# DEVELOPMENT OF AN ONLINE LANGUAGE COURSE TO SUPPORT THE CULTURAL AND LABOUR MARKET INTEGRATION OF FOREIGN STUDENTS







The **Stipendium Hungaricum (SH)** programme is a student mobility programme established by the Hungarian government in 2013, aims to support, among other things, foreign students studying at Hungarian higher education institutions (HEI) as

scholarship holders of the programme, to foster their personal and professional ties with Hungary. One of the aims of the programme

is to promote a better understanding of Hungarian culture, society, and economy, and to support long-term cultural and economic relations. From the 2020/2021 academic year, scholarship holders studying full-time in foreign language bachelor and master programmes are required to take a Hungarian as a Foreign Language and Culture (HFLC) course in their first year. An online course has been launched to support institutions and students.



11 759 SH scholarship students in the academic year 2022/23



2100 registered online course user



4 497 new scholarship holders for the academic year 2023/24



DEVELOPMENT of the online course

64% prefer content supporting labour market integration

# PREPARATION phase

Aim: facilitate integration of SH students & strengthen connection with Hungary

- consultations with professionals
- A1, 40 hours/semester, 2 semesters

## INTRODUCTION of the compulsory HFLC learning



#### 2020/21

- for all full study program students: BA, MA, PhD
- courses provided by HEIs
- non-compliance = financial sanctions for the scholar

## LAUNCH of an online course



#### 2020/2021

- basic vocabulary and practical communication
- professional support for HEIs
- additional material
- Canvas Learning Management System
- free registration for all

## **COURSE CONTENT:**

- A1 level
- 10 MODULES (reading, listening, basic writing, grammar, short videos)
- everyday situations
- practical and reality-based
- interactive, with supporting explanations
- culture-specific, supports the integration of foreign students

# Use your HUNGARIAN

**SCENES** from the course

videos, featuring foreign students and their teachers



## 2023/24

- intercultural sensitisation course
- practical also for higher linguistic level
- +12 MODULES (dialogues and/or narrative texts, video recording, sensitisation exercises, list of extra words, English commentary)
- intercultural content, socio-cultural customs
- written and unwritten rules relevant to **SEEKING EMPLOYMENT and adapting** to life in Hungary:

benefits, travel to work, work schedules, sick leave, sick pay, breaks at work, holidays

mostly audiovisual materials









# Course EVALUATIONS AND INPUTS for the development



**2021** Questionnaire for online course users (n=105)

- 90% very satisfied or satisfied with the course (overall satisfaction)
- need for more and better-quality audiovisual material
- traditional and gamified tasks were considered both useful and too easy

#### **INPUT FROM STUDENTS**

**2023** Questionnaire for online course users (n=36)

- 64% like to see content that supports labour market integration
- 86% believe the course is an added value to their compulsory Hungarian language studies
- 80.5% would like to see more video situations

**2023** SH Student Satisfaction Survey (n=10 023)

- 17% use the online course
- 55.5% agreed adding professional language and cultural modules to the online course for better labour market integration

### INPUT FROM THE PROGRAM FOUNDER

**2023** Strategic direction of the SH programme:

- integration of international and Hungarian students
- special support for
- > the teaching of Hungarian as a foreign language and culture
- > the integration of language and culture













