ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

GENERAL STUDIES PROGRAM COURSE PROPOSAL COVER FORM

Courses submitted to the GSC between 2/1 and 4/30 if approved, will be effective the following Spring.
Courses submitted between 5/1 and 1/31 if approved, will be effective the following Fall.

(SUBMISSION VIA ADOBE.PDF FILES IS PREFERRED)

DATE 3/21/2012

1. ACADEMIC UNIT: SILC

2. COURSE PROPOSED: BCS 102 Introductory Serbo-Croatian II 4
(prefix) (number) (title) (semester hours)

3. CONTACT PERSON: Name: Danko Sipka Phone: 480 634 8437
Mail Code: 0202 E-Mail: Danko.Sipka@asu.edu

4. ELIGIBILITY: New courses must be approved by the Tempe Campus Curriculum Subcommittee and must have a regular course number. For the rules governing approval of omnibus courses, contact the General Studies Program Office at 965-0739.

5. AREA(S) PROPOSED COURSE WILL SERVE. A single course may be proposed for more than one core or awareness area. A course may satisfy a core area requirement and more than one awareness area requirements concurrently, but may not satisfy requirements in two core areas simultaneously, even if approved for those areas. With departmental consent, an approved General Studies course may be counted toward both the General Studies requirement and the major program of study. (Please submit one designation per proposal)

Core Areas
- Literacy and Critical Inquiry—L □
- Mathematical Studies—MA □ CS □
- Humanities, Fine Arts and Design—HU □
- Social and Behavioral Sciences—SB □
- Natural Sciences—SQ □ SG □

Awareness Areas
- Global Awareness—G ☑
- Historical Awareness—H □
- Cultural Diversity in the United States—C □

6. DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED.
(1) Course Description
(2) Course Syllabus
(3) Criteria Checklist for the area
(4) Table of Contents from the textbook used, if available

7. In the space provided below (or on a separate sheet), please also provide a description of how the course meets the specific criteria in the area for which the course is being proposed.

The core area of humanities is met by focusing on the concept of identity, one of the central notions of the human condition, while the global awareness area is met by exploring different cross-cultural and cross-linguistic configurations in which identities are constructed and perceived.

CROSS-LISTED COURSES: ☑ No □ Yes; Please identify courses: ______________

Is this an unscheduled course?: ☑ No □ Yes; Is it governed by a common syllabus? __________

Robert Joe Cutter (Print or Type) Signature

Rev. 1/94, 4/95, 7/98, 4/00, 1/02, 10/08
Arizona State University Criteria Checklist for

GLOBAL AWARENESS [G]

Rationale and Objectives

Human organizations and relationships have evolved from being family and village centered to modern global interdependence. The greatest challenge in the nuclear age is developing and maintaining a global perspective which fosters international cooperation. While the modern world is comprised of politically independent states, people must transcend nationalism and recognize the significant interdependence among peoples of the world. The exposure of students to different cultural systems provides the background of thought necessary to developing a global perspective.

Cultural learning is present in many disciplines. Exposure to perspectives on art, business, engineering, music, and the natural and social sciences that lead to an understanding of the contemporary world supports the view that intercultural interaction has become a daily necessity. The complexity of American society forces people to balance regional and national goals with global concerns. Many of the most serious problems are world issues and require solutions which exhibit mutuality and reciprocity. No longer are hunger, ecology, health care delivery, language planning, information exchanges, economic and social developments, law, technology transfer, philosophy, and the arts solely national concerns; they affect all the people of the world. Survival may be dependent on the ability to generate global solutions to some of the most pressing problems.

The word university, from universitas, implies that knowledge comes from many sources and is not restricted to local, regional, or national perspectives. The Global Awareness Area recognizes the need for an understanding of the values, elements, and social processes of cultures other than the culture of the United States. Learning which recognizes the nature of others cultures and the relationship of America’s cultural system to generic human goals and welfare will help create the multicultural and global perspective necessary for effective interaction in the human community.

Courses which meet the requirement in global awareness are of one or more of the following types: (1) in-depth area studies which are concerned with an examination of culture-specific elements of a region of the world, country, or culture group, (2) the study of contemporary non-English language courses that have a significant cultural component, (3) comparative cultural studies with an emphasis on non-U.S. areas, and (4) in-depth studies of non-U.S. centered cultural interrelationships of global scope such as the global interdependence produced by problems of world ecology, multinational corporations, migration, and the threat of nuclear war.
Proposer: Please complete the following section and attach appropriate documentation.

### ASU--[G] CRITERIA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>Identify Documentation Submitted</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>GLOBAL AWARENESS [G]</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

1. Studies **must** be composed of subject matter that addresses or leads to an understanding of the contemporary world outside the U.S.
2. The course must match at least one of the following descriptions: (check all which may apply):
   a. In-depth area studies concerned with an examination of culture-specific elements of a region, country or culture group. **The area or culture studied must be non-U.S. and the study must contribute to an understanding of the contemporary world.**
   b. The course is a language course for a contemporary non-English language, and has a significant cultural component.
   c. The course is a comparative cultural study in which most, i.e., more than half, of the material is devoted to non-U.S. areas.
   d. The course is a study of the cultural significance of a non-U.S.-centered global issue. The course examines the role of its target issue within each culture and the interrelatedness of various global cultures on that issue. It looks at the cultural significance of its issue in various cultures outside the U.S., both examining the issue’s place within each culture and the effects of that issue on world cultures.”
Explain in detail which student activities correspond to the specific designation criteria. Please use the following organizer to explain how the criteria are being met.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria (from checksheet)</th>
<th>How course meets spirit (contextualize specific examples in next column)</th>
<th>Please provide detailed evidence of how course meets criteria (i.e., where in syllabus)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2d: study the cultural significance of a non-U.S. centered global issue</td>
<td>SAMPLE: The course examines the cultural significance of financial markets Japan, Korea, and the UK.</td>
<td>SAMPLE: Module 2 shows how Japanese literature has shaped how Japanese people understand world markets. Module 3 shows how Japanese popular culture has been changed by the world financial market system. Modules 4 &amp; 5 do the same for Korea and modules 6 &amp; 7 do the same for the UK.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>The course discusses a non-US culture</td>
<td>See the syllabus and the culture section of the course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2b</td>
<td>One major section of the course discusses Serbian, Croatian, and Bosnian cultures</td>
<td>See the syllabus and the culture section of the course</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Lesson Six, Culture

Forms of Shopping

Although large American-style grocery stores are mushrooming in recent years, shopping is still by-and-large performed in a series of smaller stores and open-air markets. This is particularly true for grocery shopping. There are four majors kinds of institutions in this regard:

- small general shops run by one or two shop attendants called prodavnica, radnja, dućan or granap, which are somewhat of an equivalent to an elaborate 7/11 or Circle K. The difference is that these stores are frequented more often than their American counterparts and that they are normally located in residential areas rather than at gas stations.
- self-service grocery stores, called samousluga, samoposluga, or samousluživanje (all mean: self-service), as a rule much smaller than their American counterparts (Safeway, IGA, etc.).
- specialized shops such as butcheries, called mesara or mesnica; bakeries, called pekara; fish stores called ribarnica; etc.
- market places, called pijaca or tržnica, are somewhat of an equivalent to an elaborate farmer's market in the United States, yet frequented regularly.

In a typical case, families in the region would shop for fruits, vegetables, and often meat, fish, and dairy products at the market place once a week while running other more frequent errands at small shops and self-service stores. These products tend to be considerably less expensive at the markets.

All other errands typically run in a series of smaller specialized shops scattered across the town rather than concentrated in malls. Although, there are some department stores, called robna kuća, that are typically smaller than their American equivalents (e.g., Sears, JCPenny, etc.).

Sometimes, various fairs and exhibitions are a good occasion to purchase products. The two best known fairgrounds in the region are Velesajam in Zagreb, Croatia, and Sajam in Belgrade, Serbia.

Recently, some products from the region can be purchased on-line anywhere in the world. Take a look at, for example, Robna kuća.

Culture of Shopping
In general, a shopper should expect far less courtesy and rights than in the United States. That means that shopkeepers are generally less courteous and that it is often close to impossible to return products to the shop. Returns are theoretically possible only when there is obviously something wrong with the product and even then, it may be rather difficult to enforce it.

Overcharging happens more often than in the United States. It is often more of a strategy of stealing from clients than a product of mistake. One should be very careful and double check all sums especially when running a long list of errands.

Bargaining is allowed and oftentimes even expected only at marketplaces. The phrase to use here is *Može li za [lower price]?* 'Can it be [lower price]?', e.g., *Može li za dvije marke?* 'Can it be two marks?'

It is common to leave small change (called *kusur* at all shops as a kind of tip). The phrase when doing that is *U redu je* 'It is ok, lit. It is in order'. The amount is normally not more than 1-2% of the purchase.

In general there are far more direct cash transactions than in the US. Credit cards are not used that often.

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**Banks**

Each country of the region features a myriad of both domestic and international banks. Most of these banks are available on the Internet. Here are several examples to give you an idea about their services: Banks in Sarajevo, Bosnia; Central Profit Bank, Bosnia; Raiffeisen Bank - Bosnian branch; Croatian National Bank; Centar banka, Croatia; Dresner Bank - Croatian branch; Zagrebačka banka; National Bank of Serbia and Montenegro; Delta Bank, Serbia.

In general, credits and mortgages are less commonly used than in the United States.

Banks are normally open from 8am to 7pm.

One important function of the banks is foreign currency exchange. Local currencies are as follows:

- Bosnia: convertible Mark (in the original: *konvertibilna marka*, KM)
- Croatia: Kuna (in the original: *kuna*)
- Montenegro: Euro (in the original: evro)
- Yugoslavia: Dinar (in the original: dinar)

The exchange rate of these currency units vs. the dollar varies. Check this site for current exchange rates.

The region features stock exchange markets, such as Belgrade Stock Exchange and Zagreb Stock Exchange.

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**Telecommunications**

Until the 1990s, all telecommunication services were concentrated in the state-owned PTT (i.e., pošta, telefon, telegraf 'mail, telephone, telegraph') network. Post offices still render such services (all kinds of letters and packages, telephone calls, telegrams, etc.). However, in recent years we are witnessing increased decentralization of telecommunications, in particular as numerous mobile telephony and internet providers emerge. The following two examples show the current range of services Croatian Telecom and Telecommunications in Belgrade. Here are further examples of mobile telephony and Internet providers in Belgrade, Serbia.

Regardless of the technology phones use, the following are country dialing codes:

- Bosnia ++387
- Croatia ++385
- Serbia and Montenegro ++381
- United States (from the region) 001

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**TV and Radio Stations**

Each of the countries and entities in the region hosts one major state-owned TV and radio station. Those stations cover the entire territory of their respective countries. There also exist an array of other, privately owned TV and radio stations, which, as a rule, cover a limited area (usually only major urban centers). Satellite dishes and cable TV providers are very common in urban centers - they offer numerous Western European stations, such as CNN, Sky, BBC, RTL, etc.

Central state-owned TV and radio stations are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina</th>
<th>Radio-televizija Federacije BiH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Republic of Srpska</td>
<td>Radio-televizija Republike Srpske</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croatia</td>
<td>Hrvatska radio-televizija</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montenegro</td>
<td>Radio-televizija Crne Gore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>Radio-televizija Srbije</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Lesson Seven, Culture

Ethnic Food and Beverages

The region features several major culinary influences, including Mediterranean, Near Eastern, and Central European. Some culinary habits (such as roasting young lambs and piglets on a spit, eating animal brains, testicles, etc.) may strike American visitor as unusual. However, ethnic food and beverages by-and-large are tasty and congruent with American nutritional habits. A further difference lies in the culture of food consuming. People in the region in general do not pay attention to caloric or other values of the food, concentrating rather on its taste. Similarly, guests' nutritional habits are not inquired about and it is assumed that one is not vegetarian. The most common beverages include wine, as well as brandy prepared from both plums and grapes. Here are the most common ethnic foods and beverages:

Appetizers

The most common appetizers are cheeses, salami, hams, and pickled vegetables. These appetizers are often used as snack when drinking alcoholic beverages. Appetizer is predjelo 'lit. before-the-meal' in Serbo-Croatian. The best known cheeses come from the regions of the island of Pag in Croatia, the city of Sjenica in Montenegro, and the city of Travnik with its mountain Vlašić in Bosnia. They are called paški sir, sjenički sir, travnički/vlašićki sir. Another common regional dairy product is kajmak, a rich and salty dairy cream. The most beloved variety is užički kajmak produced in the vicinity of Užice, Serbia. The best known meat delicacies are smoked ham, called pršut or pršuta (found mostly in Herzegovina, Montenegro, and the coastal regions of Croatia), with njeguška pršuta from the Njeguši region in Montenegro being the most respected variety, as well as different kinds of hard salami, sudžuk or sudžuka form Bosnia, and sremska kobasica from Serbia. The best known pickled vegetables are sauerkraut (called kiseli kupus), pickled peppers (called kisele paprike) often stuffed with sauerkraut, and pickles (called kiseli kroastavci). In addition, there is a vegetable spread prepared from peppers and eggplants called ajvar. Some main course items, such as pita (see below) can also be used as appetizers.
**Soups**

There are three words for soup: *juha* in Croatian, *supa*, elsewhere in the region, and *čorba*, thick soup (a word used outside of Croatia). The three best known kinds of soup are *begova čorba* (lit. bey's soup) from Bosnia; the rich in vegetables and small chunks of meat and somewhat unusual *istarska supa* (lit. Istrian soup, after the region Istria) from Croatia, prepared with wine and olive oil; and *riblja čorba* (lit. fish soup) - fish stew, prepared in particular in the areas along the Danube river in Serbia and Croatia.

**Main Courses**

The Serbo-Croatian word is *glavno jelo*. The most common “fast food” main course items are as follows: First, *pita*, also known as *burek*, phyllo dough stuffed with either meat, spinach, potatoes, or cheese. While the word *burek* is used in Bosnia for only meat variety of this stuffed dough, the word denigrates dough with any kind of stuffing elsewhere. Pita is served in the parlors called *buregdžinica*. Second, *ćevapčići*, small grilled meat sausages, served with Near-Eastern style bread and onions. These and other grill products are served at the parlors called *ćevabdžinica*.

Other ethnic food products widely spread across the region are cabbage or vine leaves stuffed with meat and rice, called *sarma*, and bell peppers stuffed with the same mass called *punjene paprike*. Spit-roasted lamb (*jagnjetina* or *janjetina*) and young pork (*prasetina*) are popular all across the region. In the Mediterranean, a variety of seafood is available. The most exquisite seafood is comprised of dentex, cuttlefish, squid, and shrimp. A popular seafood dish is *brodet*, a stew composed of several varieties of fish. It is worth noting that bread is an obligatory component of any main course, even if the side dish are potatoes, polenta, or rice. Also, one should know that salads are eaten simultaneously with the main course rather than ahead of it.

**Deserts**

The aforementioned *pita* also comes as a desert filled with apples or cherries. Most other deserts have Near Eastern origins and are ubiquitous in Bosnia. They include *rahat-lokum* also called *rojak*, i.e., Turkish delight, apples stuffed with walnuts and cooked in sweet water called *tufahije*, and *baklave* i.e., baklava. There is also traditional preserve, served with water as the first item to any visitors in Serbia, called *slatko*, boiled wheat with walnuts and honey served on a Serbian family's patron's day. Finally, northwestern Croatia is known for its strudel called *štrukli*.

**Beverages**
Beverages, i.e., pića can be alkoholna 'alcoholic' or bezalkoholna 'soft'. The beverages of choice are wine and brandies. Other alcoholic beverages do not have tradition in the region and should be avoided. This is particularly true about beer, which is characterized by a very low quality despite all claims made by the locals. Two common varieties of brandy are plum brandy, called šljivovica in the center and the north of the region, and grappa, i.e., grape brandy, called lozovača in the south. Both brandies come in different strengths from 40 to 140 proof. The most respected varieties are distilled in monasteries. The generic name of manastirka refers to such brandy.

Although there are wine regions in the north, especially around Kutjevo in Croatia, and Vršac in Serbia, the best known vineyards are in the south along the coast of the Adriatic sea. The most distinguished sorts are called Babić, Malvazija, Plavac, Pošip, Postup, and Žilavka. It is interesting to point out that Californian Zinfandel originates from the Croatian Plavac Kaštelanski.

This page offers numerous recipes of local dishes. Further examples can be found here and here.

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**Major Tourist Points of Interest**

Although major urban centers, mentioned earlier in this course, offer important sightseeing points, it is the regions in the province that offer the most interesting natural and historic sights. In northern Croatia, one can find medieval castles, such as Trakošćan, and numerous hot thermal spas. The Adriatic coast of Croatia and Montenegro offers numerous examples of Ancient Roman, Medieval, and Renaissance architecture (primarily in the cities of Pula, Zadar, Šibenik, Split, and Dubrovnik in Croatia, as well as Kotor, Buva, and Bar in Montenegro). The region is furthermore characterized by marvels of natural beauty, such as the archipelago of Kornati near Zadar, the Plitvice lakes in the hinterland to the North of the port of Šibenik, both in Croatia, and the Bay of Kotor in Montenegro. Finally, the region is abundant in marvelous stone beaches. Serbia is known for sites of Neolithic culture, such as Vinča; Ancient Roman sites (e.g., Gamzigrad and Mediana); and most importantly for numerous medieval monasteries, such as Žiča and Studenica. Some of the natural beauties in Serbia and continental Montenegro include the Đerdap gorge on the Danube, the canyon of Tara. Serbia is also known for its health spas, such as Vrnjačka banja. Bosnia and Herzegovina are best known for pearls of Islamic
architecture, with numerous mosques, clock-towers, and hamams in many towns, some of which, such as Počitelj, have preserved the entire city structure from the times of the Turkish rule (15-19 century). The best known natural marvel is Perucica, the only preserved European jungle. Mountains around Sarajevo, Bjelašnica and Jahorina, offer excellent skiing terrains.

More about tourist destinations in the region are available [here](#) and [here](#).

### Popular Music

Popular music in the region falls under the following broad categories:

- **Traditional rural and urban** - listened to by mostly older audiences in both rural and urban areas. The best known varieties include Serbian *starogradske pesme*, Bosnian Muslim *sevdalinke*, Northern Croatian *popevke*, and Southern Croatian *dalmatinske pisme*. This kind of music is usually called *izvorna narodna muzika/glazba*. The most notable performers are Predrag Gojković Cune, Zvonko Bogdan, and Dušan Dančuo (starogradske pesme), Safet Isović and Himzo Polovina (sevdalinke), Ladarice (popevke), Klapa "Omiš", and Klapa "Trogir" (dalmatinske pisme). These varieties are somewhat of a functional equivalent of blues or folk in the United States.

- **Contemporary folk** - This variety of music, called *novokomponovana narodna muzika* or *narodnjaci* is less wide-spread in Croatia. There, the kind of music which serves the same social functions is the Dalmatian (southern Croatian) version of pop music. Both *narodnjaci* and *dalmatinski pop* are roughly the equivalent of country western music, listened to by less educated rural populations. Examples of such music can be found in performers like Miroslav Ilić, Sinan Sakić, Halid Muslimović (narodnjaci), Mišo Kovač and Milo Hrnić (dalmatinski pop).

- **Pop** - This kind of music, called *zabavna muzika/glazba*, is popular in both rural and urban areas. It features two varieties - older scores performed mostly by individual singers, and newer songs played mostly by pop bands. Performers like Oliver Dragojević, Zdravko Ćolić, and Leo Martin represent the first variety, while bands like Plavi orkerstar and Crvena Jabuka offer examples of the second kind of music.

- **Rock and alternative** - This musical genre is popular mostly in urban areas. The most popular older rock bands include Bijelo dugme and Indeksi. There are also numerous newer rock groups such as Haustor or Električni orgazam. Bands like Disciplina kičme and No Smoking Band offer excellent examples of alternative rock music.

The Web page [Nostalgia](#) offers mp3 samples of the aforementioned performers. Just follow the link *Muzika* and note that performers are sorted by their names not by their surnames. Thus, when looking for Mišo Kovač, one should go to the M rather than the K section of the archive.

### Lesson Eight, Culture

#### Major Artists and Works of Art
All Serbo-Croatian speaking areas feature numerous works of classical, medieval, Renaissance, Baroque, and contemporary architecture. Most notably, churches along the Dalmatian coast, monasteries in Serbia, and Bosnian mosques should be mentioned. There are also rich musical traditions reaching as far back as the medieval and Renaissance periods.

The most prominent contemporary artists include early twentieth century authors, such as Croatian painters Vlaho Bukovac and Miroslav Kraljević, and Serbian painters Nadežda Petrović and Jovan Bijelić. The mid-twentieth century is marked by the Croatian painter Ivan Meštrović. The best known authors of the second half of the century include the Croatian print artist Virgilije Nevjestić, Serbian painters such as Dado Đurić and Vladimir Veličković, and the Bosnian Muslim print artist Mersad Berber. Most recently, a pop art group from Sarajevo, called Trio was quite successful.

One should also mention the well established tradition of naive and folk art. The best known school of native art is in the Croatian village of Hlebine. The best known music composers are the Croatian Jakov Gotovac, the author of the famous opera buffa "Ero s onoga svijeta" and the Serbian symphonic writer Stevan Mokranjac, best known for his "Opelo" (Orthodox Christian Requiem) and "Sedam rukovet" symphony based on traditional folk music.

**Literary Traditions**

Early literary traditions feature Serbian epic folk songs and hagiographies as well as Croatian Renaissance literature (authors such as Marko Marulić and Marin Držić). The major authors of Romanticism are the Croatian Ivan Mažuranić and Serbian Petar Petrović Njegoš. The best known twentieth-century authors are the Croatian Miroslav Krleža as well as Serbians Ivo Andrić (who won Nobel Prize in 1961) and Danilo Kiš. Most recently, authors such as Milorad Pavić and Dubravka Ugrešić have commanded considerable attention abroad.

One should mention in this connection that knowledge of one's literary traditions plays a far more important role in the region than in the United States. School curricula give a very prominent role to courses about literary traditions all throughout elementary and high school.
More information about Serbian literature and culture in general is available at the Serbian cultural service titled Rastko. Information about Croatian literature and culture is at www.hr.

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**Ethnic Crafts**

The best known products of the region are laces from the island of Pag in Croatia, called *paška čipka*, wool sweaters from Sirogojno in Serbia, called *džemperi Sirogojno*, and various traditional coffee utensils from Bosnia, such as *džezva*, which is used to fix coffee, or small coffee cups called *fildžan*. Bosnia and Southern Serbia are also known for ornamented hand-made rugs.

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**Major Religious Holidays and Practices**

As previously noted, Serbs are Orthodox Christians, Croats are Catholics, and Bosnian Muslims are followers of Islam. The calendar of fixed holidays in the Orthodox church lags thirteen days behind that of the Catholic church. The most important fixed holiday, Christmas (called *Božić*), is observed on December 25th in the Catholic tradition and on January 7th in the Orthodox church. The second most important holiday is Easter (called *Uskrs*), which is a movable date in both Christian religions. In addition, Croatians observe Namesday on the day of their namesake saint. Serbs observe the so called *Slava*, the day of the saint who is patron to and entire family rather than one person. Holidays include Croatian Christmas tree decoration and Serbian burning of the Yule log (dry oak branches) on Christmas Eve, dying eggs and the game of trying to smash an opponent's egg with one's own for Easter in both Catholic and Orthodox church. It is common for Croatians to keep a crucifix at their homes, while Serbs have the icon of their patron saint. Bosnian Muslims observe two major holidays (both movable dates). First, the last three days of the holy month of Ramadan are called Ramazanski Bajram, second, there is another day in the year, called Kurban-Bajarm, when a sacrifice mutton is carved and parts taken to friends and relatives. All major holidays in both Muslim and Christian religious traditions feature family gatherings at tables with elaborate meals.

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**Lesson Nine, Culture**
While more comprehensive information is available in each of the preceding eight lessons and their constituent links, it is important to keep in mind the following key information:

**The Language**

The language you are studying, when construed in its entirety is called **BCS** (which stands for either Bosniac/Croatian/Serbian or Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian) or **SCB** (Serbian/Croatian/Bosnia(c/n)) or **Serbo-Croatian**. This language has three established ethnic variants (which differ in the way American and British English do) called Bosnian, Croatian, and Serbian. When talking to a Bosniac (Bosnian Muslim) call the language **Bosnian**. In conversation with Croats call the language **Croatian**. When communicating with Serbs call the language **Serbian**. While numerous people, especially from intermarriages, are finding the designation **Serbo-Croatian** acceptable, those who do not accept it are in the majority. Using the latter term, in particular in Croatia, is likely to subject you to prolonged fervid political discourses.

**Countries and Cities**

What was known as Yugoslavia is now six different countries, two of which form a confederation. Variants of Serbo-Croatian are in official use in Bosnia (Bosniac, Croatian, and Serbian), Croatia (Croatian), Serbia and Montenegro (Serbian). The remaining two former Yugoslav use different standard Slavic languages -- Macedonian in Macedonia and Slovene in Slovenia. In addition, Hungarian is in official use in the northern Serbian province of Vojvodina, whereas Albanian is used in its southern province of Kosovo.

The capital of Croatia is Zagreb. Other important cities include Osijek in the North-East, as well as Rijeka and Split on the Adriatic coast. Bosnia-Herzegovina is divided into two entities, called the Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina and the Republic of Srpska. The capital of both Bosnia-Herzegovina and the Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina is Sarajevo. The capital of the Republic of Srpska is Banjaluka. Other important cities include Mostar in the south and Tuzla in the north. Serbia and Montenegro form the confederation of Serbia-Montenegro. The capital of both Serbia and the confederation is Belgrade, and the capital of Montenegro is Podgorica. Serbia features two autonomous provinces, Vojvodina (the capital city is Novi Sad) and Kosovo (the capital city is Priština). Since 1999 Kosovo is de facto an international protectorate. Other important cities include Nikšić in Montenegro and Niš in Serbia.

**Ethnic and Religious Affiliations, Major Holidays**
If they are religious, Serbs are Orthodox Christians, Croats are Catholics, and Bosnian Muslims followers of Islam. The calendar of fixed holidays in the Orthodox church lags thirteen days behind the one of the Catholic church. The most important fixed holiday, Christmas (called Božić), is observed on December 25th in the Catholic tradition and on January 7th in the Orthodox church. The second most important holiday is Easter (called Uskrs), which is a movable date in both Christian religions. In addition, Croatians observe Namesday on the day of their namesake saint. Serbs observe the so called Slava, the day of the saint who is patron to entire family rather than one person. Holidays include Croatian Christmas tree decorating and the Serbian burning of the Yule log (dry oak branches) on Christmas Eve, as well as the dying of eggs and the game of trying to smash an opponent's egg with one's own for Easter in both the Catholic and Orthodox traditions. It is common for Croatians to keep a crucifix at their homes, while Serbs have the icon of their patron saint. Bosnian Muslims observe two major holidays (both movable dates): First, the last three days of the holy month of Ramadan are called Ramazanski Bajram. Second, there is another day in the year, called Kurban-Bajarm, when sacrificed mutton is carved and parts taken to friends and relatives. All major holidays in both Muslim and Christian religious traditions feature family gatherings at the tables with elaborate meals.

Common Behavior and Beliefs

An astute observer will undoubtedly notice numerous differences in the patterns of daily life between the American and Serbo-Croatian speaking cultures. The major differentiating features of the region can be summarized as follows:

- Lesser social stratification than in the USA
- Stronger community and kinship ties than in the USA
- Lesser presence of the law in public life than in the USA
- Lesser prominence of work ethics than in the USA
- Broader workers' rights and security networks than in the USA
- Higher general educational levels than in the USA
- Less open and less friendly tone of public encounters than in the USA
- Lesser customer friendliness than in the USA
- Less optimistic general attitude than in the USA
- Lesser health awareness than in the USA
- Lower general living standard than in the USA

Education

The school system in the target countries is divided into the following tiers:

- Elementary school - eight years, compulsory starts at age six or seven
- Secondary school - four years, facultative
- University, undergraduate level - four to five years
- University, graduate level - at least two years for M.A./M.S. degree

The following differences are observable in comparison with the school system in the United States. The following differences will be mentioned here:

1) The grading system is different. The scale from 1 (failing) to 5 (excellent) is used at all levels in Croatia while universities in Bosnia, Serbia and Montenegro use the scale from 5 (failing) to 10 (excellent).
2) All tiers except the graduate level at universities are far more demanding than in the US. In particular, students are required to acquire more information.
3) At the secondary-school and university levels, students usually follow a pre-determined set of courses with only limited possibility to make choices.
4) Secondary schools are divided into general secondary schools (an equivalent of the American high school), which normally lead to the university level, and vocational secondary schools (similar to the American community colleges), which lead to jobs such as car mechanic, plumber, secretary, nurse, etc.
5) Education is generally free of charge, although co-payment may be required for certain services.
6) One is not required to take courses when pursuing a Ph.D. degree. The only required elements are a record of publications and a Ph.D. dissertation, which needs to be defended.
7) Universities can be found only in major urban centers.

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**Geography**

The region is characterized by high biodiversity. The biomes range from prairie-like plains with oak cultivated fields and oak woods in the north, over steep mountain chains with conifers in the center to scarce bushes, pine trees and vineyards of the Mediterranean belt in the South.

The region features two major climatic types: the moderate Continental and the Mediterranean. The former is characterized by four distinct seasons, harsh winters with ample snow and moderate summers, and the latter by long hot summers and mild winters. The temperatures in the region are measured in centigrade.

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**Shopping and Services**

Although large American-style grocery stores are mushrooming in recent years, shopping is still by-and-large performed in a series of smaller stores and open-air markets. This is particularly true for grocery shopping. There are four major kinds of institutions in this regard:

- Small general shops run by one or two shop attendants called **prodavnica, radnja, dućan** or **granap**, which are somewhat the equivalent of elaborate 7/11s or Circle Ks. The
difference is that these stores are frequented more often than their American counterparts and that they are normally located in residential areas rather than at gas stations.

- Self-service grocery stores, called samousluga samoposluga, or samousluživanje (all mean: self-service), are as a rule much smaller than their American counterparts (Safeway, IGA, etc.).
- Specialized shops such as butcher's, called mesara or mesnica, bakeries, called pekara, fisheries called ribarnica, etc.
- Market places, called pijaca or tržnica, are somewhat of the equivalent of elaborate farmer's markets in the United States, yet frequented regularly.

Local currencies are as follows:

- Bosnia: Convertible Mark (in the original: konvertibilna marka, KM)
- Croatia: Kuna (in the original: kuna)
- Montenegro: Euro (in the original: evro)
- Serbia: Dinar (in the original: dinar)

 Emergencies

!!!Instead of one 911 number for all emergencies you have to dial the following:!!!

Bosnia-Herzegovina: 122 Police, 123 Firefighters, 124 Paramedics (i.e., the "hitna pomoć")
Croatia: 92 Police, 93 Firefighters, 94 Paramedics (i.e., the "hitna pomoć")
Serbia-Montenegro: 92 Police, 93 Firefighters, 94 Paramedics (i.e., the "hitna pomoć")

Media

Each of the countries and entities in the region host one major state-owned TV and radio station. Those stations cover the entire territory of their respective countries. There also exist an array of other, privately owned TV and radio stations, which, as a rule, cover a limited area (usually only major urban centers). Satellite dishes and cable TV providers are very common in urban centers - they offer numerous Western European stations, such as CNN, Sky, BBC, RTL, etc.

Central state-owned TV and radio stations are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina</th>
<th>Radio-televizija Federacije BiH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Republic of Srpska</td>
<td>Radio-televizija Republike Srpske</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croatia</td>
<td>Hrvatska radio-televizija</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montenegro</td>
<td>Radio-televizija Cme Gore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>Radio-televizija Srbije</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Communications

Transportation in the region features the following major differences as compared to the situation in the United States:

- Small distances within countries make domestic air transport very uncommon.
- Airplane tickets are considerably more expensive than in the US.
- Renting a car and/or traveling in one's own vehicle is far more expensive than in the US.
- Traveling by train is far more common and far less expensive than in the US.
- Traveling by bus is at the price level of train rides and remains the least expensive form of travel.
- The road infrastructure is far less developed than in the US. There are only few highways, and other roads are narrow and in very poor conditions.
- Driving habits are different in a sense that most drivers engage in speeding and all kinds of dangerous conduct.
- Inner-city transportation is more developed than in the United States - in most cities, one does not need a car to get things done.

The following are country dialing codes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bosnia</td>
<td>++387</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croatia</td>
<td>++385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serbia and Montenegro</td>
<td>++381</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States (from the region)</td>
<td>001</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tourism

Although major urban centers offer important sightseeing points, it is the regions in the province that offer most interesting natural and historic sights. In northern Croatia, one can find medieval castles, such as Trakošćan, and numerous hot thermal spas. The Adriatic coast of Croatia and Montenegro offers numerous examples of Ancient Roman, Medieval, and Renaissance architecture (primarily in the cities of Pula, Zadar, Šibenik, Split, and Dubrovnik in Croatia, as well as Kotor, Budva, and Bar in Montenegro). The region is furthermore characterized by marvels of natural beauty, such as the archipelago of Kornati near Zadar, Plitvice lakes in the hinterland to the North of the port of Šibenik, both in Croatia, and the Bay of Kotor in Montenegro. Finally, the region is abundant in marvelous stone beaches. Serbia is known for the sites of Neolithic culture, such as Vinča, Ancient Roman sites (e.g., Gamzigrad and Mediana), and most importantly for numerous medieval monasteries, such as Žiča and Studenica. Natural beauties in Serbia and continental Montenegro include the Đerdap gorge on the Danube, and
the canyon of Tara. Serbia is also known for its health spas, such as Vrnjačka banja. Bosnia and Herzegovina are best known for pearls of Islamic architecture, with numerous mosques, clock-towers, and hamams in many towns, some of which, such as Počitelj, have preserved the entire city structure from the times of the Turkish rule (15-19 century). The best known natural marvel is Perućica, the only preserved European jungle. The mountains around Sarajevo, Bjelašnica and Jahorina, offer excellent skiing terrains.

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**Cuisine**

The region features several major culinary influences, including Mediterranean, Near Eastern, and Central European. Some culinary habits (such as roasting young lambs and piglets on a spit, eating animal brains, testicles, etc.) may strike American visitors as unusual. However, ethnic food and beverages by-and-large are tasty and congruent with American nutritional habits. Most common beverages include wine, as well as brandy prepared from both plums and grapes.

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**Entertainment**

Popular music in the region falls under the following broad categories:

- **Traditional rural and urban** - listened to by mostly older audiences in both rural and urban areas. The best known varieties include Serbian starogradske pesme, Bosnian Muslim sevdalinke, Northern Croatian popevke and Southern Croatian dalmatinske pisme. This kind of music is usually called izvorna narodna muzika/glazba. The most notable performers are Predrag Gojković Cune, Zvonko Bogdan, and Dušan Dančuo (starogradske pesme), Safet Isović and Himzo Polovina (sevdalinke), Ladarice (popevke), Klapa "Omiš" and Klapa "Trogir" (dalmatinske pisme). These varieties are somewhat of the functional equivalent of blues or folk in the United States.

- **Contemporary folk** - This variety of music, called novokomponovana narodna muzika or narodnjaci is less wide-spread in Croatia. There, the kind of music which serves the same social functions is the Dalmatian (southern Croatian) version of pop music. Both narodnjaci and dalmatinski pop are roughly the equivalent of Country Western music, listened to by less educated rural populations. Examples of such music can be found in performers like Miroslav Ilić, Sinan Sakić, Halid Muslimović (narodnjaci), Mišo Kovač and Milo Hrnić (dalmatinski pop).
• Pop - This kind of music, called zabavna muzika/glazba, is popular in both rural and urban areas. It features two varieties - older scores performed mostly by individual singers and newer songs played mostly by pop bands. Performers like Oliver Dragojević, Zdravko Ćolić, and Leo Martin represent the first variety, while bands like Plavi orkerstar and Crvena Jabuka offer examples of the second kind of music.

• Rock and Alternative - This musical genre is popular mostly in urban areas. The most popular older rock bands include Bijelo dugme and Indeksi. There are also numerous newer rock groups such as Haustor or Električni orgazam. Bands like Disciplina kićme and No Smoking Band offer excellent examples of the alternative rock music.

Sports are very important in the target countries. Any international appearance of domestic team or national selection commands considerable attention. Soccer is the most popular sport in the region, followed by basketball. The most popular soccer teams in the region are Željezničar and Sarajevo (both from Sarajevo, Bosnia), Dinamo from Zagreb and Hajduk from Split ( Croatia), as well as Crvena zvezda and Partizan (both from Belgrade, Serbia). Other group sports such as volleyball, water polo, and handball (a European game with goals like soccer, yet played indoors with the ball thrown rather than kicked) also enjoy considerable popularity.Appearances of soccer national selections at the world cup are normally associated with empty streets and closed stores and offices. Individual sports, such as alpine skiing, tennis, table tennis, etc. become popular only when domestic competitors achieve world-class results. The popular American sports of baseball and football are not played in the region, and they attract no attention at all.

Culture

All Serbo-Croatian speaking areas feature numerous works of classical, medieval, Renaissance, Baroque, and contemporary architecture. Most notably, churches along the Dalmatian coast, the monasteries in Serbia, and Bosnian mosques should be mentioned. There are also rich musical traditions reaching as far back as the medieval and Renaissance periods.

Early literary traditions feature Serbian epic folk songs and hagiographies as well as Croatian Renaissance literature (authors such as Marko Marulić and Marin Držić). The major authors of Romanticism are the Croatian Ivan Mažuranic and the Serbian Petar Petrovic Njegoš. The best known twentieth-century authors are the Croatian Miroslav Krleža as well as the Serbians Ivo Andric (who won Nobel Prize in 1961) and Danilo Kiš. Most recently, authors such as Milorad Pavić and Dubravka Ugrešić have commanded considerable attention abroad.