

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
ARABIC, PERSIAN, AND TURKISH LANGUAGE IMMERSION INSTITUTE

ADVANCED IMMERSION PERSIAN
SUMMER 2017

Instructor: Maryam Shariati	Meeting Times: MTWTHF 8:30AM – ?
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Office: Phillips Hall (3 rd -floor Lounge)	Office Hours: M/TH 2-3PM

“To have another language is to possess a second soul.”
– Charlemagne

§ Course Description

This course provides students with the opportunity to analyze some of the key topics in contemporary Iranian history and culture. Through a series of authentic readings and videos, students will examine various aspects of history and religion, the role of culture in Iranian society, the multiethnic aspects of contemporary Iran, and the importance of music, cinema, art, and clothing, among others. The purpose of this course is to assist students in increasing their proficiency in Persian within the three modes of communication as defined in the standards for foreign language learning- Interpretive, Interpersonal, and Presentational. The class is taught entirely in Persian and the students are expected to participate actively.

§ Course Objectives

By the end of this course students will, اگر خدا بخواهد, have reached Advanced proficiency in Persian, which means that you will be able:

1. To use the language confidently and effectively in a variety of situations and across a broad spectrum of topics;
2. To acquire insight into the role of Persian life and culture;
3. To gain skills and confidence in analyzing complex thoughts and ideas in Persian.

In addition you will have developed:

1. An improved ability to utilize advanced grammatical features, to construct more complex sentences, and to understand and analyze Persian grammar from diverse sources;

2. Greater familiarity with new grammar and vocabulary in order to produce increasingly sophisticated texts on social, historical and personal topics;
3. An enhanced ability to engage in conversation about political, social, historical and personal topics, with improved pronunciation; and
4. An improved capacity to function independently through enhanced Persian competency.

§ Prerequisites

Intermediate High Level Standing in Persian Language.

§ Materials

All course materials will be provided by the instructor.

§ Language

Persian is the language of our class and you are expected to **speak only in Persian**. Controlling the urge to blurt out even a few words in English is an important part of keeping your brain in “Persian-mode” and of maintaining our immersion learning environment.

§ Grading

Attendance and Participation:	25%
Homework & Daily Assignments:	15%
Homework Correction:	5%
Quizzes:	10%
Oral Presentations:	10%
Cultural Blogs & Blog Comments:	10%
Oral Interview:	5%
Midterm Examination:	5%
Final Examination:	15%

§ Course Requirements

Attendance and Participation: (25%)

- Daily attendance is mandatory.
- Attendance and active participation in class are essential to your doing well in the class and improving your Persian proficiency. Please be on time and in “Persian mode” at the start of class. As soon as you enter the classroom, you should speak

only in Persian. English is not permitted in the classroom except by permission of the instructor. Use of English without permission will lower your participation grade by at least 1 point for the day.

- Participation is graded on a 3-point scale. Full credit (3 points) will be given when you:
 1. are ready to begin on time,
 2. are well prepared, have studied the assigned material well and are ready to discuss it,
 3. participate actively in all activities with level-appropriate language, and
 4. make maximum use of pair/group work time by staying focused on the task, and continuing to work with your partner on the task objectives even if you “finish” an assigned task before the allotted time is up, ask your instructor for additional instructions if you aren’t sure what to do next. Preparation and performance lacking in any of these areas will be given 0, 1, or 2 points as appropriate. If you are absent from class you will receive a “0” for that day’s attendance and participation.
- Tardiness is discouraged and thus will be reflected in the grade:
 - If you are late 5 minutes 0.5 will be taken off your daily grade.
 - If you are 10 minutes late 1 will be taken off your daily grade.
 - If you are 15 minutes late 1.5 will be taken off your grade.
 - If you are 20 minutes or more late, you will be given a zero that day.
- **The use of electronic devices is not permitted in class** except in activities designated by the instructor.

Homework and Daily Assignments: (15%)

- To prepare for the learning that takes place through practice in class, you will listen to, read and study new material at home. Homework assignments should be submitted by the **start** of class. Late homework assignments will not be accepted without prior permission from your instructor. When submitting homework:
 1. Write your name in Persian;
 2. Write homework number (from assignment schedule);
 3. Hand-write your assignments, unless instructed otherwise on the weekly schedule; The reason is to work on improving handwriting;
 4. Staple pages together or use a paperclip;
 5. Double space. This gives your instructor room to provide feedback.
- Homework assignments will be evaluated on a scale of **1 to 3**. An assignment that receives a 3/3 grade:

- i) is submitted on time, complete, and clearly written;
- ii) displays your best effort and indicates progress and improvement; and
- iii) displays an effort to use new vocabulary and recycle the old, and use advanced-level structures.

Homework Correction: (5%)

- You will sometimes be asked to review your homework closely, and make corrections to your work. When you submit your homework the first time, your instructor will underline or circle mistakes to be corrected and label them with correction symbols using the correction code. When you get your homework back, you should review it and correct mistakes next to what you wrote originally in a new color to make it visible to the instructor or rewrite the corrections on a separate page and staple it to the original. Resubmit your corrections according to the daily assignment schedule.
- **To get full credit for homework corrections**, attempt to correct every mistake pointed out to you. If you don't understand why something is wrong, write a note to your instructor on your homework asking for more help. You will either receive credit (marked with a ✓) or no credit (marked with a ✓-) for your corrections based on the quality of your work and the improvement demonstrated in the corrected version of your homework. Late corrections will not be accepted. Please make sure to use a different color of ink on corrections.

Quizzes: (10%)

We will have weekly quizzes throughout the semester. Quizzes will be announced on your schedule. They will focus on vocabulary, but grammatical accuracy in using the vocabulary will also be graded.

Oral Presentations: (10%)

- **Individual Presentation:** This semester we will begin a new stage in the transition from teaching materials to the real world: independent reading in Persian. Each of you will choose a topic about the Persianate world to follow throughout the semester. You will read about your topic & report to your instructor on a biweekly basis. You are not expected to use the dictionary, or understand all the details of what you read, but rather to read for general comprehension and enjoyment and use your reading strategies to get as much as you can out of each piece you read. The end product of which will take the form of a 10-15 minute presentation in Persian accompanied by a power-point or some multi-media format. You will be working **on your own** and presenting your research at the conference held near the end of the second semester. Exact date of the conference will be announced at least two weeks in advance.

Examples of potential topics are:

- Food
 - Gender
 - Art
 - Cinema
 - Music
 - Pop Culture
 - Education
 - Architecture
 - Economy
 - Social/familial relations, etc.
- You should also select a region (i.e. Iran, Afghanistan, Tajikistan, etc.). This will help you focus, avoid generalizing (aspects of each cultural topic will often vary quite widely between various countries/regions), and allow for future comparison with different regions from the Persian-speaking world.
 - **Group Presentation:** You and your classmates will prepare one skit (a recorded video) or a live presentation/performance and present it at the Closing Ceremony on August 11th. This would provide you with the opportunity to exhibit what you have learned and what can create with the language. Further information will be provided by mid-session.

Cultural Blogs & Blog Comments: (10%)

This class will identify weekly cultural themes and each student will be expected to compose a blog (around 300 words) in Persian related to each theme. Submission are due by **Thursday before class**. In order to create a dialogue among the blog writers and their audience, the blogs will be posted on Tumblr and each student is expected to post **at least 2 comments** on other students' posts for each theme.

Oral Interview: (5%)

This will be an individual interview (≈15 minutes) with another instructor from the APTLII team. In this interview, you will be able to demonstrate your oral skills in Persian and engage in conversation in a clearly participatory manner in order to communicate information on autobiographical topics, as well as topics of community, national, international interest, etc. Further information about the interview format, content, and an evaluation rubric will be distributed at least a week in advance.

Midterm Examination: (5%)

A comprehensive midterm exam will provide the opportunity to review important terms and to make sure that you have completed all of the assigned reading in the first half of the semester. The exact format of the exam will be discussed well in advance.

Final Examination: (15%)

The final examination will be comprehensive and will test reading, writing, and listening in addition to vocabulary and grammar.

§ Grading Policy

Average Grade	Letter Grade	Average Grade	Letter Grade
92-100	A	70-75.9	C
88-91.9	AB	65-69.9	D
80-87.9	B	0-64.9	F
76-79.9	BC		

Grades on the border between two letter grades (89.9 for instance) may or may not be rounded up to the next higher letter grade, at the instructor’s discretion.

Your instructor will record your grades regularly. It is your responsibility to check your grades regularly. If you notice any grade that you have a question about, you are welcome to discuss it with your instructor no later than **one week** from the date on which the grade is posted. If your question concerns a grade you received on paper, please bring the particular assignment (homework, corrections, etc.) to your instructor to discuss it.

§ Classroom Conduct

Use of laptops (unless requested by the instructor) and cell phones is not permitted. Please put cell phones in silent mode (not just vibrate) and keep them in your backpack. Texting in class will result in deductions from your participation grade.

§ Mini-Courses, Movies, and Field Trips

These components of the APTLII program are essential in understanding the Iranian culture beyond what will be presented in the classroom. The diversity of the topics that will be covered in such extracurricular activities will provide students with an opportunity to expand their cultural knowledge and understanding. Students are required to attend all the mandatory activities. Students are required, but not limited, to attend at least **one mini-course** per week. They are required to watch the movies that will be shown to all Persian students one evening per week. The administration will provide a schedule of the field trips on a regular basis and participation in these activities is part of the course final grade.

Important Course Policies

§ UW-Madison Honor Code

Students in this class have the right to expect that their fellow students are upholding the academic integrity of this University. Academic dishonesty is a serious offense at the University because it undermines the bonds of trust and honesty between members of the community and defrauds those who may eventually depend upon our knowledge and integrity. Such dishonesty consists of cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, and plagiarism.

The University of Wisconsin-Madison has established a range of penalties for students guilty of plagiarism or academic dishonesty. Appropriate penalties include suspension or expulsion from the university, a failing grade for a course, a failing grade for the assignment, or a reduced grade on a redone assignment. All instances of serious plagiarism are reported to the Dean of Students.

§ Disability Accommodations

Your success in this class is important. If you have a disability or particular circumstance that may have an impact upon your work in this class, please contact me immediately so that we can work together to adapt assignments to meet your needs and the requirements of the course. The McBurney Disability Resource Center (263-2741) is located at 702 W Johnson St, the corner of Lake and Johnson. Students need to provide documentation of a disability to this office in order to receive official university services and accommodations.

The syllabus is subject to change. However, any changes will be brought to the attention of students in writing via e-mail communication and also verbally in class.

به کلاس فارسی خوش آمدید!

§ Course Schedule

Week 1:

Theme: History and Religion

Grammar: Tenses

- 19 June
- Beginnings: خواندن سیلابس
 - Reading: زبان فارسی
 - Listening: هایده - سوغاتی
 - Article: از ناصرالدین شاه قاجار تا امروز
 - Video Clip: بخشی از فیلم رضا شاه
- 20 June
- Article: مذهب (در کلاس)
 - Reading: بزرگان ایران زمین؛ زرتشت
 - Video Clip: نگاهی به پرحاشیه‌ترین فیلم‌های مذهبی سینما
 - Listening: شعر "سیب" - حمید مصدق (در کلاس)
- 21 June
- Literary Texts session
 - Reading: لباس در ایران باستان
 - Video Clip: تاثیر حادثه حج بر روابط تیره ایران و عربستان
- 22 June
- Persian Media
 - Movie: تماشای فیلم (در کلاس)
- 23 June
- Quiz One
 - Reading: عزاداری دینی
 - Video Clip: از تکیه تا دیسکو