

**Advanced Urdu-Hindi 2:  
Urdu Prose, Urdu Poetry, and Urdu News Media  
Winter 2020**

Course Code: ISLA 554-001  
Hours: TR 10:05 am - 11:25 am  
Classroom: FERR 476

Instructor: Zahra Sabri  
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Office Hours: By appointment

**Objectives of the Course:**

Building on Introductory and Intermediate Urdu, this course will improve students' ability to speak, read, understand and write the Urdu language. Teaching involves in-class activities, conversation, and lessons, as well as homework exercises and assignments. By the end of the course students should have improved their speaking and writing ability as well as their ability to read and translate contemporary stories and passages in modern Urdu. Students will be familiarized with aspects of South Asian culture connected with the language, and will be exposed to Urdu poetry and film.

**Students with Disabilities:** If you have a disability, whether physical or mental (anxiety, depression, etc.) please do not hesitate to let me know in person or via email as soon as you can, and we will plan out a course of action. I strongly recommend getting in touch with the Office of Students with Disabilities.

**Grading Scheme:**

Participation	5%	<b>ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY.</b> Please attend class! Absentees without a valid excuse will be penalized 2% (subtracted from the participation mark) for each day of absence. Be punctual—if you are late to class I will use my discretion, and may subtract 0.25% from your participation mark. Ask as many questions as you can in class and feel free to come see me during my office hours, but please make a habit of raising your hand and do not distract other classmates (or the instructor).
Attendance	5%	See above. You will receive this mark just for showing up!
Homework	30%	The regular homework includes looking up vocabulary in advance for readings during class.

Late homework will be penalized according to the following scheme: 4 marks will be taken off on the first day, and 1 mark will

be subtracted for each subsequent day, including weekends.

Assignments 60% There will be eight assignments due at various points in the term.

### Participation Rubric:

For each class, students receive a participation mark of 0 to 5 on the basis of the following rubric:

0	0%	• Absent
1	35%	• Present but disruptive
2	55%	• Present, not disruptive, but unprepared
3	70%	• Present and showed some sign of preparation, yet could have prepared much better in the given time. Contributed to a moderate degree when called on, but could have voluntarily participated in the class discussion to a greater degree.
4	85%	• Demonstrated good preparation and made thoughtful comments about various aspects of the readings.
5	100%	• Demonstrated excellent preparation (came to class well-prepared and responded when called upon) and made thoughtful comments about various aspects of the readings. Attended classes punctually (was hardly ever late).

### Required Texts

- Naim, C.M. *Introductory Urdu (Volume Two)* [Chicago]: South Asia Language & Area Center, University of Chicago 1999.
- Sabri, Zahra. *Kūzah: Naye Likhāriyon Kī Kāvishon Kā Intikḥāb* [Karachi]: Oxford University Press Pakistan 2015.
- Manto, Sa‘adat Hasan. *Siyāh Hāshiye*.
- Bukhari, Patras. *Hāstal Meñ Parhnā*

### Films and TV shows

- Film – Deepa Mehta’s *1947: Earth* (1998)
- TV drama – *Be-Ḥadd* (2019)

(Recommended)

- TV series – Anurag Basu’s *Stories from Rabindranath Tagore* (2015) [available on Netflix]
- TV drama – Umera Ahmed and Sarmad Khoosat’s *Shehr-e-Zaat* (2012) [available on YouTube]
- Film – Sarmad Sehbai and Anjum Shehzad’s *Mah e Mir* (2016) [available on YouTube]
- TV drama – Umera Ahmed and Aabis Raza’s *Kankar* (2013) [available on YouTube]

## Dictionaries

Useful Urdu online dictionaries are listed here in order of quality and usefulness.

- Platts Dictionary

*You can search this through the use of nasta'liq, devanagari, or Roman. Some of the letters have been entered in old typographical forms, though, so words containing them may not easily show up through a search. Also, it's a classical dictionary and while it has the very best translations for most words, it does not include some more modern/technical vocabulary. A free Mobile App for this dictionary is also downloadable via Google Play.*

<https://dsalsrv04.uchicago.edu/dictionaries/platts/>

- Urdu Oxford Living Dictionaries

*This has very good Urdu-English translations and is quite up to date.*

<https://ur.oxforddictionaries.com/>

- Urdu English Dictionary

*You can search this for both English-Urdu translations and Urdu-English translations.*

<http://www.urduenglishdictionary.org/SearchUrduWord.html>

- Urdu Lughat

*This is a decent Urdu-Urdu dictionary.*

<http://urdulughat.info/>

- Urduban

*This dictionary also provides a useful Urdu-Urdu component.*

[https://www.urduban.com/dictionary/urdu\\_to\\_urdu](https://www.urduban.com/dictionary/urdu_to_urdu)

- Urdu Lughat (Tarikhi Usul Par)

*This is possibly the largest online Urdu-Urdu dictionary, and provides an audio pronunciation option.*

<http://udb.gov.pk/>

- ShabdKosh

*This is a good resource for those who want to search for words using devanagari. You can search through devanagari or English, and you should be able to find most mainstream Urdu words here.*

<http://shabdkosh.com/>

- Urdu Thesaurus

*This can be useful if you are searching for alternatives and equivalents to a particular Urdu word.*

<http://urduthesaurus.com/>

- Study Site

*This site offers extensive English-Urdu translations.*

<http://dictionary.studysite.org/english-to-urdu>

## Schedule

NB: This schedule is tentative and may change depending on the progress and needs of the class. Please pay close attention to myCourses, as well as in-class announcements and emails from your instructor.

### Fall 2019

Jan 7

Tuesday

#### Introduction and Reading

*Ghālib*, p. 158 (from Naim)

Jan 9

Thursday

#### Reading

*Ranjish Hī Sahī* by Ahmad “Faraz” (1931-2008)

Due: HW 1 (Prepare to read and discuss Faraz’s poem in class)

Jan 14

Tuesday

#### Reading

*Siyāh Ḥāshiye* by Sa‘adat Hasan Manto (1912-55)

Due: HW 2 (Prepare to read selected stories from *Siyāh Ḥāshiye* in class)

Jan 16

Thursday

#### Reading

*Siyāh Ḥāshiye*

Due: HW 3 (Prepare to read selected stories from *Siyāh Ḥāshiye* in class)

Jan 21

Tuesday

#### Reading

*Siyāh Ḥāshiye*

Due: HW 4 (Prepare to read selected stories from *Siyāh Ḥāshiye* in class)

#### After 6 pm [Special Class]

Film screening and discussion: *Earth 1947*

Jan 23

Thursday

#### Reading

*Hāṣṭal Meñ Paṛhnā* by Patras Bukhari (1898-1959)

Due: HW 5

- Prepare to read *Hāṣṭal Meñ Paṛhnā* in class
- Memorise and recite a *she‘r* from one of Faraz’s poems

Jan 28

Tuesday

#### Writing, Listening, and Conversation

##### ASSIGNMENT 1 and 2

- Present on an important historical event in South Asia
- Submit a short essay about themes relating to Partition as depicted in the film *Earth 1947* and the stories in *Siyāh Ḥāshiye*

- Jan 30  
Thursday  
**Reading, Listening, and Writing**  
*Hāṣṭal Meñ Paṛhnā*
- Due: HW 6
- Prepare to read *Hāṣṭal Meñ Paṛhnā* in class
  - Prepare a two-minute transcript for the television serial *Be-Ḥadd*
- Feb 4  
Tuesday  
**Reading**  
*Hāṣṭal Meñ Paṛhnā* by Patras Bukhari (1898-1959)
- Due: HW 7
- Prepare to read *Hāṣṭal Meñ Paṛhnā* in class
- Feb 6  
Thursday  
**Reading and Conversation**  
*Yih Nah Thī Hamārī Qismat Kih Wiṣāl-i Yār Hotā* by Mirza “Ghalib” (1797-1869)
- Due: HW 7 (Prepare to read and discuss this poem in class)
- Feb 11  
Tuesday  
**Reading and Conversation**  
*Hāṣṭal Meñ Paṛhnā*
- Due: HW 8
- Prepare to read and discuss *Hāṣṭal Meñ Paṛhnā* in class
  - Memorise and recite a *she ‘r* from Ghalib’s poem
  - Prepare a two-minute transcript for the television serial *Be-Ḥadd*
- Feb 13  
Thursday  
**Listening and Conversation**
- ASSIGNMENT 3** (Make a presentation relating to the film *Be-ḥadd*)
- Film Songs:  
*Zindagī Ke Safar Meñ*  
*Yih Tere Pyār Kā Gham*
- Feb 18  
Tuesday  
**Reading**  
Poems on the theme of Eid
- ASSIGNMENT 4** (Write a brief essay on the story *Hāṣṭal Meñ Paṛhnā*)
- Feb 20  
Thursday  
**Reading**  
Poems on the theme of Eid and Diwali
- Due: HW 10 (Memorise and recite one of the *she ‘r* on the theme of Eid)
- Feb 25  
**Reading**

- Tuesday News Module
- Due: HW 10 (Memorise and recite one of the *she'r* on the theme of Diwali)
- ASSIGNMENT 5** (Write a letter to a friend about your dorm life)
- Feb 27 **Reading**  
Thursday *Yū Daim Sālā* by Na'im Beg, p. 165-8 (from Sabri)
- Due: HW 15 (Prepare to read *Yū Daim Sālā* in class)
- Mar 2-6 **STUDY BREAK**  
Monday-Friday
- Mar 10 **Listening and Conversation**  
Tuesday
- ASSIGNMENT 6** – Presentations  
Act like a television news reader and present headlines from all over the world
- Due: HW 17 (Prepare to finish reading *Yū Daim Sālā* in class)
- Mar 12 **Reading**  
Thursday *Nām o Nasab* by Ali Akbar Natiq  
*Shī'ah 'Auraton Kā Gīt*
- Due: HW 18 (Prepare to read and discuss these poems in class)
- Mar 17 **Reading**  
Tuesday *Ṭāqat-war Hukm-rān Aur Gharīb 'Awām* by Kamran Shams, p. 130-33  
(from Sabri)
- Due: HW 20 (Prepare to read *Ṭāqat-war Huk-mrān...* in class)
- Mar 19 **CLASS RESCHEDULED**  
Thursday
- Mar 24 **Reading**  
Tuesday *Lā ī Hayāt Ā'e Qazā Le Chalī Chale* by Shaikh Muhammad Ibrahim "Zauq"  
(1789-1854)  
*Aṣar Us Ko Žarā Nahīn Hotā* by Hakim Momin Khan "Momin" (1800-52)
- Due: HW 22 (Prepare to read these poems in class)
- ASSIGNMENT 7** (Write a brief essay on theme of corruption and *Ṭāqat-war Hukm-rān...*)

Mar 26  
Thursday **CLASS RESCHEDULED**

Mar 31  
Tuesday **Reading and Listening**  
*Hamāre Ghar Meñ Bhī Yaum-i Huqūq-i Niswān Manāyā Gayā* by Hooriyah Gul, p. 47-50 (from Sabri)

Due: HW 18 (Prepare to read *Hamāre Ghar Meñ Bhī...* in class)

Apr 2  
Thursday **Reading**  
*Bunyādi Jamhūriyateñ*, p. 224 (from Naim)

Apr 7  
Tuesday **Reading**  
*Hairān Hujūm-i Rang Meñ Yih Chashm Kab Se Hai* by Parveen Shakir (1952-94)  
*Ek Udās Nazm*  
*Gorī Karat Singhār*

Apr 9  
Thursday **Reading**  
Poetry and letter by Ghalib

**ASSIGNMENT 8** (Recite one of the poems we studied in class with proper expression)

*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/](http://www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/) for more information).*

*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. / 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).*

*Instructor generated course materials (e.g., handouts, notes, summaries, exam questions, etc.) are protected by law and may not be copied or distributed in any form or in any medium without explicit permission of the instructor. Note that infringements of copyright can be subject to follow up by the University under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures.*

*If you have a disability please contact the instructor to arrange a time to discuss your situation. It would be helpful if you contact the Office for Students with Disabilities at 514-398-6009 before you do this.*