

Elementary Kazakh (GNS 331-332)

These intensive courses in Elementary Kazakh introduce and teach students the Kazakh language. Work within four language skills: listening, reading, writing, and speaking. Learn to communicate in Kazakh in authentic situations. Kazakh will be used as the primary language in classroom instructions, with minimal use of English for explanations of grammar.

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Credits: By the end of the program, you will complete two, four-credit language courses.

Course Designations and Attributes

Foreign Lang – 1st and 2nd semester foreign language course

Level - Elementary

L&S Credit - L&S Liberal Arts and Science

Course Description:

Proficiency at the elementary level in listening, speaking, reading, and writing, using communicative approaches.

Requisites: None

Meeting Time and Location:

Weekdays, June 15 - August 7, 2026 via Zoom, Monday-Thursday at 8:30 am -1:00 pm Central Time (with a break from 10:30-11:00 am), and Friday at 8:30 am to 10:30 am Central Time

Instructional Modality:

Online: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Instructor: Gulnara Glowacki, PhD

Office Hours: 3:00–4:00 pm Central Time on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and by appointment. Please let me know if you need office hours during class time. I can also meet after class Monday through Thursday.

Online: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the first four-week course (First Semester), students will be able to:

- Read and write simple phrases in Kazakh
- Make social introductions and use greeting and leave-taking expressions.
- Ask and answer simple questions on very familiar topics.
- Ask and answer simple questions about date and place of birth, nationality, occupation, etc.
- Use simple phrases and sentences to describe where you live and people you know.
- Understand familiar names, words, and very simple sentences.
- Write a short, simple postcard.
- Fill in forms with personal details.
- Describe in detail a person or place that is very familiar to the student.
- Listen and understand moderately slow Kazakh speech and dialogues.
- Handle conversations about familiar topics in an organized way.

Upon completion of the second four-week course (Second Semester), students will be able to:

- Read texts on familiar topics and understand the main ideas and guess the meaning of new words from the context.
- Speak about themselves and their environment, carry out basic transactions related to daily life orally and in writing.
- Order a simple meal.
- Recognize aspects of Kazakh daily life.
- Tell or ask someone for directions from here to a nearby hotel, restaurant, or post office.
- Give detailed information about his or her family and house.
- Buy a needed item such as bus or train ticket, groceries, or clothing.
- Form and understand almost all basic suffixes of Kazakh.

- Write short stories and compositions in Kazakh.
- Listen and understand relatively slow Kazakh speech, dialogues.
- Participate in conversation on familiar topics using the Kazakh language with native Kazakh speakers.
- Talk about a trip or some other everyday event that happened in the recent past or that will happen soon.

How Credit Hours are Met by the Course

The credit standard for each of the 4-credit courses is met by requiring at least **180 total hours of student engagement** with course learning activities, consistent with the UW–Madison standard of **at least 45 hours of learning activities per credit**. These learning activities include scheduled instructor-student meeting times as well as asynchronous reading, writing, listening, speaking, preparation, homework, projects, studying, and other course-related activities. **Required co-curricular programming** will take place on Fridays, which includes lectures, language practice, cultural sessions, and other structured activities designed to support and extend course learning.

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Required co-curricular Friday programming is as follows:

Friday, June 19	11:00 am	Global Professionals Panel Sessions
Friday, June 26	11:00 am	Language Practice Tables
Friday, July 3	TBD	WISLI Research Symposium
Friday, July 10	8:30 am	Final Exams
Friday, July 17	–	Asynchronous Review/Study Day
Friday, July 24	11:00 am	Language Practice Tables
Friday, July 31	11:00 am	Intercultural Learning Session
Friday, August 7	8:30 am	Final Exams

Regular and Substantive Student-Instructor Interaction

This course meets the regular and substantive student-instructor interaction requirement. By engaging students in teaching, learning, and assessment through direct instruction, providing feedback on student work, providing information about course content, and facilitating discussion of course content on a weekly basis. Regular and substantive student-instructor interaction, as defined by the US Department of Education (Within 34 C.F.R. §600.2), is always a requirement of UW-Madison for-credit learning activities

Course Overview

The intensive summer Elementary level Kazakh language course is designed for students who don't know Kazakh.

It introduces the Kazakh language, which is a Turkic language spoken by about 20 million people in Kazakhstan, China, Mongolia, Turkey, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Russia, and Iran. The Elementary Kazakh course offers a foundation in developing skills to be able to speak, listen, read, and write in Kazakh in a culturally appropriate way in various social situations.

We will work to develop important language skills: listening, reading, writing, and speaking, and will learn to communicate in Kazakh in authentic situations.

This course provides students with a general knowledge of the current spoken and written Kazakh Language. It familiarizes students with the Kazakh alphabet, common phrases used in real-life conversations, and daily routines. Throughout the course students will explore Kazakh culture and traditions through videos, audios, and pictures.

Kazakh will be used as the primary language in classroom instructions in the second four weeks, with minimal use of English for explanations of grammar.

Kazakh language can provide a basis to learn other related Central Asian Turkic languages, such as Karakalpak, Kyrgyz, and Nogai languages.

Course Website and Digital Instructional Tools

- Link to institute website: <https://www.wisc.edu/>
- Link to Canvas page: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] First Semester

- Link for
class: [REDACTED]

Textbooks/Materials, Additional Materials

Kazakh Elementary Textbook by G. Glowacki, J. Washington and A. Sultanova

<https://celcar.mybigcommerce.com/kazakh-an-elementary-textbook/> [Links to an external site.](#)

News articles, short videos, articles, and movies from the web.

Links which might be useful for homework and projects:

<https://www.soyle.kz/?lang=en> [Links to an external site.](#) (Online course of Kazakh language)

<https://bala.soyle.kz/> [Links to an external site.](#) (Online course of Kazakh language for children)

<http://kaz-tili.kz/wch.html> [Links to an external site.](#) (Kazakh grammar in Russian language)

<https://kitap.kz/> [Links to an external site.](#) (books, audios, videos)

<https://astanatv.kz/kz/> [Links to an external site.](#) (TV channel)

www.BAQ.kz [Links to an external site.](#) (News)

www.google.kz [Links to an external site.](#)

<https://www.azattyq.org/> [Links to an external site.](#) (News)

<https://emle.kz/> [Links to an external site.](#) (Spelling in Kazakh language)

<https://sozdik.kz/> [Links to an external site.](#) (Kazakh-Russian dictionary)

<https://www.abaicenter.org/> [Links to an external site.](#)

Independent Learning Assignments

Independent learning assignments are assigned daily to help students practice what they learn in class and build their language skills step by step. These assignments may include:

- Reading short texts or dialogues

- Practicing pronunciation and intonation
- Learning and memorizing new vocabulary
- Writing simple sentences, short paragraphs, or dialogues
- Listening activities and vocabulary practice
- Basic grammar exercises

Independent learning assignments will be posted in the **Assignments** section of Canvas. Students should complete and submit all assignments by **6:00 p.m. Central Time (CT)** on the assigned due date.

Weekly Tests

Weekly tests are given every Friday to review and assess material covered during the week, including:

- Basic vocabulary
- Grammar topics
- Simple communication skills and language functions

Tests are administered during class time and help students review course content, measure their progress, and prepare for future lessons.

Test dates are listed in the course calendar and correspond to the units covered in class.

A Word document version of each test will be posted in the **Assignments** section of Canvas. Students may either:

- Print the test, write their answers by hand, take a photo or scan of the completed test, and submit it through Canvas; or
- Type their answers directly into the Word document and upload the completed file to Canvas.

Daily Quizzes

Daily quizzes are given to check how well students have learned and memorized new vocabulary and grammar. These quizzes help students review course material regularly and track their progress throughout the course.

Short quizzes will be administered at the beginning of each class and will be available in Canvas under the **Quizzes** section.

Oral Presentations

Each student will give a 5- to 7-minute oral presentation in class every week. Presentation topics are listed in the course calendar.

Presentation Guidelines:

- A PowerPoint presentation is required and should include appropriate text and visuals.
- Presentations should be no less than 5 minutes and no more than 7 minutes in length.
- English is not permitted during the presentation.
- Students are encouraged to speak naturally and avoid reading directly from slides or notes.

PowerPoint presentations must be uploaded to the **Assignments** section of Canvas by the assigned due date. Students will deliver their presentations in class according to the schedule provided in the course calendar.

Evaluation Criteria (20 points):

- Content and Vocabulary: 6 points
- Grammar: 5 points
- Comprehensibility: 5 points
- Fluency: 4 points

Final Exams:

There will be two final exams (at the end of Week 4 and the end of Week 8), each comprising written and oral components conducted with the instructor.

- The written exam will last 90 minutes and will assess reading, writing, and grammar skills.
- The oral exam will be held on the same day as the written exam and will last approximately 25 minutes per student. It will consist of two parts: a monologue and a role-play.
- The oral exam will assess students' ability to speak Kazakh fluently and accurately, including pronunciation, fluency, vocabulary usage, grammatical accuracy, and interactive communication skills.

Kazakh Language Practice Tables

Students are required to participate in scheduled Kazakh Language Practice Tables throughout the course. These sessions provide opportunities to practice speaking and listening skills in a supportive, real-world communication environment.

Participation may include:

- Engaging in conversations with classmates and instructors
- Taking part in role-plays and interactive activities
- Using Kazakh as the primary language of communication

Regular attendance and active participation are expected. The goal of these sessions is to build confidence, improve communicative competence, and reinforce language skills learned in class.

Kazakh Language Practice Tables are scheduled for **Week 2** and **Week 6**, as indicated in the course calendar.

Final letter grades will be assigned using the following scale:

Percentage	Grade
92-100	A
89-91	AB
83-88	B
80-82	BC
71-79	C
65-70	D
0-64	F

Assignments and Grading Policy

The 8-week summer intensive program is equivalent to two semesters of academic-year instruction. At the conclusion of the course, students will receive two separate semester grades. These grades are determined according to the following components:

- Attendance and participation: 15%
- Independent learning assignments: 20%
- Weekly tests: 20%
- Daily quizzes: 10%
- Oral presentations: 10%
- Final exams (Week 4 and Week 8): 20%
- Participation in Kazakh conversation tables 5%

Attendance, Participation, and Assignments Policy

Success in this course depends on your active and consistent engagement with the material, your peers, and the immersive classroom environment. Attendance is required, but attendance alone does not constitute participation.

In order to receive full credit for attendance and participation, you must:

1. Actively engage in pair and group work during class.
2. Volunteer thoughtful, on-topic contributions in free conversation without needing to be called on.
3. Ensure that all contributions are relevant, appropriate, and connected to the task at hand.

Please note that passive presence in class does not earn participation credit.

Daily independent learning assignments are designed to reinforce and extend class material. These assignments are distributed in class and due the following morning. Late submissions will receive instructor feedback but will not earn credit.

Short daily quizzes (5–7 minutes) will be administered at the beginning of each class, and a weekly test will take place every Friday, assessing cumulative learning from the week.

Participation Grade Guidelines

A: This student never misses class and consistently arrives on time, ready to engage in full. He or she comes thoroughly prepared, having completed all vocabulary, grammar, and

cultural assignments in advance, and brings curiosity and energy to each session. In class, this student takes initiative in pair and group work, volunteers frequently, and makes an effort to communicate in the target language even when it is challenging. He or she listens actively to others, supports their contributions, and contributes to a respectful, collaborative classroom environment. This student is consistently attentive, focused, and responsive, and helps maintain the momentum of our fast-paced learning. Above all, this student demonstrates full commitment to their own language development and to the shared task of building a dynamic, immersive learning space.

[Class Participation Rubric Elementary Kazakh \(GNS 331-332\)](#)

COURSE CALENDAR

This course calendar is subject to change based on students' learning progress throughout the course.

First semester

Weeks / Theme	Topics	Grammar
Week 1	Қазақ кирил әліпбиі	Kazakh Alphabet
	–	Consonant sounds
06.15 -06.19	<i>The Kazakh Cyrillic alphabet</i>	Vowel sounds
	Амандасу және танысу.	Vowel Harmony
on Thursday	<i>Greetings and introductions</i>	Greetings, formality (2p pronouns: сен/сіз), addressing people (use of names, terms of address), parting phrases / saying bye terms of address
Weekly test on Friday	Сіз кімсіз? Сіз қайдан боласыз?	Polite inquiries and common responses
		Word order

**Global Professionals
Panel Sessions**

*Who are you? Where
are you from?*

Personal Pronouns

Personal Endings

Interrogative Particle -**ма/ме, ба/бе, па/пе**

Ablative Case -**дан/ден**

нан/нен, тан/тен

Asking questions with **әлде** and **немесе**

Question words **кім** (*who*) and **қайдан** (*where from*)

Expressing plurals in Kazakh

Cardinal numbers

Қазақша санайық!

Expressing age

Possessive endings

Let's count in Kazakh!

Possessive pronouns

Ordinal numbers

Week 2

06.22-06.26

Телефон нөміріңіз

қандай?

Genitive Case

*What is your
telephone number?*

**Oral presentation: About
myself. Өзім туралы**

on Thursday

Қазір уақыт

қанша? *What time is
it?*

Telling time

Time of Day Adjectives

Time Expressions before the half hour

Weekly test on Friday

Time Expressions after the half hour

Dative case

Kazakh Language Practice Tables

		Demonstrative pronouns: бұл, ол
		Colors
	Дәрісхана	Negating adjectives with емес
	<i>The Classroom</i>	Asking what something is like
		Question Words қандай (<i>how, what kind</i>)
		Strings of adjectives, coordination with және
		Locative Case –да/де for location
	Кітабым	Expression of availability – бар (there is), жоқ (there is not)
	қайда? <i>Where is my book?</i>	Postpositions of location (on the top, near, inside, between)
		Imperatives
Week 3	Сіздің	
06.29-07.03	мамандығыңыз кім?	Negative marker емес
	<i>What is your occupation?</i>	
	Бүгін нешесі?	Days of the week
Oral presentation: My daily routine. Менің күн тәртібім.		
	<i>What is today's date?</i>	Months of the year
on Thursday	Сіз күнде не	Word order
Weekly test on Friday	істейсіз?	Present-future tense
	<i>What do you do every day?</i>	Adverbs indicating the time of the day
WISLI Research Symposium		The negative present-future tense

		The meaning of the dative case
	Менің бос уақытымда.	The present progressive
	<i>In my free time...</i>	Auxiliaries used to express present progressive
		The abilitative mood
		Accusative infinitive with <i>like and love</i>
	Сіздің отбасыңызда кім бар? <i>Who is in your family?</i>	Locative case with possessive suffixes
	Адамның келбеті.	Adjectives describing people
	<i>Personal appearance</i>	
Week 4		Comparative and
07.6-07.10	Сіз балалардың үлкенісіз бе?	Superlative degrees (ең)
Oral presentation: : My family. Менің отбасым.	<i>Are you the oldest sibling?</i>	Stem changes with the possessive suffixes
on Thursday		Definite past tense (-ды)
		Adverbs of time past tense
		Proper names
Final exam	Сіз қайда тұрасыз? <i>Where do you live?</i>	Expressing duration of time
	Review of all topics for the exam	

Second semester

Weeks / Theme

Topics

Grammar

Week 5

07.13-07.17

Oral presentation: My favorite food. Менің сүйікті тағамым.

on Thursday

**July 17–Asynchronous
Review/Study Day**

Week 6

07.20-07.24

Жуынатын бөлме
қай жерде?

*Where is the
bathroom?*

Банк қай жерде?

*Where is the
bank?*

Менің қарным ашып
тұр.

I am hungry.

Бұл алма неше
теңге тұрады?

*How much are these
apples?*

Салат жасай аласыз
ба? *Can you make a
salad?*

Бұл көйлекті қайдан
сатып алдыңыз?

*Where did you buy
that dress?*

Adjectives describing places

Adjectives – forming suffixes from nouns

(-лы/лі, ды/ді, ты/ті)

from verbs **(-атын/етін, -йтын/йтін)**

Cardinal directions Plural and polite imperative form
Saying “please” with the suffix -шы

Expressing quantity

Expressing necessity

Desiderative mood

Adjectives describing **food**

Superlative degree **(өте, тым)**

Compound Verbs

Accusative Case

Sequence adverbs:

in the beginning, after that, later, finally

Adjectives for describing physical characteristics of
clothing (cotton, silk, etc.)

Adjectives for clothing fit (too tight, loose, etc.)

Oral presentation: My trip to ... Менің саяхатым.
Ол неше теңге тұрады?
How much does this cost?

on Thursday

Weekly test on Friday
Мейрамханада
In the restaurant
Invite someone to take action -verb+ imperative
mood suffix -айық (барайық - Let's go)
Instrumental case

Kazakh Language Practice Tables

Саяхат. *Travel*

Билет қанша тұрады?

Volitional Future

How much for a ticket?

Бөлмеге тапсырыс беруге бола ма?

Expression With **екен**

May I rent a room?

Week 7
07.27-07.31

Астананың көрікті жерлері

Future Intentional Tense

Oral presentation: My city/town
Astana Landmarks

Менің қалам.

Наурыз мейрамын бірге тойлайық!

Indefinite Past Tense **-ған**

on Thursday

Opinion Adverbs

Weekly test on Friday

*Let's Celebrate
Nauryz Together!*

Жаңбыр жауып тұр
ма? *Is It Raining?*

Conditional Mood

**Intercultural Learning
Session**

Қазақ елінің жері
және
географиясы *Kazakh
Geography*

Sequencing Past Events With A Dependent Clause

Табиғи апаттар
Natural Disasters

Subordinate Clause of Time -Ғанда

Week 8

08.3-08.7

Денсаулығыңыз
қалай?

Expressing That Something Hurts

How Are You Feeling?

Subordinating Conjunctions

Final Exam

Қай жеріңіз ауырып
тұр?

Indicating That Someone Has a Disease

Where Does It Hurt?

Expressing the Word *since* in Kazakh

Past Participle

Review of all topics
for the final exam.

WISLI Program Policies

Attendance Policy

Students may miss one class per semester without penalty; a second absence can result in a full grade deduction; three or more absences may lead to an additional grade reduction or automatic failure.

Tardiness Policy

Tardiness is defined as arriving more than 5 minutes late to the start of class as well as the time immediately following scheduled breaks. **Excessive tardiness** is arriving more than 10 minutes late to class. Tardiness in excess of 30 minutes will be considered a half- or full-day absence. In instances of repeated tardiness:

- **Three instances of tardiness** will result in a warning. A fourth instance of tardiness will require a meeting with an Academic Director.
- **Three instances of excessive tardiness** (arriving more than 10 minutes late but less than 30) will be counted as a half-day absence.
- **Repeated tardiness in excess of 30 minutes** will be subject to the WISLI absence policy.
- **Continued tardiness or excessive tardiness** may result in further penalty or dismissal.

WISLI understands that unforeseen circumstances can occur. Please notify the course instructor of any tardiness or absences as soon as possible.

WISLI Technology Policy

There are many helpful online tools available to language learners, and these tools should be used responsibly and in alignment with UW-Madison expectations of [academic integrity](#) and guidelines on [generative artificial intelligence](#). Do not use translation software or AI tools unless instructed to use these tools for assignments or projects. In these instances, these tools are to be used only in the manner permitted by the instructor. Ask for clarification if you have any questions about what is allowed.

You are welcome to use **artificial intelligence (AI) tools and applications** (such as Copilot, Gemini, etc.) in this course only when their use supports the learning objectives of Intermediate Kazakh and only in ways permitted by the instructor.

AI tools may be helpful for brainstorming, checking understanding, or practicing Kazakh in limited ways; however, **they may not replace your own work**, especially for tasks that assess your interpersonal, interpretive, or presentational communication skills.

You may use AI tools for:

- Clarifying grammar explanations or vocabulary meanings
- Practicing Kazakh through simple prompts or dialogues
- Generating images for presentations or brainstorming ideas for writing assignments is allowed, but generating full drafts is not permitted.
- Checking your understanding of cultural topics

AI tools **may NOT** be used for:

- Completing homework, weekly tests, written assignments, or presentations
- Translating full sentences, paragraphs, or assignments
- Generating written or spoken Kazakh that you submit as your own
- Creating scripts for oral exams or role-plays

UW-Madison Academic Policies and Statements

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