



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
School of Continuing Studies
Summer and Special Programs

COURSE SYLLABUS

PERS 202

Advanced Persian II

3 Credits

2nd Summer Session

MTWTH/1300-1500

Faculty Information

Name: Maziar Valamotamed

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Office Days, Hours and Location: Available MTWTH/1500 -1530/ICC 224 (email to make an appointment)

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Description

This class will facilitate a superior understanding of Persian culture and improve linguistic competency in written and spoken Persian. Students will apply complex grammar techniques and sophisticated vocabulary during class discussions and assessments. Students will develop their Persian language skills in conjunction with exploration into the complex cultural underpinnings of the Persianate world through careful study of an amalgam of historical and modern literature, poetry, and current media. This class gives students copious opportunities to practice their highly developed Persian skills through writing, reading, listening and speaking. Students enrolling in this class ought to have successfully completed PERS 201 or have permission from the instructor. There is no pass/fail option for this course. Visiting students must take a placement exam prior to registering for this course.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the class students will have the ability to comfortably communicate in advanced Persian about complex topics. Students will be able to accurately deliver a lengthy oral presentation and write a detailed composition on social, political, or cultural issues. Students will be able to read and summarize complex literature and media. Finally, students will be able to listen to sophisticated dialogues and precisely identify the nuances of the conversation.

Required Textbook

This course does not require a specific textbook. The instructor will provide students with pertinent learning materials from a selective collection of Georgetown resources.

Supplementary Course Materials

Various learning material posted on blackboard by the instructor
Iranian movies and documentaries via blackboard
A bilingual dictionary

Description of Instructional Methods

Students will strengthen their Persian language proficiency by participating in class discussions, reading classical literature and current media, writing compositions, and delivering presentations during the course of the semester. Topics for written compositions, presentations and general discourse may include the following: social, political, cultural. Students may determine the topic of their presentations, based on their individual interests, with final consent from the professor. Students will analyze various news articles and pieces of literature with which they will learn new vocabulary and advanced grammar techniques. Regular formative assessments and a final exam at the end of the semester will be administered.

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

Course organization

This class will meet four times a week, Monday through Thursday, from 1300-1500.

Students can expect to be informally assessed on a weekly basis with respect to their progress with grammar, reading, writing, listening and speaking skills. Formal composition assessments will be administered weekly. Compositions will be at least four paragraphs in length. Students will deliver one formal 20 minute oral presentation on their own and multiple short oral presentations in small groups.

Language can only be learned and absorbed if it is practiced on a regular basis, inside and outside the classroom. Students are encouraged to take every opportunity to practice their Persian language skills throughout their daily routine.

Attendance

This language course requires students to attend class regularly and punctually. Successful completion of this course requires students to actively participate in class and finish all assignments in a timely manner.

Two unexcused absences will lessen a student's final grade by one letter grade. Four unexcused absences will result in failure of the course. Make-up dates may be arranged only under exceptional circumstances or with an official letter from the Dean or a doctor.

STUDENT FEEDBACK AND GRADING PROCEDURES

Grading Scale	
Letter Grade	Percentage
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	Below 60

Assignment Contribution Towards Grade	
Assignment	Percentage/Points towards Final Grade
Participation/ homework, grammar knowledge, oral expression, oral presentations, compositions and final test	30% Homework 20% Attendance and class participation 20% Presentations 10% Pop Quizzes 20% Final
Total:	100%

HONOR CODE

Unless otherwise indicated, all work is to be yours alone, and you are expected to adhere to the Honor Code (<http://honorcouncil.georgetown.edu/system/policies>) at all times. Using online translators is not allowed. Please note that copying from any source, including internet, newspapers, and books without attribution constitutes plagiarism, which will result in failure of the course and will be reported to the university Honor Council.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES POLICY

Students with disabilities should contact the Academic Resource Center (Leavey Center, Suite 335; (202) 687-8354; arc@georgetown.edu; <http://ldss.georgetown.edu/index.cfm>) before the start of classes to allow their office time to review the documentation and make recommendations for appropriate accommodations. If accommodations are recommended, you will be given a letter from ARC to share with your instructors. You are personally responsible for completing this process officially and in a timely manner. Neither accommodations nor exceptions to policies can be permitted to students who have not completed this process in advance.

LEARNING RESOURCES

Dictionaries:

Farsi 123: online Persian-English Dictionary.
<http://farsi123.com/>

Aryanpour Dictionary: a simple online dictionary that provides Persian to English and English to Persian translation. This source is not always accurate.
<http://www.aryanpour.com>

Farsi Dictionary: almost identical to Aryanpour Dictionary.
<http://www.farsidic.com>

Francis Joseph Steingass Persian-English Dictionary: in use since the 1870's, it is the most complete and concise Persian dictionary. The collection of definitions is exceptional and has yet to be surpassed. Persian language and literature scholars retain this dictionary as a principal source for information.
<http://dsal.uchicago.edu/dictionaries/steingass>

Note: A German native, Steingass learned Persian as a second language.

Other Resources:

University of Texas, Austin's Persian in Texas: a unique and extensive resource for Persian language learning. Search through it in your spare time. Of particular interest are the Persian Verb Conjugation and Joining and Disjoining Persian Letters, both found in "Archived News" on the home page.
<http://persian.nmelrc.org>
http://sites.la.utexas.edu/persian_online_resources/

Persian verb conjugator: This is an online conjugator for Persian verbs. It can conjugate Persian verbs in all tenses, aspects and moods. Type the infinitive of the verb you want and then, click on Conjugate button or hit Enter on your keyboard.
<http://www.jahanshiri.ir/>

Useful Links:

Persian News Links: <http://www.gooya.com/>
BBC Persian News: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/persian/>
VOA Persian News: <http://ir.voanews.com/>
Persian Culture: <http://www.ichto.ir/>