaching and assessment:**

The training is conducted in the form of lectures and individual work of the students. Individual activities consist of consultations with the teacher, independent work in the library, preparation for current written exams, written development of reports and presentations on topics set by the teacher. The assessment of the acquired new knowledge in the subject is carried out through ongoing evaluation and a final exam.

## **ETHNOLINGUISTICS**

**ECTS credits:** 4

**Weekly workload:** 3 l + 0 s + 5 ind.

**Form of assessment:** continuous assessment + exam **Course status:** compulsory  
**Semester:** 1st

**Methodological management:**

Department of Slavic and Balkan Studies  
Faculty of Philology

**Lecturers:**

Assist. Prof. Milen Malakov, PhD, Department of Slavic and Balkan Studies  
Phone: +359 73 588 528; E-mail: [milen\\_malakov@swu.bg](mailto:milen_malakov@swu.bg)

**Course outline:**

The training in "Ethnolinguistics" consists of 45 hours of seminar classes and 75 hours of extracurricular work for students. The course examines linguistic ideologies and national strategies of norming and codification of the literary languages of the Balkans. The processes of interaction between ethnopsychological premises, religious influences and modern national ideologies in the Balkan countries in the 18th-20th centuries are traced. In a comparative perspective, the formation of modern nations and languages in Bulgaria, Serbia, Croatia, Romania, Albania, Turkey, Greece is presented, as well as the language conflicts in Yugoslavia, related to different language traditions and ideologies. After successfully completing the course, students will gain insight into the features and interrelationships between the different models of norming and codification of the national literary languages of the Balkans, as well as the ethnospecific features of language interactions and conflicts. Students will gain a broader historical and cultural perspective on the contemporary divergent linguistic processes in the Balkans, leading to the proclamation of political new languages: Macedonian, Bosnian and Montenegrin.

**Course content:**

1. National character and language ideology. Cultural and state nationalism and language policy.
2. Religious, political and language ideologies in Russia in the 18th century
3. The New Bulgarian literary language - language ideologies and schools.
4. Modern Greek literary language - language ideologies and schools.
5. Serbian and Croatian language - language ideologies and schools.
6. Illyrianism. The myth of Vuk Karadžić in Serbian culture and politics.
7. Serbo-Croatian language.
8. The political and linguistic situation in Yugoslavia. The standardization of the Macedonian literary language.
9. Creation of new nations and literary languages in Yugoslavia - Bosnian and Montenegrin language.
10. Turkish literary language - language ideologies and schools.
11. Albanian literary language - language ideologies and schools.
12. Romanian literary language - language ideologies and schools.

**Teaching and assessment:**

Organization of classroom activity: In addition to lectures on the indicated topics, new internet publications of texts and research related to the national linguistic ideologies of the Balkan countries will be used.

## PSYCHOLINGUISTICS

**ECTS credits:** 3

**Form of assessment:** continuous assessment + exam

**Term:** 2nd

**Weekly workload:** 3 l + 0 s + 3 ind.

**Course status:** compulsory



**Methodological management:**

Department of Bulgarian Language  
Faculty of Philology

**Lecturers:**

Assist. Prof. Sofia Mitsova, PhD, Department of Bulgarian Language  
Phone: +359 73 588 528; E-mail: [sofiamitsova@swu.bg](mailto:sofiamitsova@swu.bg)

**Course outline:**

The course in psycholinguistics presents the transformational direction in psycholinguistics (J. Miller, N. Chomsky) and new theories related to the development of cognitive psychology, network modeling and socio-psycholinguistics. The psychological processes of perception of units from different language levels are presented - phonetic, semantic, syntactic, discourse. Both experimental data and data from language pathology are used. The models of perception and production of language units and the interactions between different levels are critically analyzed. Particular attention is paid to the acquisition of language by children - children's phonetics, morphology, syntax, as well as theories of language development. Special attention is paid to the problems of bilingualism and the discussion of the advantages and disadvantages of early and late bilingualism. Reading models and strategies are also examined.

**Course content:**

- The main goal of the course is to provide some of the main categories of the psychological approach to language and to develop sensitivity to the linguistic being of the individual.
- To critically analyze and compare the models of perception and production of language units - autonomous transformational, cognitive, socio-functional and neural network models.
- To present the latest trends related to the development of language pragmatics and discourse linguistics.
- To build skills for diagnosing the language development of children.
- To critically present the problems related to bilingualism

**Teaching and assessment:**

Students must attend 2/3 of the lectures (30 hours). Students must write a research paper on a pre-set topic and conduct a sociolinguistic observation. The assessment is formed in several ways:

- attendance and activity of the student at lectures and exercises - 1/3 of the assessment;
- final written exam on the paper - 2/3.

## **BULGARIAN SYNTACTIC SYSTEM ACQUISITION IN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE ENVIRONMENT**

**ECTS credits:** 2

**Form of assessment:** continuous assessment + exam

**Semester:** 2nd

**Weekly workload:** 2 + 0 s + 2 ind

**Course type:** compulsory

**Methodological management:**

Department of Bulgarian Language  
Faculty of Philology

**Lecturer(s):**

Assoc. Prof. Bilyana Todorova, PhD, Department of Bulgarian Language

Phone: +359 73 588 528; E-mail: [bilyanatodorova@swu.bg](mailto:bilyanatodorova@swu.bg)

**Course outline:**

The course is designed to familiarize students with the distinctive features of the Bulgarian syntactic system. Through the tools of contrastive linguistics, error analysis, and syntactic typology, it aims to uncover the fundamental principles of Bulgarian syntax from a comparative perspective. As is well known, acquiring Bulgarian in a foreign-language environment differs markedly from the natural language acquisition process in a monolingual setting. For this reason, special emphasis is placed on the formation of phrases and sentences in Bulgarian, the rules governing word order, and the typical intonation patterns of Bulgarian speech. Part of the course also situates Bulgarian within both the Slavic and Balkan linguistic contexts, while highlighting its features in comparison with English as a global lingua franca.

**Course content:**

Syntactic typology. Syntactic linking across world languages. Syntactic features of the Bulgarian language. Types of syntactic linking within the phrase. Simple sentence. Omission of parts of a simple sentence. Word order in a simple sentence. Sentence intonation. Complex sentences in Bulgarian. Types of complex sentences. Differences between the syntax of the standard language and regional dialects. Syntactic features of Bulgarian in comparison with other languages. The position of Bulgarian among other Slavic and Balkan languages in terms of syntactic structure. The role of contrastive and comparative linguistics in acquiring Bulgarian syntax in a foreign-language environment. Syntactic features of Bulgarian in comparison with English. The influence of English on Bulgarian syntax in both native and non-native contexts. Specifics of acquiring Bulgarian syntax in a foreign-language environment. Syntactic interference and error analysis in language learning

**Teaching and assessment:**

The lecture course combines traditional lecturing with in-depth discussions on the topics under consideration. Given that students have already successfully completed the undergraduate courses *Introduction to Linguistics*, *Syntax of the Bulgarian Language*, and *Comparative Grammar of Slavic Languages*, their active participation is essential. Emphasis is placed on exploring issues from multiple perspectives, presenting various theoretical viewpoints, and examining alternative solutions to both theoretical and practical problems.

Assessment is based on continuous evaluation and a final semester exam. Continuous assessment constitutes 75% of the final grade and is determined by class attendance, timely submission of homework assignments, and the completion of a project on a pre-approved topic. The semester exam consists of both closed and open-ended questions, based on the course syllabus.

**THEMATIC VOCABULARY, LEXICAL MINIMUM,  
AND NON-EQUIVALENT VOCABULARY**

**ECTS credits:** 2

**Form of assessment:** continuous assessment + exam

**Semester:** 2nd

**Weekly workload:** 2 + 0 s + 2 ind.

**Course status:** compulsory

**Methodological management:**

Department of Bulgarian Language  
Faculty of Philology

**Lecturers:**

Assoc. Prof. Lachezar Perchekliyski, PhD, Department of Bulgarian Language

Phone: +359 73 588 528; E-mail: [llper@swu.bg](mailto:llper@swu.bg)

Senior Assist. Prof. Nadelina Ivova, Department of Bulgarian Language

Phone: +359 73 588 528; E-mail: [nadelina\\_ivova@swu.bg](mailto:nadelina_ivova@swu.bg)

**Course outline:**

The course addresses issues related to vocabulary acquisition in the context of foreign language learning, with particular emphasis on lexical units reflecting nationally specific cultural and social realities in which the language functions. Attention is given to approaches to selecting and systematizing the lexical minimum required for mastering the language at each linguistic level, in accordance with the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. The course also considers the specifics of selecting and introducing thematic vocabulary, depending on the learner's proficiency level.

**Course content:**

Thematic vocabulary: definition and selection in relation to foreign language instruction. Main thematic groups introduced at different stages of learning. Thematic vocabulary included in the official curricula of the Ministry of Education for teaching Bulgarian to school-aged migrants and adult migrants. Neutral and expressive vocabulary; methods of presenting lexical meaning. Definitions of the concept of "lexical minimum" and the history of its development. Approaches to selecting a lexical minimum depending on the aims of instruction. Active and passive vocabulary. The concept of "non-equivalent vocabulary" (culture-specific vocabulary). Classifications and translation issues. Non-equivalent vocabulary in Bulgarian language textbooks for foreigners. Comparative analysis.

**Teaching and assessment:**

The lecture course presents the main problems associated with the selection and presentation of core thematic and non-equivalent vocabulary. Special attention is given to the specifics of introducing thematic vocabulary depending on the learner's native language. During out-of-class activities, students explore additional literature on pre-assigned topics in order to deepen their understanding of the issues discussed in class. They also prepare presentations and reports on questions related to the subject matter of the course. Assessment of students' knowledge is based on continuous evaluation as well as on a final semester examination.

**PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS AND PAREMIES IN TEACHING BULGARIAN AS A  
FOREIGN LANGUAGE**

**ECTS credits:** 2

**Form of assessment:** continuous assessment + exam

**Semester:** 2nd

**Weekly workload:** 2 + 0 s + 2 ind.

**Course status:** compulsory

**Methodological management:**

Department of Bulgarian Language

Faculty of Philology

**Lecturers:** Assist. Prof. Nadelina Ivova, PhD, Department of Bulgarian Language  
Phone: +359 73 588 528; E-mail: [nadelina\\_ivova@swu.bg](mailto:nadelina_ivova@swu.bg)

**Course outline:**

The course focuses on topics presenting the specific features of teaching phraseological units and proverbs in the study of Bulgarian as a foreign language. The discipline presents not only the linguistic characteristics of these units but also the cultural information they convey. At the same time, it aims to outline the main boundaries of phraseology and paremiology in the process of teaching Bulgarian as a foreign language, as well as to highlight the common and distinctive features of phraseological units and proverbs that are relevant to the learning process of foreigners or Bulgarian citizens whose mother tongue is not Bulgarian.

**Course content:**

Linguodidactic aspects in teaching Bulgarian phraseological units and proverbs to foreigners. Linguoculturology and phraseological units and proverbs. Phraseological units and proverbs as stereotypical phrases in foreign language teaching. Phraseology and phraseological unit. The essence of phraseological units. Mechanisms of origin. The meaning of phraseological units. Main classifications. Essential features of paremiological forms. Similarities and differences between sayings and proverbs. Phraseological units and proverbs in textbooks for teaching Bulgarian as a foreign language. Approaches to teaching Bulgarian phraseological units and proverbs in the study of Bulgarian as a foreign language.

**Teaching and assessment:**

The mentioned topics are presented as lectures, using various digital resources. During these classes, students analyze various examples of spelling, grammatical, stylistic and technical errors found in media texts. The lectures require active participation in analyzing these mistakes, as well as in discussions about editing them. A part of the assessment is based on participation during lectures. The other part is formed by 1 individual task of a practical issue, that students prepare within their extramural classes.

**BULGARIAN LITERATURE IN A FOREIGN-LANGUAGE ENVIRONMENT –  
ISSUES OF INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION**

**ECTS credits:** 2

**Weekly workload:** 2 l + 0 s + 2 ind

**Form of assessment:** continuous assessment + exam **Course status:** compulsory

**Semester:** 2nd

**Methodological management:**

Department of Literature and Ethnology  
Faculty of Philology

**Lecturer:**

Assoc. Prof. Roman Hadjikosev, PhD, Department of Literature and Ethnology  
Phone: +359 73 588 528; E-mail: [r.hadjikosev@swu.bg](mailto:r.hadjikosev@swu.bg)

**Course outline:**

The course “Bulgarian Literature in a Foreign-Language Environment – Issues of Intercultural Communication” offers a comprehensive overview of Bulgarian literature and its interaction

with foreign-language contexts. The aim is to explore various aspects of the cultural and linguistic transformation of Bulgarian literature when in contact with other cultures and languages.

The programme includes the analysis of literary works translated into foreign languages, as well as the study of the continuity of themes, motifs, and styles in Bulgarian literature. Students will acquire diverse skills and competencies, including analytical thinking, critical understanding of literary texts, and the ability for intercultural communication.

### **Course topics:**

Upon successful completion of the course, students are expected to be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the interaction between Bulgarian literature and foreign-language cultural contexts.
- Examine issues related to the continuity of themes, motifs, and styles in literature when confronted with diverse cultural environments.
- Develop analytical skills and critical thinking in the interpretation of texts within an intercultural framework.
- Enhance their skills for intercultural communication and understanding by focusing on both the differences and similarities among various cultural expressions.
- Apply practical tools for the analysis, interpretation, and creation of literary texts in intercultural contexts.

### **Teaching and assessment:**

The exam is written and consists of preparing a term paper based on the studied works. All written assignments are stored for the period specified by the Regulations on Educational Activities and are subject to inspection by the relevant institutional authorities.

## **ELECTIVE COURSES**

### **INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATIONS**

**ECTS credits:** 3

**Weekly workload:** 2 l + 0 s + 4 ind

**Form of assessment:** continuous assessment + exam

**Course status:** elective

**Semester:** 1st

### **Methodological management:**

Department of Bulgarian Language

Faculty of Philology

### **Lecturer:**

Assoc. Prof. Borislav Popov, PhD, Department of Bulgarian Language

Phone: +359 73 588 528; E-mail: [meristaf@swu.bg](mailto:meristaf@swu.bg)

### **Course outline:**

To comment on basic concepts related to the functioning of text and image in the socio-cultural space.

To introduce students to the problems of the masses, the media; to the emergence of various theoretical doctrines related to the functioning of the literary text, the media, and governance, characteristic of the 20th century.

To introduce students to the technological features of the media in different historical eras – printing, telegraph, radio, cinema, television. The thesis of the non-simultaneity between technical discovery and its applicability in the media is advocated. In this sense, applicability is considered as a function of socio-cultural attitudes that determine the appearance of the media in different historical periods.

To demonstrate what is known in receptive studies as the appellation structure of the text – how in different types of media and through different communication technologies the media builds its strategies of influence;

To systematize knowledge about the historical development and the features of different types of media depending on the development of communication technologies;

To outline the specifics of intercultural communications in the context of the "global village".

### **Course topics:**

The curriculum is situated in a module consisting of 30 lecture hours.

The lecture course includes topics that discuss the relationship between the development of communication technologies and media in the context of intercultural communications. Topics related to cultural studies, literary theory, sociology of mass taste are provided, which are necessary to outline the contexts of the issues related to the technological aspects of intercultural communications.

### **Teaching and assessment:**

The lecture course involves a discussion of key theses related to the issues of intercultural communication. Its very nature implies extensive use of audio-visual aids in the learning process. The emphasis is placed both on building a theoretical basis for reasoning and on developing skills to analyze specific media material (books, newspapers, photographs, film reviews).

## **CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS OF A TEXT**

**ECTS credits:** 3

**Weekly workload:** 2 l + 0 s + 4 ind.

**Form of assessment:** continuous assessment + exam

**Course status:** elective

**Semester:** 1st

### **Methodological management:**

Department of Slavic and Balkan Studies

Faculty of Philology

### **Lecturers:**

Assoc. Prof. Petar Vodenicharov, PhD, Department of Slavic and Balkan Studies

Phone: +359 73 588 528; E-mail: [petar@swu.bg](mailto:petar@swu.bg)

### **Course outline:**

The course presents critical semiotic models of mass media, examining in detail the theory and methodology of critical discourse analysis in relation to the qualitative and popular press. The socio-political and cultural mechanisms of production, distribution and consumption of media texts are examined; press texts are viewed as forms of symbolic power and the main ideological messages of the popular press in Bulgaria are critically analyzed. Students acquire skills for critical analysis of language strategies for media mystification and manipulation at different levels: socio-political publicity, media legislation and institutions, type of press, subject matter,

composition, genre, sources, style (grammatical, lexical, syntactic, textual level). Special attention is paid to the representation of children and young people in the popular press and the youth press.

**Course content:**

Analysis of social practices (first module). Analysis of the semiotic register (second module). Critical textual analysis (third module).

**Teaching and assessment:**

The lecture course is combined - it combines the traditional way of conducting lectures with discussions on previously distributed texts from popular newspapers and magazines related to the topic of the lectures. Students are familiarized with the bibliography on the topics discussed in advance in order to have a full discussion on the main issues. The student has successfully completed the course if he/she has achieved a positive grade in the continuous assessment and a positive grade in the semester exam.

## **BALKAN ONOMASTICS**

**ECTS credits:** 3

**Form of assessment:** continuous assessment + exam

**Semester:** 1st

**Weekly workload:** 2 l + 0 s + 4 ind.

**Course status:** elective

**Methodological guidance:**

Department of Bulgarian Language

Faculty of Philology

**Lecturers:**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Radoslav Tsonev, Department of Bulgarian Language

Phone: +359 73 588 528; E-mail: [radoslavytsonev@swu.bg](mailto:radoslavytsonev@swu.bg)

**Course outline:**

The course addresses issues of Balkan onomastics within the framework of linguistic diachrony and in the context of ethnolinguistic contacts in Southeastern Europe. Some issues of language policy in the field of anthroponymy are also included. The course aims to teach students to work critically with scientific literature, provide general bibliographic awareness, familiarize them with the main hypotheses on the origin of proper names, present a factual lexical minimum, and enable students to master the main theoretical principles and develop certain skills in analysing linguistic material from the perspective of Balkan onomastics.

**Course content:**

Onomastics as a scientific discipline. Problems of the general theory. Specifics of Balkan onomastics – main historical layers. Issues of the pre-Indo-European – Mediterranean layer. Hypotheses. Pelasgian hypothesis of Georgiev. Evidence and critiques. Georgiev's method and its significance for global linguistics. General characteristics of the Indo-European onomastic system – reconstructions. Toponymic suffixes and anthroponymic models. Paleo-Balkan onomastics. Thracian toponymic layer. Thracian language – Thracian language complex. Daco-Moesian component in toponymy – hypotheses and evidence. Illyrian component: anthroponymic and toponymic. Heritage. Helleno-Macedonian component in toponymy. Certification of Greek loans in toponymy. General characteristics of Slavic toponymic heritage.



General characteristics of Slavic anthroponymic heritage. Certification of Slavic toponymic heritage. Area of Bulgarian toponyms. Christian layer in toponymy and anthroponymy. Language policies in onomastics.

**Teaching and assessment:**

The course is delivered through lectures and independent work by students (out-of-class activity) – collecting and processing empirical material, developing topics, course papers, working with bibliographies, etc. Assessment is based on continuous assessment and a semester exam. Continuous assessment is formed through attendance and participation in lectures and seminars, as well as written assignments, with students accumulating points that determine their grade (on a scale from 2 to 6). The semester exam consists of a test covering topics in Balkan onomastics. The final grade is formed by combining continuous assessment (65%) and the semester exam (35%) and is converted to the ECTS scale (A–E). All written work is stored and subject to review according to the University's Regulations on Educational Activities.

**PRINTED AND ELECTRONIC RESOURCES FOR BULGARIAN AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE AND THE COMMON EUROPEAN FRAMEWORK OF REFERENCE FOR LANGUAGES**

**ECTS credits:** 3

**Weekly workload:** 2 l + 0 s + 4 ind.

**Form of assessment:** continuous assessment + exam **Course status:** elective

**Semester:** 1st

**Methodological management:**

Department of Slavic and Balkan Studies  
Faculty of Philology

**Lecturers:**

Assist. Prof. Milen Malakov, PhD, Department of Slavic and Balkan Studies  
Phone: +359 73 588 528; E-mail: [milen\\_malakov@swu.bg](mailto:milen_malakov@swu.bg)

**Course outline:**

The course "Printed and Electronic Resources for Bulgarian as a Foreign Language and the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages", included as an elective in the Curriculum of the Master's Program "Bulgarian as a Foreign Language", consists of 30 hours of lectures and 60 hours of extracurricular work for students. The lecture course contains a theoretical part, with the emphasis on two thematic units:

1. Common European Framework of Reference for Languages - goals of the language policy of the Council of Europe and the European Union
2. Printed and Electronic Resources for Bulgarian as a Foreign Language

The course also includes a short practical part, within which students have the opportunity to assess their language skills themselves according to the common scale of competence levels, as well as to analyze and compare different textbooks and aids for teaching Bulgarian as a second (foreign) language according to predefined criteria.

**Course content:**

Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR); European Language Passport; Key concepts – plurilingualism; an action-oriented approach; general competences; communicative language competences; domains; tasks, strategies, texts; common reference



levels of language proficiency; language learning and teaching; assessment; Common Reference Levels: global scale; self-assessment grid. How does the Bulgarian methodology define the main goal of teaching Bulgarian (including as a foreign language) and does this understanding correspond to the understanding set out in the CEFR, what are the grounds for and against using the terminological division Bulgarian as a foreign - Bulgarian as a second language, who are the main target groups of teaching Bulgarian as a foreign/second language nowadays, problematic moments related to the teaching resources of Bulgarian as a foreign/second language with a view to the needs of the different target groups studying Bulgarian as a foreign/second language.

**Teaching and assessment:**

In the lecture course, the teacher presents the students with conventional presentations on various topics, the students discuss individual topics under the guidance of the teacher, applying what they have learned from their independent preparation and practicing various types of text analysis. Outside of the scheduled classroom hours, the students must independently prepare the assigned assessment tasks.

**MODERN APPROACHES TO TEACHING BULGARIAN AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE**

**ECTS credits:** 3

**Weekly workload:** 2 l + 0 s + 4 ind.

**Form of assessment:** continuous assessment + exam **Course status:** elective

**Semester:** 1st

**Methodological guidance:**

Department of Slavic and Balkan Studies  
Faculty of Philology

**Lecturer:**

Prof. Dr. Marinela Mladenova, PhD, Department of Slavic and Balkan Studies  
Phone: +359 73 588 528; E-mail: [marinela@swu.bg](mailto:marinela@swu.bg)

**Course outline:**

The lecture course consists of 30 hours of lectures and 60 hours of independent work and is intended for students enrolled in the master's program "Bulgarian as a Foreign Language." The focus is on modern methods for teaching foreign languages, with particular emphasis on teaching Bulgarian as a foreign language. Special attention is given to the specifics of electronic distance learning for teaching Bulgarian to foreigners and to Bulgarian citizens with a different mother tongue.

The course presents the essential characteristics of distance learning, the main stages of the learning process, and analyzes the structural and content-related features of a learning unit in both traditional and distance learning. Electronic didactic materials for language acquisition up to level A2 are also examined. The course defines general requirements for creating electronic didactic materials and presents a system of electronic materials for teaching Bulgarian as a foreign language. Students become acquainted with the language material for levels from beginner to A2, as well as the specific steps in implementing the learning process in a distance learning environment.

**Course content:**

Basic principles of teaching Bulgarian as a foreign language. Integrated functional teaching of vocabulary and grammar. Situational and thematic context of learning. Concentric learning. Main methods of teaching Bulgarian as a foreign language. Stages in teaching Bulgarian as a foreign language. Assessment in teaching Bulgarian as a foreign language. Learning units in traditional instruction. Learning units in distance learning. Specifics of content in distance learning. Electronic didactic materials in teaching Bulgarian as a foreign language: general requirements; materials for language knowledge acquisition; materials for communicative skills development. Didactic technologies for initial acquisition of Bulgarian by students with dominant Romani or Turkish mother tongue.

**Teaching and assessment methods:**

The lecture course combines the traditional lecture format with pre-assigned topics for discussion. Students' independent work includes preparation on pre-assigned texts; presentation of selected articles; library research; consultations with the lecturer; and written assignments and essays (papers) set by the lecturer. Assessment is carried out through continuous evaluation, based on regular monitoring of students' progress.

**SLAVIC ETYMOLOGY**

**ECTS credits:** 2

**Form of assessment:** continuous assessment + exam

**Semester:** 2nd

**Weekly workload:** 2 l + 0 s + 2 ind.

**Course status:** elective

**Methodological management:**

Department of Bulgarian Language

Faculty of Philology

**Lecturers:**

Assoc. Prof. Lachezar Perchevski, PhD, Department of Bulgarian Language

Phone. +359 73 588 528; E-mail: [llper@swu.bg](mailto:llper@swu.bg)

**Course outline:**

Etymology is a branch of linguistics that studies the origin, history, and genealogical relations of words within individual languages. The aims of the course are to introduce students to the foundations of this discipline; to provide them with basic knowledge of Proto-Slavic linguistics and the modern Slavic languages derived from it; to train them to use etymological dictionaries of the Slavic languages (including Bulgarian) for tracing the history of individual words; and to give them practice in performing etymological analysis by applying the comparative-historical method and consulting Slavic (particularly Bulgarian) dictionaries. The course examines the major Proto-Slavic processes of phonological development reflected in the vocalic and consonantal systems of the earliest attested Slavic language, Old Bulgarian; it traces the origin and development of Proto-Slavic nominal, pronominal, and verbal stems and their meanings; and it addresses the evolution and semantics of Slavic word-formation patterns, including prefixes and suffixes.

**Course content:**

Characteristics of the discipline of etymology. The comparative-historical method. The Proto-Slavic language and its descendants. General tendencies in the phonological development of Late Proto-Slavic. Evolution of grammatical categories in the nominal, pronominal, and verbal

systems of the Slavic languages. The Common Slavic lexical stock. Old Bulgarian as the earliest attested Slavic language. Etymological dictionaries of the Slavic languages: structure and content of dictionary entries. The “inner form” of words. Features of synchronic and diachronic word-formation in the Slavic language.

**Teaching and assessment:**

During the lecture course, students acquire the basic theoretical foundations of the discipline. Special sessions are dedicated to practical training in etymological analysis of selected Slavic (particularly Bulgarian) words, applying the comparative-historical method. Students explore earlier forms of words, their origin, and the changes in their morphemic structure. Each individual assignment is assessed, and the results contribute to the ongoing evaluation.

## **ROMA CULTURE AND IDENTITY**

**ECTS credits:** 2

**Weekly workload:** 2 l + 0 s + 2 ind

**Form of assessment:** continuous assessment

**Course status:** elective

**Semester:** 2nd

**Methodological management:**

Department of Literature and Ethnology  
Faculty of Philology

**Lecturer:**

Chief Assist. Prof. Ventsislav Bozhinov, PhD, Department of Literature and Ethnology  
Phone. +359 73 588 528; E-mail: [ventsislav.bozhinov@swu.bg](mailto:ventsislav.bozhinov@swu.bg)

**Course outline:**

The course “Roma Culture and Identity” aims to acquaint students with the main debates on the development of Roma communities in Bulgaria, their cultural specificity, and their contemporary state. The course provides knowledge about the complexity of Roma culture, balancing between adaptability and conservatism. The focus is placed on the socio-economic conditions of the Roma community, the processes of identity formation, as well as the challenges to their social integration. An important goal is the deconstruction of negative stereotypical images of the Roma by presenting the heterogeneous character of Roma groups and their internal social stratification.

**Course topics:**

The curriculum consists of several thematic blocks designed to introduce students to the specific problem areas of Roma culture and the theoretical paradigms in the study of this transborder community in the Balkans. The introductory part examines the origin and migrations of Roma groups, as well as the formation of Roma identity. Special attention is paid to the linguistic identities of Bulgarian Roma, hierarchical Roma identities, and the social differences within the community.

The course analyzes traditional and contested cultural practices: nomadism – real or imagined; early marriages; the institution of the 'Gypsy King' and the 'meshere'; the role of Roma music – myths and reality. It also examines the processes of change in religious identity, with special focus on the evangelization of Roma in Bulgaria.

**Teaching and assessment:**

The teaching process is carried out through lectures and seminars, combined with students' independent work – reading specialized literature, preparing written assignments, and participating in discussions. Extracurricular activities include consultations, working with ethnographic materials, and research tasks. Assessment is based on continuous evaluation, including participation in classes, presentation of written assignments, and a final written exam that tests students' knowledge and analytical skills.

## **PERCEPTION AND PRODUCTION OF INTONATION OF BULGARIAN LANGUAGE AS L2**

**ECTS credits:** 2

**Form of assessment:** continuous assessment

**Semester:** 2nd

**Weekly workload:** 2 l + 0 s + 2 ind.

**Course status:** elective

### **Methodological management:**

Department of Bulgarian Language

Faculty of Philology

### **Lecturer:**

Assoc. prof. Gergana Padareva, PhD, Department of Bulgarian language

Phone: +359 73 588 528; E-mail: [gerypadareva@swu.bg](mailto:gerypadareva@swu.bg)

### **Course outline:**

To provide students with knowledge about the intonation system of the Bulgarian literary language in view of the characteristic features and functions of intonation in the process of communication as a basis for its acquisition in a foreign language environment. Methods for the acquisition and production of intonation in teaching Bulgarian as L2 are proposed.

### **Course topics:**

The course examines the intonation system of Bulgarian language as a language of the intonation type, in contrast to tonal languages. Intonation is considered an irrevocable feature of speech with some universal features, but also with specific features inherent to a particular language. The specificities of Bulgarian intonation are highlighted in comparison with other Slavic languages (as related) and with the Balkan languages, as well as with the English language as a universal language. In the teaching process, examples from other languages are also given in order to outline certain characteristic features and their importance in the communicative process.

**Teaching and assessment:** The training includes the presentation of theoretical material, accompanied by examples with a view to the practical mastery of the theory and the possibility of applying this knowledge in practice.

The assessment of the acquired knowledge in the discipline is carried out through ongoing control, participation in discussions, and the development of a presentation.

## **LANGUAGE INTERFERENCE IN THE SPEECH OF BULGARIANS IN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE ENVIRONMENT**

**ECTS credits:** 2

**Weekly workload:** 2 l + 0 s + 2 ind.

**Form of assessment:** continuous assessment  
**Semester:** 2nd

**Course status:** elective

**Methodological management:**

Department of Bulgarian Language  
Faculty of Philology

**Lecturer(s):**

Assoc. Prof. Bilyana Todorova, PhD, Department of Bulgarian Language  
Phone: +359 73 588 528; E-mail: [bilyanatodorova@swu.bg](mailto:bilyanatodorova@swu.bg)

**Course outline:**

The course is intended for students who have already completed a large part of their master's program and have in-depth theoretical training. In the course, students have to learn about the nature of language interference and the causes and manifestations of language interference in the speech of Bulgarians in a foreign language environment. Language influence can affect any language level and can be both unconscious and completely intentional. At the end of the course, students are expected to be able to identify manifestations of language interference in real texts created by Bulgarians living abroad.

**Course content:**

Language interference. Influence of the first language on the second language. Digraphia and bilingualism. Influence of the second language on the first language in the process of learning the second language. Influence of the second language on the first language in a foreign language environment. Language interference at the phonetic level. Typical manifestations. Language interference at the morphological level. Typical manifestations. Language interference in word formation. Language interference at the syntactic level. Language interference at the lexical level. Typical manifestations. Language interference as a stylistic defect and as a stylistic effect.

**Teaching and assessment:**

The course combines traditional lectures with interactive discussions on the topics covered. In examining language interference across all linguistic levels, students work with real-life examples drawn from the Internet, audio recordings made by students of acquaintances living outside Bulgaria, and interviews with Bulgarians living abroad. This hands-on approach enables students to observe the phenomenon in its authentic context and fosters a critical attitude toward the unnecessary adoption of foreign language models. Assessment is continuous. To receive a final grade, students must complete at least two independent assignments related to the lecture topics, as well as a course project on a subject pre-approved by the lecturer. Attendance and active participation in class discussions also contribute to the final evaluation.