



GNS 431-432, Intermediate Kazakh, Summer 2026

University of Wisconsin-Madison

8 Credits (4 credits for each section, numbered 431 and 432).

The credit standard for this course is met by an expectation of 180 total hours of student engagement for each section (at least 45 hours per credit). These hours include regularly scheduled instructor-student meeting times (8:30:00-11:00 am and 11:30 am-1:30 pm, M–Th. 8:30:00-11:00 am Friday), as well as reading, writing, listening, speaking, problem sets, speaking portfolio work, quizzes, role plays, exams, and other learning activities described in the syllabus.

Course Designations and Attributes

Foreign Language – Third Semester and Fourth Semester foreign language course

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts credit in Letters & Science

Course Description

This intensive summer Intermediate level Kazakh language course is designed for students who already have an elementary level of knowledge of Kazakh. The language of instruction is going to be mostly Kazakh. The primary goal of the course is to enhance and to improve speaking, listening, writing and reading skills.

It is primarily aimed at further development of language skills and building the confidence of students in speaking about issues related to daily life and communication in standard situations. During the course various activities and tasks will be presented to students such as role-playing tasks, activities for improving communicative skills, games, tasks etc. The secondary goal of the course is to improve understanding of Kazakh society and culture by students through familiarizing them with music, art and films, history, Kazakh culture, and Kazakh Literature, in order to better understand its cultural conventions.

The course continues the study of the Kazakh language with an emphasis on developing proficiency at the intermediate level across all four skills: listening, reading, writing, and speaking. Instruction incorporates the interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational modes of communication, with activities designed to help students interact meaningfully with others, understand spoken and written texts, and express ideas clearly in spoken and written form. Course content emphasizes language relevant to real-world situations that students are likely to encounter when traveling to or living in Kazakhstan.

Requisites

Enrolled in the Central Eurasian Studies Summer Institute (CESSI)

Meeting Time and Location:

M–Th at 8:30 am - 1:00 pm Central Time (break from 10-10:30 am)

Friday at 8:30-11:00 am (see schedule below for co-curricular Friday programming)

June 15, 2026 – August 7, 2026

Instructional Modality: online

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The link of online class:

[REDACTED]

Instructor: Raushan Myrzabekova

Office Hours: 2:00 pm-3:00 pm on Wednesday and Thursday by appointment. All meetings via Zoom. I plan to hold office hours each Wednesday and Thursday after class; for planning purposes, I would appreciate it if you let me know during class if you plan to come to office hours that day.

E-mail: [REDACTED]

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the course students will be able to:

- Discuss topics related to daily life issues.
- Tell stories about their life, activities, events, and other social experiences.
- Express and support their opinions.
- Listen to and understand simple dialogues.
- Write short essays related to the limited number of covered topics.
- Present and describe cultural aspects of Kazakhstani life, including basic Kazakh traditions and customs.
- Read and comprehend the main ideas of Kazakh stories, songs, and short poems.
- Exchange information in conversations on familiar and some researched topics.
- Create sentences and series of sentences, as well as ask a variety of follow-up questions.
- Deliver straightforward presentations on a variety of familiar topics.

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.

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	Guest speaker: Anthropologist
Friday, August 7	8:30 am	Oral Final Exams, break, closing program

Regular and Substantive Student-Instructor Interaction

This course meets the regular and substantive student-instructor interaction requirements. 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

TEXTBOOKS/MATERIALS, ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

The Kazakh Intermediate Textbook (draft) by Gulnara Glowacki and Raushan Myrzabekova will be provided chapter by chapter as necessary. All materials in this textbook are the intellectual property of the authors. Copying, distributing, publishing, or otherwise sharing the contents of this textbook without the written permission of the rights holders is strictly prohibited.

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

Technology and online resources used in the course:

Canvas, google.com/forms/

<https://wisli.wisc.edu/cessi/>

The link of Canvas

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The link of online class:

[REDACTED]

Links which might be useful for homework and projects:

<https://www.soyle.kz/?lang=en> (Online course of Kazakh language)

<http://kaz-tili.kz/wch.htm> (Kazakh grammar in Russian language)

<https://www.instagram.com/qazaqgrammar/>

<https://kitap.kz> (books, audios, videos)

<https://astanatv.kz/kz/> (TV channel)

<https://jjtv.kz/kk>

<https://qalam.global/kk>

<https://qalam.global/en>

<https://www.youtube.com/@QalamTarih>

<https://www.youtube.com/c/DOPESOZ>

<https://dopesozx.mave.digital>

<https://emle.kz/> (Spelling in Kazakh language)

<https://sozdik.kz/> (Kazakh-Russian dictionary)

Assignments and Grading Policy

The 8-week summer program is equivalent to two semesters of classroom instruction during the academic year. This means that at the end of this course, students will receive two grades corresponding to each semester. These final grades are derived from the following components:

Category	Percentage
Attendance and Class Participation	15%
Homework and Independent Tasks	20%
Quizzes (4*5%)	20%
Oral Presentations (4*5%)	20%
Final Exams	20%
Kazakh Conversation Table	5%

Attendance and Class Participation

To receive full credit for attendance and participation, students are expected to:

- Engage actively in pair and group work during class.
- Contribute voluntarily and meaningfully to open discussions, rather than waiting to be prompted.
- Keep all contributions relevant to the topic being discussed.

Mere attendance without active participation does not earn credit.

Required co-curricular programming will take place on Fridays. These sessions include lectures, language-practice activities, cultural events, and other structured programming designed to support and extend course learning. Participation on Friday co-curricular programming is counted as part of overall attendance and class participation.

To support continuous learning, an independent learning assignment will be given each day during class and is due the following morning. Late submissions will receive instructor feedback but will not earn credit.

Homework and independent tasks

Homework and independent tasks are assigned daily to reinforce material covered in class and support steady progress toward intermediate-level proficiency. These tasks may include:

- Reading short texts and completing comprehension activities
- Writing brief paragraphs, dialogues, or responses
- Listening exercises and vocabulary practice
- Grammar problem sets
- Preparation for discussions
- Speaking tasks recorded as part of the speaking portfolio

Assignments are given during class and are due later in the evening on the same day.

Quizzes

Students will complete four quizzes throughout the course. These quizzes will:

- Assess recently covered material, including grammar, vocabulary, and communicative functions.
- Be administered during class time.
- Reinforce learning and help track progress toward intermediate-level proficiency.

Quiz dates are included in the course calendar and align with major units in the course.

Oral Presentations

Students will deliver 7–8-minute presentations every week during class. Topics for the presentations are listed in the Course Calendar.

Presentation Guidelines:

A PowerPoint presentation is required and should include relevant information and appropriate visuals.

Presentations must be 7–8 minutes in length.

The presentation must be delivered entirely in Kazakh; English is not permitted.

Students are encouraged to narrate naturally, rather than read from prepared text.

Presentations will be evaluated based on: Content and Vocabulary, Grammar, Comprehensibility, and Fluency.

Final Exams

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

The written exam (90 minutes) assesses reading, writing, and grammar.

The oral exam (approximately 25 minutes) includes a monologue and a role-play.

The oral exam evaluates pronunciation, fluency, vocabulary usage, grammatical accuracy, and interactive communication skills.

Kazakh Conversation Table

Students are required to participate in scheduled Kazakh conversation sessions throughout the course. Participation includes discussions and interactive activities conducted entirely in Kazakh. Consistent attendance and meaningful engagement are expected, as these sessions are designed to strengthen real-life speaking and listening skills.

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

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 06.15 -06.19 Quiz 1 on Friday	Preliminary Chapter Қазақ тілін үйрену мақсатым. <i>My purpose is to learn the Kazakh language.</i> Өзім туралы <i>About me</i>	- Review Case endings and Verb Tense - Desiderative Mood - The Narrative Past Tense - Useful expressions and Compliments in Kazakh
Week 2 06.22-06.26 Oral presentation: Менің сүйікті ісім. <i>My hobby</i> Quiz 2 on Friday	Қазақ есімдері <i>Kazakh personal names</i>	- Review of the tenses and of the noun case - Expression of future possibility with the suffix – атын/етін; -йтын/йтін; - The reflexive pronoun өз
Week 3 06.29-07.03 Oral presentation: Менің жұмысым немесе ғылыми бағытым туралы. <i>My Work or Research Focus</i> on Thursday Quiz 3 on Friday	Жолыңыз болсын! <i>Have a safe Trip!</i>	- Past Participle, Present-Continuous Participle, - Present/Future Participle and Comparative adjectives
Week 4 07.6-07.10	Қазақ дастарқаны <i>Kazakh Cuisine</i> July 10 - Final exam	- Comparative with postposition (-гөрі) - Compound verb with ‘-ып тұру’
Week 5 07.13-07.17	Қазақ дастарқаны <i>Kazakh Cuisine</i>	Comparative with postposition (-гөрі)

July 17-Asynchronous Review/Study Day	Университетте <i>Campus Life</i>	Compound verb with ‘-ып тұру’
Week 6 07.20-07.24 Oral presentation: Менің университетім. <i>My university</i> on Thursday Quiz 4 on Friday	Түркістан – тарихи қала	- How to express since or from that moment, since that time (-ғалы, -қалы) - Subordinate clauses of time - Subordinate clauses of time (-ғаннан кейін)
Week 7 07.27-07.31 Oral presentation Менің жағымды әдеттерім. <i>My Good Habits</i> on Thursday	Денсаулық, спорт және медицина <i>Health, sport, and medicine</i>	- Expressing may/can in Kazakh (verb + са/се + болады) - Hearsay or reportative past tense with suffix -ып - Subordinate clauses of cause
Week 8 08.3-08.7 Final Exam Group Project	Қазақ қоғамы <i>Kazakh Society</i>	- Expressing with -ғалы + жатыр; - Indirect speech - Joining Clauses with: -ған/ген+Possessive + Case ending - Expressing Wishes Using Conditionals; - Joining Clauses with: -ған/ген+Possessive + Case ending (cont’d.)

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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