Persian for Beginners

Class meetings:  
MWTTH 9:00 – 11:30 and 1:00-3:00

Instructor: Mehrak Kamali

Office Hours: MW 3:00-5:00

Course Objective:
This elementary-level course is a program designed for students wishing to engage in the intensive study of the fundamental structure of Persian language, using the four language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing). In addition, grammar, pronunciation and vocabulary are incorporated into the daily activities. This course first introduces the Persian alphabet. The emphasis is on speaking and using the language for communication. Learning a language requires daily practice. For each hour the student spends in the classroom a minimum of one hour review is required outside the class.

By the end of the summer session, the student be able to:
- read passages on familiar topics
- comprehend simple written materials on familiar subjects
- write essays about daily life issues and topics
- understand common social conversations and daily communications
- ability to discuss familiar topics, i.e. current political and social events
- ability to discuss daily life, family, and the surrounding environment

Homework
There will be daily assignments that must be completed prior to the class. The written work assignments, essays, cultural portfolios and skits must be submitted on the due dates specified in the class schedule.

Quizzes and exams
There will be weekly quizzes which cover vocabulary, grammar, short reading and writing passages according to the lessons taught. Also there will be one page journal for every Wednesday from week 5. Review of your daily assignments is strongly recommended. There will be two Midterm Exams and two comprehensive exams at the end of week four and eight and a four page paper in Persian for final.

Grade Breakdown for first four weeks
Each quiz or pop-quiz has (5%), overall (10%)
Midterm Exam: week 2 (20%)
Final exam: week 4 (20%)
Homeworks and assignments (25%)
Attendance & Class participation (25%)

Grade Breakdown for second four weeks
Each quiz or pop-quiz has (5%), overall (10%)
Midterm Exam: week 6 (10%)
Final exam: week 8 (20%)
Final Paper: week 8 (15%)  
Homeworks and assignments (15%)  
Weekly journals: each 2.5% (5%)  
Presentation: (5%)  
Attendance & Class participation (20%)  

**Grading**  
A = 100-95  
A- = 94-90  
B+ = 89-87  
B = 86-83  
B- = 82-80  
C+ = 79-77  
C = 76-73  
C- = 72-70  
D+ = 69-67  
D = 66-60  
F = below 60  

**Required texts:**  
1- *Modern Persian Elementary Level*, by Windfuhr (required)  
2- Persian-English dictionary  
3- Supplementary materials (Persian of Iran, Book 1, 2, CD)  

**Week 1** (Lesson 1-3, 4 con.)  
Quiz (5%): Friday  

**Week 2** (Lesson 4-6, 7 con.)  
Midterm Exam (20%): Friday  

**Week 3** (Lesson 7-9, 10 con.)  
Quiz (5%): Friday  

**Week 4** (Lesson 10-12)  
Final Exam (20%): Friday  

**Week 5** (Lesson 13-14, 15 con.)  
Weekly Journal (2.5%): Wednesday  
Quiz (5%): Friday  

**Week 6** (Lesson 15-16, 17 con.)  
Weekly Journal (2.5%): Wednesday  
Midterm (10%): Friday  

**Week 7** (Lesson 17-18, 19 con.)  
Begin to work on final paper  
Quiz (5%): Friday  

**Week 8** (Lesson 19-20 & 27)  
Presentation (5%): Thursday  
Final Paper (15%): Friday  
Final Exam (20%): Friday