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Persian IV Fall 2017 Syllabus

FORLANGC 197BB Persian IV (half course)
Five College Center for the Study of World Languages

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Date span	Assignment	Self-assessment
Sep 5 to Sep 8	Tutorials and conversation sessions start this week. Prepare at least one half of the study guide for your first sessions. Written work for the first study guide will be due at tutorial next week.  Mentored Persian Study Guide 31	Self-assessment due end of week
Sep 11 to Sep 15	Study Guide 31 homework due at tutorial.  Mentored Persian Study Guide 31	Self-assessment due end of week
Sep 18 to Sep 22	Study Guide 32 homework due at tutorial.  Mentored Persian Study Guide 32	Self-assessment due end of week
Sep 25 to Sep 29	Study Guide 33 homework due at tutorial.  Mentored Persian Study Guide 33	Self-assessment due end of week
Oct 2 to Oct 6	Study Guide 34 homework due at tutorial.  Mentored Persian Study Guide 34	Self-assessment due end of week
Oct 9 to Oct 13	Study Guide 35 homework due at tutorial.  Mentored Persian Study Guide 35	Self-assessment due end of week
Oct 16 to Oct 20	Review week - Sessions meet for review.	Self-assessment due end of week
Oct 23 to Oct 27	Study Guide 36 homework due at tutorial.  Mentored Persian Study Guide 36	Self-assessment due end of week
Oct 30 to Nov 3	Study Guide 37 homework due at tutorial.  Mentored Persian Study Guide 37	Self-assessment due end of week
Nov 6 to Nov 10	Study Guide 38 homework due at tutorial.  Mentored Persian Study Guide 38	Self-assessment due end of week
Nov 13 to Nov 17	Study Guide 39 homework due at tutorial.  Mentored Persian Study Guide 39	Self-assessment due end of week
Nov 20 to Nov 24	Thanksgiving Break Week - no sessions, no self-evaluations	
Nov 27 to Dec 1	Study Guide 40 homework due at tutorial.  Mentored Persian Study Guide 40	Self-assessment due end of week

Date span	Assignment	Self-assessment
Dec 4 to Dec 8	Review of Study Guides 31-40 Tutorials and conversation sessions WILL meet this week for review	Self-assessment due end of week
Dec 6 to Dec 20	<p>Final Oral Evaluations Individual oral evaluations will be scheduled in this time period. Do not make travel plans until you know the date and time of your individual oral evaluation. <i>Graduating seniors need to see that home campus senior grade deadlines are met.</i></p>	
Dec 6 to Dec 20	<p>End of the Semester Writing Skills Assessments Drop-in hours for completing writing skills assessments will be held in this time period. <i>Graduating seniors need to see that home campus senior grade deadlines are met.</i></p>	

FORLANGC 197BB Persian IV (half course) Course Description and Requirements

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Program Director: Amy Wordelman

Contact Information: fcrlrc@hfa.umass.edu or 542-5264

Course Description

Mentored Persian IV is part of the Mentored Language Program administered by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages. Mentored courses focus on all four skills (speaking, listening, reading, and writing) using one-on-one tutorials with a language mentor, small group conversation sessions, and guided individual study. Students follow a series of detailed study guides outlining homework assignments and preparation steps for tutorials and conversation sessions.

The Mentored Persian program covers both spoken and written Persian with an emphasis on developing speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. The prerequisite for Persian IV is Persian III or the equivalent. Persian I-IV together cover material roughly equivalent to one year of college-level Persian study in a more traditional classroom course. These courses are followed by Mentored Persian V through VIII at the intermediate level.

The syllabus for this course assigns materials at a pace necessary to complete the assigned materials within a semester. Students who fall behind this pace will be in danger of not passing the course and should discuss their situation with the program director or associate director. Students who prefer to move faster than the assigned pace are most welcome to do so. Any student who finds him/herself significantly ahead on the syllabus, should contact the program director or associate director to see what accommodations might be made to facilitate the faster pace.

Course Materials

Textbooks should be purchased online or through a special order at your local bookstore.

Farzad, Narguess. *Teach Yourself Modern Persian*. 2004 edition, published by Contemporary Books of the Mc-Graw Hill Companies. The text is sold either with or without audio CDs. Be sure to get the version with the CDs!

Amuzegar, Hooshang and Farideh. *How to Speak, Read and Write Persian*. Ibex Publishers, 2003, with 4 audio CDs. ISBN-10: 0936347058 ISBN-13: 978-0936347059

NOTE: This book can be hard to get. Most recently we are seeing new copies in the \$75.00 range and used copies in the \$45.00 range. The publisher IBEX sometimes sells copies through Amazon. Amazon also has it for rent. Contact the Center if you have trouble getting this text or accessing the audio that goes with the text.

Five College Persian Manual IV. Contact your course organizer for instructions about how to get this manual.

LangMedia Websites for Persian at <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>.

Mentored Persian I Course Website online at <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>.

Requirements

- 1. Successful mastery of the material assigned on this syllabus and its accompanying study guides.** Students are reminded that their final comprehensive oral evaluation will cover all material assigned for the course regardless of whether it was used or discussed in tutorials or conversation sessions.
- 2. At least 7 hours per week of independent study (at least one hour per day).** The program provides weekly study guides which include instructions for both oral and written practice. The guides also include preparation for conversation sessions and homework to be handed in at tutorial.
- 3. Weekly 30-minute individual tutorials with the mentor assigned to the course.** Mentors will collect and go over written homework assignments, answer questions brought by students, work on individual issues with pronunciation and grammar, and provide practice drills in preparation for written and oral evaluations.
- 4. Weekly one-hour small group conversation sessions.** Conversation sessions are led by the mentors and/or undergraduate native speakers. Conversation sessions provides practice with both speaking and listening comprehension. The sessions constitute the primary practice for the oral fluency portion of the final evaluation.
- 5. Weekly homework assignments handed in at the tutorial meeting.** Homework will be collected by the mentors, photocopied and placed in a portfolio for each student. Homework must be handed in on time at the tutorial to receive credit. Mentors may read and comment on late homework, but students will not receive credit toward their final course grade unless the homework is turned in on time. Any exceptions due to illness or other emergencies must be cleared by the program director.

6. Weekly self-assessment reports submitted on time. Self-assessments are due at the end of each week and are recorded as “on time” as long as they are received by 9:00 am the following Monday morning. Late self-assessments will only receive partial credit. The self-assessments help students to evaluate their own progress in learning the language, their overall development of language learning strategies, and also alert the program staff to any problems with preparation or logistical details of the course.

7. Writing skills assessment to be completed by the end of the semester.

8. Final comprehensive oral evaluation covering listening and reading comprehension, conversational fluency, vocabulary, grammar, pronunciation, and cultural knowledge.

Grading

10% attendance, preparation, and participation in all tutorials and conversation sessions, plus on-time submission of homework and self-assessment reports

40% overall quality of the homework portfolio

10% writing skills assessment (assesses ability to write short paragraphs, dialogs and essay topics)

40% final comprehensive oral evaluation covering listening and reading comprehension, conversational fluency, vocabulary, grammar and pronunciation

Grading scale: A (94-100); A- (90-93); B+ (87-89); B (84-86); B- (80-83); C+ (77-79); C (74-76); C- (70-73); D+ (67-69); D (64-66); D- (60-63); F (59 or lower). Final oral evaluation must be completed in order to pass the course.

Both the writing skills assessment and the final comprehensive oral evaluation must be passed in order to receive credit for the course.

Final grades are submitted by the program director based on final evaluation grades and the student’s overall course participation record and homework portfolio.

Study Guides, Homework Assignments and Self-Evaluation

Weekly study guides serve as the student’s primary guide to the course and are essential to a student’s independent learning. The study guides are accessed through the course website and contain live links to any online materials students need to access. Students are responsible for accessing the online study guides and downloading printed copies for themselves as necessary.

Most of the study exercises included on the guides are activities a student does on his/her own. Some of the texts and online exercises include answer keys. Students are expected to use these keys to evaluate their own work. Exercises that do not include or lend themselves to simple answer keys cover material that will be “checked” through the process of using the material in tutorial interactions and conversation sessions.

Each study guide also includes work that should be handed in for feedback from the course mentor and to become a part of the student’s homework portfolio. If students have access to an answer key for any homework to be handed in, they are expected to use the answer key ahead of time to correct their own work. They should bring the page with noted corrections to the tutorial and have the mentor

clarify any remaining confusions.

Homework handed in for the portfolio needs to be clearly labeled at the top of each page in English with the students name, the date, and the Study Guide number.

Accommodations

The University of Massachusetts Amherst and the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages are committed to providing an equal educational opportunity for all students. If you have a documented physical, psychological, or learning disability on file with Disability Services (DS) at UMass or on your home campus, you may be eligible for reasonable academic accommodations to help you succeed in your mentored language course. If you have a documented disability that requires an accommodation, please notify the program director as soon as possible and no later than the third week of the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Academic Honesty Policy

Students must adhere to all University of Massachusetts Amherst and Five College policies regarding professional conduct and ethics, including policies covering non-discrimination, sexual harassment, and academic honesty. **University of Massachusetts Amherst Academy Honesty Policy:** Since the integrity of the academic enterprise of any institution of higher education requires honesty in scholarship and research, academic honesty is required of all students at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Academic dishonesty is prohibited in all programs of the University. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to: cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, and facilitating dishonesty. Appropriate sanctions may be imposed on any student who has committed an act of academic dishonesty.

Importance of Communication

Practice communication skills similar to what you would need in a professional work or internship situation: check e-mail twice per day; read e-mail carefully and respond in a timely manner; contact the office by e-mail or phone about questions or issues; take a proactive approach to solving any problems or issues that come up. Save fcmlp2@hfa.umass.edu in your address book to help ensure that important messages about your course do not end up in your spam folder.

Schedules and Schedule Changes

Each student will be assigned regular weekly tutorial and conversation session times. Any temporary or permanent changes in these times must be worked out with Amy Wordelman who maintains the master schedule of all tutorials and conversation sessions. E-mail questions related to schedules to your course organizer. Do not ask your mentor directly for changes because s/he may not be aware of other scheduling issues affected by the change. The mentors have been instructed to refer anyone who requests schedule change to the program office.

Students who miss tutorials or conversation sessions will not be provided with make-up opportunities. Students who know ahead of time that they will need to miss a future session, should clear the absence with the program director or associate director at least a week ahead. If sufficient notice is given, it may sometimes be possible for a student to attend an alternative conversation session or tutorial, although such arrangements cannot be guaranteed.

In the event that the mentor or conversation partner has to cancel a session due to illness or another emergency, every effort will be made to provide an appropriate make-up session or substitute.

Snow emergencies and snow days: Winter snow emergencies occasionally cause delays and cancellations of Five College bus service, early closings of campuses, or snow days being declared on one or more campuses. Because we do not want any students or mentors to get stranded away from their home campus, we will generally cancel tutorials and conversation sessions if 1) the National Weather Service has issued a warning for severe winter weather for the time period of the sessions; and 2) the students and or mentors affected would have to travel to other than their own campus. We will not cancel if the mentor and the students involved live on the same campus, unless that campus has cancelled classes for the relevant time period. If a snow day has been declared in the morning, tutorials and conversation sessions may still take place late in the late afternoon or evening if the weather has cleared and the buses are running. Cancellations due to weather will be sent by e-mail. If you have weather related questions, e-mail your course organizer or call the office at 542-5264.

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