



McGill

Institute of
Islamic Studies

Institut
d'études islamiques

Lower Intermediate Persian

ISLA 342/642 (01) D2

Winter 2022

M-W 1:05- 2:25pm

Instructor:

Dr. Manya Saadi nejad

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Office hours: By appointment through email

TA:

Mr. Behzad Borhan

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Course Description

In this semester, you will be exposed to different authentic texts. Every week, you will read a short text on a variety of topics. In order to internalize the new vocabulary and structure, you will do different exercises on the text. Grammatical points covered last year will be repeated in Persian in this level. Try to read them and reinforce the structures you learned in the first year.

In addition, every week, you will be familiarized with a different topic that is discussed in the media. You will be given the specific words and expressions used in that topic, and you will use them in language usage exercises following the vocabulary. Persian language and Persian literature are closely tied; therefore, you will be introduced to different modern and classical prose and poetry at this level. In addition, you will learn morphological, semantic and syntactic complexities of the Persian language. You will be involved in different tasks and exercises to acquire these complexities. Various cultural themes will be discussed in the photo captions at the end of each unit. **You are encouraged to listen to the audio file of the book, which is available for free in the Routledge website and includes all the texts in each lesson.**

Each student will be assigned a Persian book to read for their paper. At the end of the semester, you will give a presentation and write a paper on your assigned book as well as on the peripheral information about it.

Like last semester, this semester, the TA will hold conversation hours for you to practice your speaking in smaller groups. You are strongly encouraged to attend at least two of those sessions per week. These hours will be flexible to accommodate all of you.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of this yearlong intermediate course, you will have read a wide variety of classical and modern Persian texts both in prose and poetry. Therefore, you will be able to read, write, understand and speak about a variety of literary, historical, cultural and journalistic topics with relative ease.

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

Brookshaw, D. & Shabani-Jadidi, P. (2012). *The Routledge Intermediate Persian Course: Farsi Shirin Ast II*. Routledge. Taylor & Francis Group. London & New York.

- The audio recordings of all the lessons are available for free in the following website:
Companion website: <https://www.routledge.com/The-Routledge-Intermediate-Persian-Course-Farsi-Shirin-Ast-Book-Two/Brookshaw-Shabani-Jadidi/p/book/9780415691376>

Dictionary

Dehghani, Y. (2006). *Persian-English English-Persian Learner's Dictionary*. Ibex Publishers, Bethesda, MD.

Online Dictionaries and Resources

<http://www.farsidic.com/> (English-Persian and Persian-English dictionary)

<https://www.vajehyab.com> (Persian-Persian dictionary)

<http://www.omniglot.com/writing/persian.htm> (good resource for useful Persian-related links)

http://sites.la.utexas.edu/persian_online_resources/ (good online resource for grammar and quizzes)

<http://libraryguides.mcgill.ca/islamiclanguages/persian> (good resource available at our own library)

<http://libraryguides.mcgill.ca/iranianstudies/home> (good resource available at our own library)

Online Audio Books: (Great resource to practice listening and pronunciation)

<http://ketabkhaneyegoova.blogspot.ca>

Online Persian Poetry: (Great resource to enjoy a variety of classical and modern Persian poetry with audio and definitions)

<http://ganjoor.net>

Evaluation

Your course grade will be calculated as follows. Each semester is worth 50% of your final grade since it is a year-long course.

15% Attendance and Participation

Attendance and **active** participation in class discussions; readings **must** be done prior to class, in their entirety—failure to do so will result in a reduction of grade.

10% Timely submission of all assignments

Each week, you will get 1/15 point for timely completion of the week's assignment. Late or incomplete submissions will not be corrected and marked. Every week, you have until

Saturday midnight to submit your weekly assignments. You must write down both the questions and your answers. Do not photocopy the pages and simply fill in the blanks.

5% Participating in conversation hours held weekly by the TA

You are strongly encouraged to participate at least two sessions per week. The TA will evaluate your speaking ability at the end of the semester and send me your grade.

10% Final paper

By the last day of our class, you must submit through myCourses a paper about a Persian book and the peripheral information about the book and the author. The papers must be typed, double spaced, and 4-5 pages long.

10% Class Presentation

Each student must give a 10-minutes presentation in class (date/topic to be determined with Instructor). Students will be allowed to use visual material during their presentations.

Things to do for your class:

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 all classes.
4. All assignments must be posted in 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 for an appointment with the instructor to ask your questions.

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Winter 2021 Syllabus

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

Weeks	Textbook (Listen and read!)	Weekly assignments due by Saturday Midnight (Write!)
Week 1 Jan 5	Lesson 9: How many of Iran's provinces do you know?	Exercises of lesson 9 Vocabulary + Structure
Week 2 Jan 10-12	Lesson 9: How many of Iran's provinces do you know?	Exercises of lesson 9 News + Let's know Iran essay
Week 3 Jan 17-19	Lesson 10: What is mourning?	Exercises of lesson 10 Vocabulary + Structure
Week 4 Jan 24-26	Lesson 10: What is mourning?	Exercises of lesson 10 News + Let's know Iran essay
Week 5 Jan 31-Feb 2	Lesson 11: Who is your favourite poet?	Exercises of lesson 11 Vocabulary + Structure
Week 6 Feb 7-9	Lesson 11: Who is your favourite poet?	Exercises of lesson 11 News + Let's know Iran essay
Week 7 Feb 14-16	Lesson 12: What are the main characteristics of people's clothing in your country?	Exercises of lesson 12 Vocabulary + Structure
Week 8 Feb 21-23	Lesson 12: What are the main characteristics of people's clothing in your country?	Exercises of lesson 12 News + Let's know Iran essay
Week 9 Feb 28-	Winter Reading Break	
Week 10 March 7-9	Lesson 13: What day of the year is New Year's Day in Iran?	Exercises of lesson 13 Vocabulary + Structure
Week 11 March 14-16	Lesson 13: What day of the year is New Year's Day in Iran?	Exercises of lesson 13 News + Let's know Iran essay
Week 12 March 21-23	Lesson 14: Can natural disasters be prevented? In-class Nowruz Celebration	Exercises of lesson 14 Vocabulary + Structure
Week 13 March 28- 30	Lesson 14: Can natural disasters be prevented?	Exercises of lesson 14 News + Let's know Iran essay
Week 14 April 4-6	Lesson 15: What do you know about Islam?	Exercises of lesson 15 Vocabulary + Structure
Week 15 April 11	Lesson 15: What do you know about Islam?	Exercises of lesson 15 News + Let's know Iran essay Final Papers due

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 Senate on 21 January 2009 - see also the section in this document on Assignments and Evaluation.)*

« 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). »