**High Intermediate Persian: Reading and Composition**
Instructor: Saeed Honarmand

Location: 209 Van Hise Hall        Office hours: Thu (3:00-5:00) and Sun (4:00-6:00)

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**Description**
Extensive reading of classical and modern Persian texts, with practice in grammar and composition at a high intermediate level.

**Rationale**
This course is intended to serve as a two-semester study of the Persian language on the advanced level.

**Expected learning Outcomes**
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.

The course materials, which are mostly short stories, folktales or articles, are selected from several sources. The materials will be available to every student either as handouts or as attached files throughout the course. This course will enable students to read, speak, and compose in literary as well as colloquial Persian.

**Prerequisite**
Persian intermediate level courses or written permission of instructor. Students who wish to enroll in the course need have fulfilled two years of elementary and intermediate level courses or passed equivalent courses at other universities. Native, heritage, or other students who believe they have enough proficiency to bypass these requirements must obtain the permission of the instructor. A proficiency examination may be administered for this purpose.

**Requirements and student evaluation**
A weekly response paper (2-3 pages) will be due on the last class meeting of each week. There will be a midterm exam and a final exam for each part. There will also be a final writing assignment: a 7-page essay in Persian. The essay topic will be selected in consultation with the instructor.

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<td>Weekly response papers in Persian</td>
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<td>Mid-term exam (end of week 2)</td>
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<td>Homework Assignments and Class Participation</td>
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<td>Mini Course(s)</td>
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<td>Final exam (end of week 4)</td>
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Final essay or translation: 20%
Final exam (end of week 4): 20%

Grading scale

Sources
Texts from different sources will either be handed out or emailed to students on the proper date. Materials may be changed or modified.

Recommended texts

SYLLABUS

**Week 1:**
Grammar: Review the verb system,
Readings: عَلَّم, كدام کش، مهزی یلفاوی
لیلی بی مجنون، مهری یلفاوی
مقاله از بی بی‌سی
Composing: Write or tell a story (class project)
Movie: ماها عاشق می‌شود (با زیرنویس)
Discussion: About the movie or readings
News time: Reading or discussing the latest news
Response paper assignment: summarize these texts in literary Persian (due on Friday)

**Week 2:**
Grammar: Indicative mood, tenses, concept of time in Persian
Readings: قلب مادر، ایرج میرزا
مقاله
خبر
Composing: Write or tell a story (class project)
Movie: A movie or a video clip (subtitle)
Discussion: About the movie or readings
News time: Reading or discussing the latest news
Response paper assignment: rewrite one of these contemporary colloquial texts in literary Persian (due on Friday)
Midterm Exam (last class meeting, Friday)

**Week 3:**
Grammar: Subjunctive mood, tenses, concept of time in Persian, conditions
Reading: A story from Rumi (in verse)
مقاله
Composing: Write or tell a story (class project)  
Movie: A movie or a video clip (subtitle)  
Discussion: About the movie or readings  
News time: Reading or discussing the latest news  

Response paper assignment: rewrite this medieval verse text into prose (due on Friday)

4th of July

Week 4: Two Myths and a Modern Interpretations  
Monday-Friday (6-10)  
Grammar: Sentence structure, clause structure, narrative mood  
Readings: Ārash Kamān-gir (the myth) (آرش کمانگیر)  
Ārash Kamān-gir (the modern poem by Kasrāi) pp. 46-50 (no. 3)  

Weekly response paper (due on Friday)  
Final Exam (last 2 hours on Friday)

Week 5: Historical Story of Yazdegerd  
Grammar: Prefixes, Suffixes, and Midfixes; Adjectives and Adverbs  
Readings: Death of Yazdgerd (مرگ یزدگرد), rewritten in prose, (Historical story)  

Weekly response paper (due on Friday)  
Midterm Exam (last hour of Friday)

Week 6: Short Stories  
Grammar: Idiomatic verbs and expressions  
Readings: Punctuations (تشانگداری): Grammar, pp. 56-60 (no. 3)  
Veylān al-Doleh (ویلان الدوله), by Jamālzādeh  
Dāsh Ākol (داص اکل), by Hedāyat  

Weekly response paper (due on Friday)  
Midterm Exam (last hour of Friday)

Week 7: Romances  
Grammar: More on Idiomatic verbs
Readings:  Samak ?iyār (سمک عیار)
          ليلى و مجنون
Movie:     A Movie (no subtitle)
Composing: Write or tell a story (class project)
Discussion: About the movie or readings
News time:  Reading or discussing the latest ne
Weekly response paper (due on Friday)

Week 8: Memoir (Modern Literature from Iran and Tajikistan)
Grammar: adjectives, adverbs (rules)
Readings:  Khāterāt-e Sadr al-Din ?eini (in Tajiki dialect)
          دارامادي بز ادبیات داستانی, short essay
Movie:     A movie
Composing: Write or tell a story (class project)
Discussion: About the movie or readings
News time:  Reading or discussing the latest ne
Final exam and submit of 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.