



PERSIAN FOR BEGINNERS & HERITAGE SPEAKERS

MODERN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

PERSIAN 1035

PERSIAN 1030

Tuesdays and Thursdays,

4:30-6:30, SH-3307

2019-2020

Prerequisite: None

Antirequisite: This course is **not** open to native speakers of Persian. Students with Grade 12U Persian or OAC Persian and/or the equivalent are not allowed in this course either. Heritage speakers of Persian must consult the Department before registering for this course.

Please note: Students are responsible for ensuring that their selection of courses is appropriate and accurately recorded and that all course prerequisites have been successfully completed, and that they are aware of any antirequisite course(s) that they have taken. If the student does not have the prerequisites for a course, the university reserves the right to remove the student from the course and to delete it from the student's record. This decision may not be appealed. A student will receive no adjustment to his or her fees in the event that he or she is dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Course instructor: Saba Mirzaee

Office hours for fall: Tuesdays 3.00-4.00

or by appointment

Office hours for winter: TBA

Room: UC building, room 1318

E-mail: smirzaee@uwo.ca

Course instructor: Niloofar Mansouri

Office hours for fall: Mondays 4:45-5:45

or by appointment

Office hours for winter: TBA

Room: UC building, room ----

E-mail: nmanso3@uwo.ca

A. Required Textbooks

Persian of Iran today (http://www.laits.utexas.edu/persian_teaching_resources/). This is an online resource. However, students are required to print off a copy of units 1-10 of the book and bring it to class with them.

B. Course Description and Objectives

Persian 1030 is an elementary course for students who have never studied Persian or do not have the prerequisite knowledge for Intermediate Persian. There is no prerequisite for this course.

This course is not open to native speakers. Heritage learners of Persian must consult with the Department.

The course is designed to enable students to learn the basic vocabulary and grammatical structures of written and oral Persian in order to permit the learner to communicate with Persian speakers about everyday matters. This course first introduces the Persian alphabet. The emphasis is on speaking and using the language for communication. The four language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) as well as pronunciation and vocabulary are incorporated into the course.

C. Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, the students:

1. Have mastered the Persian alphabet and sound system, be able to recognize and pronounce correctly all Persian sounds, and write accurately from dictation;
2. Be able to initiate social interactions, ask for basic information, and be aware of basic cultural aspects of social interaction in Persian;
3. Be able to talk about him/herself, his/her education, and his/her family with native speakers of Persian.
4. Comprehend simple print texts on familiar topics;
5. Comprehend simple audio/video texts on familiar topics;
6. Be able to compose simple paragraphs about him/herself and his/her family and friends;
7. Know about the difference between written and spoken Persian, recognize both registers, and be able to use basic expressions.

D. Required Work

This course requires a minimum of one hour homework for every class hour.

- Computer work (OWL/SAKAI);
- Prepare and study at a regular pace the alphabet, vocabulary and grammar;
- Daily homework (alphabet, grammar, vocabulary, preparation of activities for the classroom, written exercises and formative compositions)
- Read assigned texts
- Preparation for quizzes and tests (oral and written)
- Preparing oral presentations
- Written compositions
- Self-correction

E. Class Management

• Students are expected to come to class regularly and attendance will be strictly monitored. Points are not given for mere attendance but for your participation and for showing progress (see *Participation* below). All absences will affect the participation grade; students with more than 4 absences per semester will get 0 on the participation grade.

Because attendance is so important in language courses, any student who, in the opinion of the course instructors, is absent too frequently from class periods in any course, will be reported to the Dean (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course (see Western University Academic Calendar).

F. Absenteeism: Students must attend **all** evaluations unless exceptional circumstances exist (medical reasons only). If a problem arises, students are expected to contact their instructor **before** the exam or assignment is due. Students who miss a test, in-class composition, quiz, oral presentation, an oral exam or the final exam without a valid reason will receive a 0 which will count towards the final grade. **There will be no makeup tests in this course.**

• Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department.

- Western University's Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness: (<https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm>)
- Downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC): <https://studentservices.uwo.ca> under the Medical Documentation heading.

G. Participation: Active participation in class in the different activities and group discussions, focus on the work in hand, in class progress, awareness of mistakes and self-correction, self-discipline (daily preparation of assigned work, written work handed in on time, etc.) will account for the participation grade. Students are advised to keep up with the work day by day in order to make progress. It is very difficult to catch up in a language class if you fall behind.

There will be a great deal of group work. Lack of focus on the objectives of the activity will severely affect your mark.

H. All we do during the two semesters:

- **Final exam and mid-term:** There are 2 in-class tests in the course of the year (one is regarded as the mid-term and the other is the final exam)
- **Formal compositions:** There are 2 in-class compositions. (one for each semester)
- **Formal quizzes:** There are 4 in-class quizzes in the course of the year (two for each semester)
- **Oral presentation:** There will be 1 oral presentations in the second semester. This is a group presentation (group of two). The members of each group will work together during the year, and a sense of cooperation and responsibility is essential. The oral presentations must include the vocabulary and the grammar learned in class. They should be clear enough for the class to understand. Each presentation will be at least 6 minutes.
- **Daily homework:** must be completed on time.

Please Note: The testing materials and evaluation of presentations and other assignments and tests for heritage speakers might be different from non-heritage speakers. Moreover, students are required to participate in cultural activities such as Nowruz celebration. This will count towards attendance and participation. Group meetings for practice and set up might be needed a couple of times outside the classroom.

I. Plagiarism: Plagiarism is a major academic offense (see Scholastic Offense Policy in the Western Academic Calendar). Plagiarism is the inclusion of someone else's verbatim or paraphrased text in one's own written work without immediate reference. Verbatim text must be surrounded by quotation marks or indented if it is longer than four lines. A reference must follow right after borrowed material (usually the author's name and page number). Without immediate reference to borrowed material, a list of sources at the end of a written assignment does not protect a writer against the possible charge of plagiarism. **This also applies to work facilitated or written for students by third parties.** The University of Western Ontario uses a plagiarism checking site called Turnitin.com. Students are allowed to use their laptops and iPads during class lectures, but they are not allowed to use any electronic device during exam sessions.

Ringers must be turned off and laptops, tablets, or other technology must only be used for class purposes. Unauthorized recording or photographing of the class, its members, community partners, and/or the people they serve is prohibited.

J. Support Services

Registrarial Services is <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>

Student Support Services is <https://studentservices.uwo.ca> (including the services provided by the USC listed here: <http://westernusc.ca/services/>).

The Student Development Services can also be reached at www.sdc.uwo.ca Important Notice: Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

K. Evaluation

Attendance (7.5%)

Class participation (7.5%)

4 Quizzes (20%): Each quiz is worth 5 %.

1 Presentation: (5%)

2 Compositions (15%): First composition is worth 5% and the second one is worth 10%.

Mid-term (15%)

Final (30%).

Course Calendar

Thursday		Tuesday	
1 st session	Sep. 5 Introduction	2 nd session	Sep. 10 Unit one
3 rd session	Sep. 12 Unit one	4 th session	Sep. 17 Unit one
5 th session	Sep. 19 Unit one	6 th session	Sep. 24 Unit two
7 th session	Sep. 26 Unit two	8 th session	Oct. 1 Unit two
9 th session	Oct. 3 Unit two	10 th session	Oct. 8 Unit three Quiz 1
11 th session	Oct. 10 Unit three	12 th session	Oct. 15 Unit three
13 th session	Oct. 17 Unit three	14 th session	Oct. 22 Unit four
15 th session	Oct. 24 Unit four	16 th session	Oct. 29 Unit four
17 th session	Oct. 31 Unit four	18 th session	Nov. 5 Reading week
19 th session	Nov. 7 Reading week	20 th session	Nov. 12 Quiz 2 Working on quiz questions
21 st session	Nov. 14 Review	22 nd session	Nov. 19 Review
23 rd session	Nov. 21 Mid-term	24 th session	Nov. 26 Unit five
25 th session	Nov. 28 Unit five	26 th session	Dec. 3 Unit five
27 th session	Dec. 5 Unit five		

Tuesday		Thursday	
1 st session	Jan. 7 Unit six	2 nd session	Jan. 9 Unit six
3 rd session	Jan. 14 Unit six	4 th session	Jan. 16 Unit six
5 th session	Jan. 21 Unit seven	6 th session	Jan. 23 Unit seven
7 th session	Jan. 28 Unit seven	8 th session	Jan. 30 Unit seven
9 th session	Feb. 4 Unit eight Quiz 1	10 th session	Feb. 6 Unit eight
11 th session	Feb. 11 Unit eight	12 th session	Feb. 13 Unit eight
13 th session	Feb. 18 Reading week	14 th session	Feb. 20 Reading week
15 th session	Feb. 25 Unit nine	16 th session	Feb. 27 Unit nine
17 th session	Mar. 3 Unit nine	18 th session	Mar. 5 Unit nine
19 th session	Mar. 10 Unit ten Quiz 2	20 th session	Mar. 12 Unit ten
21 st session	Mar. 17 Unit ten	22 nd session	Mar. 19 Preparation for Nowruz
23 rd session	Mar. 24 Nowruz celebration	24 th session	Mar. 26 Unit ten

25 th session	Mar. 31 Review	26 th session	Apr. 2 Review
27 th session	Apr. 7 Review	28 th session	Term Test (Not announced)

NB CAVEAT

This syllabus is not etched in stone, and any information on this syllabus is subject to change at any time. Although we try to minimize change as much as possible, we may need to make some necessary adjustments (not, however, test, or assignment dates). Any changes will be announced in class and on the course webpage. Thus, it is your responsibility to be there, ask your fellow classmates or the instructor, or check the course webpage to be informed of any such changes.