Upper Intermediate Persian I  
ISLA 443/643 (D1) Fall 2021  
M-W 11:30-1:00 SH688 355  

Instructor:  
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Manya.saadinejad@mcgill.ca  
Office hours: By appointment through email  

Course Description  
In Upper Intermediate Persian, you will read authentic texts about Persian culture, history, geography, politics, arts, and other topics relevant to Iran. You will also read about different modern and classical poets and you will learn their canonical poems. In addition, you will learn various proverbs and their meanings and connotations. Students will strengthen their Persian language proficiency by participating in class discussions, reading classical and modern Persian prose and poetry, writing texts on different genres, and delivering presentations during the course of the semester. Each student will be assigned a Persian book to read for their final presentation and paper.  

Course Goal  
At the end of this course, you will have read a wide variety of classical and modern Persian poetry as well as different texts in various styles. Therefore, you will be able to read, write, understand and speak about a variety of literary, historical, cultural and other related topics with relative ease.  

Required Textbooks (You can get the eBook if you prefer)  

Recommended supplementary material  

Online 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


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 at Austin Persian: 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://sites.la.utexas.edu/persian_online_resources/

Persian verb conjugator: 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/


Persian online video resource: a good online resource for the beginning level. www.persianlanguageonline.com

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/
Persian Classical poetry: https://ganjoor.net
Persian audiobooks: http://ketabkhaneyegooya.blogspot.ca
http://libraryguides.mcgill.ca/iranianstudies/home

Evaluation

Your course grade will be calculated as follows.

30% Timely submission of all assignments
Each week, you will get 2/30 points for timely completion of the week’s assignment. Late or incomplete submission of assignments will cost you 50% of the grade.

30% Final oral interview with instructor
I will conduct a 15-20 minutes interview with each student during the last two weeks of the class. Each student will choose a time and day in consultation with the instructor for this interview. The topics will be the topics covered in the textbook.

20% Final paper
Each student will be assigned a Persian book to read for their final presentation and paper. By the last day of our class, each student has to post on myCourses the scan of a paper about the book and its author. The papers must be handwritten and 7-8 pages long.

20% Final oral presentation
Each student must give 20-30-minute presentation in class (date and topic to be determined with Instructor and can be about her or his final paper.) The oral presentation and the paper MUST NOT be exactly the same. You must try to be as fluent and as natural as possible in your presentation.

Things to do for online learning

1. You must read and listen to the audio file of the designated sections of each lesson on your own before the class so that during the class, you can ask your questions and practice your Persian.
2. Due to the nature of the course and its being a language course, you are strongly encouraged to attend the class.
3. All assignments must be posted on myCourses on the due day specified in the syllabus below. Please note that myCourses will automatically send all communications to your @mail.mcgill.ca email. Instructors are unable to change this setting.

5. The instructor is available throughout the semester to answer your questions; therefore, you can write your questions via email or you can ask an appointment with the instructor to ask your questions.

Copyright

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Course Schedule Fall 2020

*Note that there might be some changes to the following course schedule if required.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weeks</th>
<th>Textbook (Listen and read!)</th>
<th>Assignments due by the end of the week (Write!)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Lesson 1</td>
<td>Exercises of lesson 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 1</td>
<td>Text: Football</td>
<td>Pages 3, 4, 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Lesson 1</td>
<td>Exercises of lesson 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 6-8</td>
<td>Poet: Nima Yushij</td>
<td>Page 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Lesson 2</td>
<td>Exercises of lesson 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 13-15</td>
<td>Text: Darius the Great</td>
<td>Pages 10, 11, 12, 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Poet: Forugh Farrokhzad</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Proverb</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Lesson 3</td>
<td>Exercises of lesson 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 20-22</td>
<td>Text: Marriage in Tribal Societies</td>
<td>Pages 17, 18, 19, 20, 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Poet: Fereydoon Moshiri</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Proverb</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>Lesson 4</td>
<td>Exercises of lesson 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 27-29</td>
<td>Text: Marlik Hill</td>
<td>Pages 25, 26, 27, 28, 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Poet: Sohrab Sepehri</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Proverb</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>Lesson 5</td>
<td>Exercises of lesson 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 4-6</td>
<td>Text: Tehran</td>
<td>Pages 32, 33, 34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Lesson 5</td>
<td>Exercises of lesson 5</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Proverb</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Lesson 6</td>
<td>Exercises of lesson 6</td>
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</tbody>
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McGill Policy Statements

Academic Integrity:
“McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore, all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures” (see www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/ for more information). (Approved by Senate on 29 January 2003)

« L'université McGill attache une haute importance à l’honnêteté académique. Il incombe par conséquent à tous les étudiants de comprendre ce que l'on entend par tricherie, plagiat et autres infractions académiques, ainsi que les conséquences que peuvent avoir de telles actions, selon le Code de conduite de l'étudiant et des procédures disciplinaires (pour de plus amples renseignements, veuillez consulter le site www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/).»

Language of Submission:
“In accord with McGill University’s Charter of Students’ Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded.” (Approved by
Conformément à la Charte des droits de l’étudiant de l’Université McGill, chaque étudiant a le droit de soumettre en français ou en anglais tout travail écrit devant être noté (sauf dans le cas des cours dont l’un des objets est la maîtrise d’une langue). »