Sample Outline

Advanced Topics in Dari: Current Events

## WEEK 2

**Materials:**

* News article: [If we want an independent country, we must become self-sufficient in modern sciences](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ftolonews.com%2Ffa%2Fafghanistan-181562&data=05%7C01%7Cfcsilp%40hfa.umass.edu%7Ca34e883d33fc461662de08dbbb83ce90%7C7bd08b0b33954dc194bbd0b2e56a497f%7C0%7C0%7C638309947000767023%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=lXIlEwbqGV2KCAapNFdhV4bpjVizLEi9JFCBszMevE4%3D&reserved=0)

**Vocab/grammar to discuss:**

* خودکفایی. Self sufficiency
* بی‌اعتنا. Careless
* ناگوار Unfortunate
* مساعد facilitated
* مشخص. Specified
* انزوا. Isolation
* مشارکت. Participation
* متعهد. Committed

**Discussion questions & prompts:**

1. What social, economic, political/cultural/environmental issues does the article touch on?
2. Given the current temporary ban on girls' schools, what venues can women use to continue education at home?
3. What are the challenges of a single-mother household that struggles to work? What are possible solutions to her problem?

## WEEK 3

**Materials:**

* News article: [Turkiye provides 300 scholarships annually for Afghan students](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fbakhtarnews.af%2Fdr%2F%25D8%25AA%25D8%25B1%25DA%25A9%25DB%258C%25D9%2587%25D8%258C-%25D8%25B3%25D8%25A7%25D9%2584%25D8%25A7%25D9%2586%25D9%2587-%25DB%25B3%25DB%25B0%25DB%25B0-%25D8%25A8%25D9%2588%25D8%25B1%25D8%25B3-%25D8%25AA%25D8%25AD%25D8%25B5%25DB%258C%25D9%2584%25DB%258C-%25D8%25A8%25D8%25B1%25D8%25A7%25DB%258C-%25D9%2585%25D8%25AD%25D8%25B5%2F&data=05%7C01%7Cfcsilp%40hfa.umass.edu%7Cd81166d9d3624c37b93208dbb5420ea2%7C7bd08b0b33954dc194bbd0b2e56a497f%7C0%7C0%7C638303067545281690%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=E%2F%2FrTgZp8D9WaZxjHgz0ukXRfPdF%2Fd%2FypD9QG%2BLBj10%3D&reserved=0)
* Video: [12 years old Afghan in Silicon Valley](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DUWNULgDEGDo&data=05%7C01%7Cfcsilp%40hfa.umass.edu%7Cd81166d9d3624c37b93208dbb5420ea2%7C7bd08b0b33954dc194bbd0b2e56a497f%7C0%7C0%7C638303067545437430%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=DuPokCbtpWNl28bZqQNl17FrkM5TnwvsRSVH24C7GpU%3D&reserved=0)

**Discussion questions & prompts:**

1. Why are talented Afghan students inclined to study abroad, in this case, in Turkey?
2. How do Afghan scholars abroad contribute to Afghan society, and can they?
3. Does Turkey’s motive to provide scholarships include anything extra, such as developing an economic and political relationship with Afghanistan?
4. What are the possible challenges that 12-year-old Ahmad Sarwari faces as a new school student in a different country or environment?
5. If Ahmad were to remain in Afghanistan, would he be able to progress on his computer science talents?
6. If you were to be provided scholarships in other parts of the world, where would you choose and for what education?

## WEEK 4

**Materials:**

* News video and text: [Book exhibition at Kabul University](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ftolonews.com%2Ffa%2Fafghanistan-185281&data=05%7C01%7Cfcsilp%40hfa.umass.edu%7C900bc68e8d2743aafce608dbc12112d5%7C7bd08b0b33954dc194bbd0b2e56a497f%7C0%7C0%7C638316120033777604%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ywWWRCM09episedaff9HefRJwxAPRzkAHvM9Rysnxt8%3D&reserved=0)
* Reading: [Brief History of National Archive of Afghanistan](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fweb.archive.org%2Fweb%2F20190715103936%2Fhttp%3A%2F%2Fmoic.gov.af%3A80%2Ffa%2Fpage%2F1291%2F2132&data=05%7C01%7Cfcsilp%40hfa.umass.edu%7C900bc68e8d2743aafce608dbc12112d5%7C7bd08b0b33954dc194bbd0b2e56a497f%7C0%7C0%7C638316120033777604%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Debms%2Fxle9lzmICib03MGN%2FXc8dhn03NAkteZJG2w4E%3D&reserved=0)

**Vocab/grammar to discuss:**

* From video:
	+ نهادینه ساختن. institutionalize
	+ ناشر Publisher
	+ شادمان. Delighted
	+ ترویج Normalize
	+ مفیدیت Beneficence
	+ برگزارکنندگان Organizers.
	+ بازدید کنندگان Visitors
* From reading:
	+ ویژه. Especial
	+ مدارک. Documents
	+ گشایش. Inaugurate
	+ گنجینه. Treasures

**Discussion questions & prompts:**

1. How does the development of a "study culture" (through the promotion of events similar to this one) contribute to the betterment of society?
2. Considering the social climate of Afghanistan, what are some ways that women can also participate in this development?
3. What strategies can be used to increase the literacy rate and subsequently the reading culture in Afghanistan?
4. A bookseller in the news talked about the low market for books; how can a centralized book center be made accessible to Kabul citizens and people in other provinces?
5. How can the National Archive Center assist in promoting study and research among the public?

## WEEK 5

**Materials:**

* News article: [UN's objection to women's Human Right violations in Afghanistan](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ftolonews.com%2Ffa%2Fafghanistan-185393&data=05%7C01%7Cfcsilp%40hfa.umass.edu%7Cdf865b9670224ab3d4eb08dbc683242f%7C7bd08b0b33954dc194bbd0b2e56a497f%7C0%7C0%7C638322038777830933%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=oveybJaL7gPnjPxappN1yKwkpy9p02cNC%2FpgqdgCDFE%3D&reserved=0)

**Vocab/grammar to discuss:**

* نقض. Violate
* تبعیض. Discrimination
* بهره‌مند Beneficiary
* واکنش Reaction
* انتقاد. Objection
* رسیدگی. Handle
* نگرانی Concern‌

**Discussion questions & prompts:**

1. How does the concept of human rights in Western nations differ from religious understandings of human rights?
2. To what extent can the UN influence women's rights in Afghanistan?
3. What are some arguments for and against women's participation in the public sector?
4. To what extent are relationships possible to develop between the international community and Afghanistan, given Afghanistan's opposite stances on certain issues?
5. What's the method that Afghans can use to voice their concern inside the country about rights-related issues?
6. What do you think the future will be like for Afghanistan if the current government persists in the prevailing measurements on work access to women?

## WEEK 6: Review

## WEEK 7

**Materials:**

* Article and video: [End of Rescue Operations in the Villages Affected by the Earthquake in Herat](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ftolonews.com%2Findex.php%2Ffa%2Fafghanistan-185508&data=05%7C01%7Cfcsilp%40hfa.umass.edu%7C21bb08d4699c4ca2bb9708dbcb9a9645%7C7bd08b0b33954dc194bbd0b2e56a497f%7C0%7C0%7C638327637072837546%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=uooyBSxh1173FamtyZcdxAj1e3OOu2XSEkmIkioL2tc%3D&reserved=0)

**Vocab/grammar to discuss:**

* نهادها Organizations
* آوار. Debris
* احتمالی. Possibly, likely
* سرپناه. Shelter
* گسترده. Widespread
* گواه Witness

**Discussion questions & prompts:**

1. To what extent are developing nations (such as Afghanistan) disadvantaged in dealing with natural crises?
2. What are some steps that people can now take to recover and rebuild?
3. What can be long-term solutions to avoid high casualties due to earthquakes and other natural disasters?
4. What do the affected people demand from the government, and how can the government effectively address their concerns?

## WEEK 8

**Materials:**

* Article and video: [American Senator's Plan to Stop Washington's Aid to Afghanistan](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ftolonews.com%2Ffa%2Fafghanistan-185589&data=05%7C01%7Cfcsilp%40hfa.umass.edu%7Cd2e2b9f1ef2e45bcb9d308dbd18b0039%7C7bd08b0b33954dc194bbd0b2e56a497f%7C0%7C0%7C638334167157526420%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=VLwZlI55jAojf6O9RKy0ee%2FlGDy3MkB8l6OoowaEY48%3D&reserved=0)

**Vocab/grammar to discuss:**

* لایحه‌ - Bill (as in a legislative bill)
* ارایه - Presentation
* توسعه‌یی - Developmental
* افزایشی - Increasing
* ظرفیت - Capacity
* گزینه - Option
* دشوار - Difficult
* دستبرد - robbery
* کاهش - Decrease or Reduction

**Discussion questions & prompts:**

1. In light of the earthquakes, how would such a decision impact Afghanistan?
2. Would this decision positively or negatively impact the US in terms of its international image?
3. If Washington's concern is stopping aid from being funneled through the Taliban government, what are the possible ways to assist Afghans without allowing the Afghan government access to the aid?
4. Which projects and areas should the international community and donor countries prioritize to help Afghanistan achieve economic independence from other nations?

## WEEK 9

**Materials:**

* Article and video: [Worsening of Afghan Immigrants' Situation in Pakistan](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ftolonews.com%2Ffa%2Fafghanistan-185740&data=05%7C01%7Cfcsilp%40hfa.umass.edu%7C611947917d284e2fab4608dbdc776321%7C7bd08b0b33954dc194bbd0b2e56a497f%7C0%7C0%7C638346177594350912%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=j086FB6mQDDkvvbuVRpbWKycEIh1E7OzKhy2TyRC52w%3D&reserved=0)

**Vocab/grammar to discuss:**

* مقیم - Resident
* شورا - Council
* بازداشت - Arrest
* مهلت - Deadline
* دستور - Order
* تخلیه - Evacuation
* مدرک - Document/Certificate
* تجدیدنظر - Review/Reconsideration
* قاچاق - Smuggling
* چالش‌ها - Challenges
* گوناگون - Various

**Discussion questions & prompts:**

1. What are some of the causes of the mistreatment of Afghan migrants in Pakistan?
2. How should the Islamic Emirates be reacting to this situation? In what ways are they facilitating the return of the migrants (if at all)?
3. What are some challenges of a migrant family that has to restart a new life back in Afghanistan?
4. What's the UNHCR and other international organizations' reaction to this? What role can they play?

## WEEK 10

**Materials:**

* Article and video: [Concern about the worsening of Economic Situation in Afghanistan](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ftolonews.com%2Ffa%2Fbusiness-185961&data=05%7C01%7Cfcsilp%40hfa.umass.edu%7C128ccaa05bd8447ce7ee08dbe2031059%7C7bd08b0b33954dc194bbd0b2e56a497f%7C0%7C0%7C638352275009617837%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=RHu5Szf9fIRkUEYiGGb%2FTMAtLf2AHhwDs5TEmAg18uU%3D&reserved=0)

**Vocab/grammar to discuss:**

* ارشد - Senior
* ابراز - Express
* تشدید - Intensification
* تنگ‌دستی - Poverty
* تعاملات - Interactions
* تعزیرات - Penal Measures

**Discussion questions & prompts:**

1. What is the perspective of some economists regarding the impact of international sanctions on Afghanistan's economic challenges? Do you agree or disagree with this viewpoint?
2. To what extent are the measures being taken by the Islamic Emirate effective?
3. How do the economic sanctions affect the daily life of an Afghan citizen?
4. In what areas can Afghanistan increase its trade with other countries?

## WEEK 11

**Materials:**

* Article and video: [A review of the second part of UN general secretary's recommendation for Afghanistan](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ftolonews.com%2Ffa%2Fafghanistan-186032&data=05%7C01%7Cfcsilp%40hfa.umass.edu%7Cd94eafeb59db4d90c05d08dbe6df1e73%7C7bd08b0b33954dc194bbd0b2e56a497f%7C0%7C0%7C638357618189765035%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=E8zpQaeIZ8EYZbXUSz8MQwufSRRXNfY7XNXAYzQ9UYc%3D&reserved=0)

**Vocab/grammar to discuss:**

* توصیه‌ - Recommendation/advice
* دبیرکل - Secretary-General.
* ارزیابی - Evaluation
* برجسته - Prominent
* ادغام - Merger or integration.
* تهدید- Threat.
* پیکار - Struggle, pursue
* تامین - Provision
* منسجم‌تر - More cohesive
* تدریجی - Gradual.
* محوریت - Centrality
* چشم‌انداز - Perspective

**Discussion questions & prompts:**

1. How can Afghanistan better integrate itself into the international community? How does the question of legitimacy pose a problem in its reintegration?
2. What are some ways (if any) to ensure that Afghanistan's Soil is not used to attack or threaten other countries?
3. What should the current Afghan government do to prove/convince it is no longer a threat to any country of the globe?
4. In general, it's reported that drug trafficking has exponentially decreased in Afghanistan. Why does the UN report express concern about drug trafficking?

## WEEK 12: Review