

University of Wisconsin-Madison
Arabic, Persian, and Turkish Language Immersion Institute

Advanced Immersion Persian – LCA 528
MTWRF 9:00-11:30 and 1:00 to 3:00

This Advanced course is a component of the APTLII summer immersion program, and has been devised for students who have studied at least two years of Persian and achieved a solid understanding of intermediate level course content. This course is designed to provide extensive reading of classical and modern Persian texts, with practice in grammar and composition at an advanced level.

Learning Outcomes

Students will continue to increase their vocabulary, to develop their abilities in oral and written expression, and to complete the study of the fundamental structures essential to an understanding of modern literary Persian. It is assumed that the students successfully completing this course will be proficient in speaking, reading, and composition in Persian language. In this course, students will have the opportunity to read literary texts and essays and comment on them, both in writing and orally. By the end of this course students will develop the ability to read advanced classical, modern and popular texts in Persian; to provide practice in writing advanced compositions on various topics; and to develop appropriate levels of proficiency in spoken Persian.

Approach and Technique

Language immersion and the communicative approach are the keys to APTLII instruction; it places emphasis on the functional use of language and on communication in context, as opposed to a strictly grammatical, top-down approach. The course materials, which are mostly short stories, novels, folktales or articles, are selected from several sources. Some of the activities will involve skits that will be video-recorded, in-classroom debates, formal polished presentations to the class, and compositions and written exercises that are always to be submitted in typed format. The materials will be available to every student either as handouts or as attached files throughout the course.

There will be regular assignments which cover vocabulary, grammar, short reading and writing passages according to the course materials. A midterm and final paper are assigned which should be presented at the end of the fourth and eighth weeks. It is also required to write a 2-3 page essay each week plus one critical essay on the movie of the week. There will be two comprehensive exams at the end of weeks four and eight.

Recommended Texts

A Grammar of Contemporary Persian, (English or Persian edition), by G. Lazard

Concise Persian-English Dictionary by Aryanpur Kashani

The majority of class texts will be either handed out or emailed to students on the proper date. Materials may be changed or modified.

Tentative Class Schedule

Week 1:

Prose Fiction

INTRODUCTION

Designing Group Activities

Grammar: Review the verb system,

Readings:

عین سگ، محمود داوودی
تصادف، سیمین دانشور
فرهنگ عامه: مسابقه عقل و دنیا
مقاله روز
اخبار روز

Oral activity: Telling a story in class 4-6 minutes (class project on Wednesday)

Visual activity: Watching two TV programs

Composing: Write a critique on the movie, 1-2 pages (due on Friday morning)

Movie: ماهی‌ها عاشق می‌شوند، علی رفیعی screening on Thursday

Discussion: About the movie, readings, news, and TV programs

News time: Reading or discussing the latest news

Weekly Response Paper assignment (due next Monday morning)

Week 2:

Philosophy and Religion

Grammar: Tenses, concept of time in Persian

Readings: عرفان و تصوف، مرتضی مطهری

ملیت ایران، تاریخ، و زبان: شاهرخ مسکوب
فردریک نیچه و شهرت او در ایران، کامران تطف
در باب علت و دلیل، عبدالکریم سروش
هفت پرسش درباره یک زندگی اخلاقی، مصطفی ملکیان
سه کار مهم روشنفکر، مصطفی ملکیان
مقاله روز
اخبار روز

Oral activity: Telling about the readings, 4 – 6 minutes (class project on Wednesday)

Visual activity: Watching two TV programs

Movie: شهر زیبا، اصغر فرهادی Thursday

Composing: Write on the blog; Write a critique on the movie, 1-2 pages (due Friday morning)

Discussion: About the movie, readings, news, and TV programs

News time: Reading or discussing the latest news

Response paper assignment: Write about the readings (due next Monday morning)

Review Quiz (last class meeting, Friday)

Week 3:

Poetry

Grammar: Subjunctive mood, tenses, concept of time in Persian, conditionals

Readings: بخشی از رستم و سهراب، فردوسی
مناظره خسرو و فرهاد، نظامی گنجوی
بخشی از افسانه، نیما یوشیج
بخشی از آرش کمانگیر، سیاوش کسرای
عشق عمومی، احمد شاملو
بخشی از ایمان بیاوریم به آغاز فصل سرد، فروغ فرخزاد
مقاله روز
اخبار روز

Oral activity: Telling about the readings, 4 – 6 minutes (class project on Wednesday)

Visual activity: Watching two TV programs

Movie: گاو، داریوش مهرجویی Thursday

Composing: Write on the blog; Write a critique on the movie, 1-2 pages (due Friday morning)

Discussion: About the movie, readings, news, and TV programs

News time: Reading or discussing the latest news

Response paper assignment: Write about the readings due next Monday morning

Week 4:

Iranian Cinema

Grammar: Sentence structure, clause structure, narrative mood

Readings: تاریخچه سینمای ایران
کارنامه سینمایی مسعود کیمیایی، کارگردان فیلم قیصر
مرثیه ای بر ارزش های از دست رفته، پرویز دوابی
چند نظر درباره فیلم قیصر
نقد فیلم سگ کشی، یعقوب رشتچیان
جدایی نادر از سیمین، پوریا صادقی
نقد دبورا یانگ بر فیلم جدایی از اصغر فرهادی

Oral activity: Telling about the readings, 4 – 6 minutes (class project on Wednesday)

Visual activity: Watching two TV programs

Movies: مسعود کیمیایی Monday
سگ کشی؛ بهرام بیضایی Wednesday
جدایی نادر از سیمین، اصغر فرهادی Thursday
مقاله روز
اخبار روز

Composing: Write on the blog; Write a critique on the movies, 1-2 pages (due Friday morning)

Discussion: About the movie, readings, news, and TV programs

News time: Reading or discussing the latest news

Presentation: Final paper, Friday morning

Midterm paper assignment due next Monday

Midterm Exam (last 2 hours on Friday)

Week 5:

Historical Stories

Grammar: Prefixes, Suffixes, and Midfixes;

Readings: *Death of Yazdgerd* (مرگ یزدگرد), rewritten in prose, (Historical story)

وبا، تجدد، و انقلاب مشروطیت: محمد توکلی طرقی

مفهوم طبقه در ایران: احمد اشرف

زنان و عصر مشروطیت: مرتضی شیرودی

نقد مرگ یزدگرد: غفار حسینی

نقش نیکسون و فورد در تضعیف شاه: بی بی سی فارسی

سهم زنان، پیش از انقلاب پس از انقلاب: سودابه جوادی

بهار امید و زمستان یاس: عباس امانت

یک رمان فارسی

مقاله روز

اخبار روز

Oral activity: Telling about the readings, 6-10 minutes (class project on Wednesday)

Visual activity: Watching two TV programs

Movie: Play: *Margg-e Yazdgerd* (مرگ یزدگرد) by Bahram Beizaei, Thursday

Composing: Write on the blog; Write a critique on the movie, 1-2 pages (due Friday morning)

Discussion: About the movie, readings, news, and TV programs

News time: Reading or discussing the latest news

Response paper assignment due next Monday

Week 6:

Modern Persian Literature

Grammar: Idiomatic verbs and expressions

Readings: ویلان الدوله، فارسی شکر است از محمدعلی جمالزاده

داش آکل، صادق هدایت

گیله مرد، بزرگ علوی

مقاله روز

اخبار روز

Continue reading the Persian novel

Oral activity: Telling about the readings, 6 – 10 minutes (class project Wednesday)

Visual activity: Watching two TV programs

Movie: *Thamoun*، داریوش مهرجویی Thursday

Composing: Write on the blog; Write a critique on one of the short stories or the novel, 3-4 pages due Friday

Discussion: About the movie or readings

News time: Reading or discussing the latest news

Weekly response paper (due next Monday)

Review quiz (last hour of Friday)

Week 7:

Political terms and Expressions

Grammar: adjectives, adverbs (rules)

Readings: Political essays

Ending the Persian novel

تحریم نفت، فرصت یا تهدید؟ عباس عیدی

اقتصاد جنگی در شرایط غیرجنگی، حمید آقایی

درد هویت، عبدی کلانتری
فقط احمق ها نیستند که تعجب می کنند، محمد قائد
راهبرد دوگانه یا دوگانگی راهبردی! عباس عبدی
مقاله روز
اخبار روز

Oral activity: Telling about the readings, 6-10 minutes (class project on Wednesday)

Visual activity: Watching two TV programs

Movie: اسب حیوان نجیبی است، عبدالرضا کاهانی Thursday

Composing: Write on the blog; Write an essay using the political terms (2-3 pages class project due Friday)

Discussion: About the movie or readings

News time: Reading or discussing the latest news

Weekly 3-4 pages response paper on the Novel (due next Monday)

Week 8:

Culture

Readings: Classical Persian Prose

بخشی از تاریخ بیهقی
چند حکایت از گلستان سعدی
بخشی از سندبادنامه ظهیری سمرقندی
مقاله روز
اخبار روز

Oral activity: Telling about the readings, 6-10 minutes (class project on Wednesday)

Visual activity: Watching two TV programs

Movie: آژانس شیشه ای، ابراهیم حاتمی کیا Thursday

Composing: Write on the blog; Weekly Critique on Movie (2-3 pages)

Discussion: About the movie or readings

News time: Reading or discussing the latest news

Presentation: Final paper, Thursday afternoon

Final exam and submit of Final essay (Friday)

*** This syllabus is subject to change based on the needs of the students upon completion of the instructor's initial assessment of the group. Changes could include but not be limited to completion of additional units and/or topics per week, introducing more grammatical points, etc.

Evaluation

20% Homework, attendance and active participation (in and outside of class)

10% Review Quizzes

15% Midterm

5 % Weekly written critiques of the movies

10% Weekly response papers (2-3 pages)

15% Midterm and final papers

10% Critical essay on the assigned Persian novel

15% Final Exam

Letter Grading Scale:

A: 92%-100%

AB: 88%-91%

B: 80%-87%

BC: 76%-79%

C: 70%-75%

D: 65%-69%

F: 0%-64%

Course Policies

Attendance: Regular class attendance and active participation are required. Attendance will be taken every day. Absences will be excused only in case of illness, family or other emergencies, upon the student's presentation of a written explanation establishing the reason for the absence, or with prior approval of the APTLII office and Persian Director. Four unexcused absences will automatically take the grade to an F.

Daily Preparation: Students are expected to be fully prepared for class; this will be part of the final grade. Preparation entails completing homework and actively participating in class. Students are encouraged to spend at least 4 hours per day on homework and required activities. Assignments must be completed by the beginning of class. As a rule, late assignments will not be accepted, except for a reason approved by the instructor.

Use of Persian: Since this is an immersion program and students will sign a language agreement, students are only allowed to use Persian in the classroom as well as on campus, unless the instructor permits otherwise. Advanced students are not advised to make extensive use of the opportunity for release from the APTLII language agreement on Friday evenings.

Mini-courses, movies, and field trips: These components of the APTLII program are essential in understanding Persian 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.** The students are required, but not limited, to attend one mini-course per week. They are required to watch the movies that will be shown to all Persian students one evening per week. They are required to go to the field trips that are organized as mandatory; the administration will provide a schedule of the field trips on a regular basis. Participation in these activities is part of the course final grade. If a student is not able to participate in a given activity due to an emergency or for religious observance, they have to discuss that with their instructor in advance.

In class: Cell phones and laptops are not allowed in the classroom.

OPI: Students will have an OPI interview on the phone with a licensed OPI assessor at the beginning and end of the program to measure their spoken Persian progress.

On Academic Integrity: 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.

On 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.