## **Course and Contact Information**

Course: Lower Intermediate Persian, ISLA 542 D1, 3 Credits

Semester: Fall 2018

Meeting time: MWF 10:35-11:25

Location: MOR 328

## Instructor

Name: Pouneh Shabani-Jadidi

Email: Pouneh.shabani-jadidi@mcgill.ca Office Hour: M 12:30-1:30

## TA

Name: Sajjad Nikfahm Khubravan

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## **COURSE INFORMATION**

## **Course Description**

In ISLA 542 D1, you will be exposed to

# **Learning Outcomes**

At the end of this yearlong intermediate course (ISLA 542 D1 & ISLA 542 D2),

## Week 2 Sep 10-12-14

# Advanced vocabulary building/Writing

Lesson 1: Which sport are you interested in?

disadvantages of living

Let's know more: Fereydun Moshiri

in the capital?

Reading/Writing

Let's get to know Iran better: Motorway

**Speaking** 

Fereydun Moshiri and his works

Moniru Ravanipur and her works

How is the traffic different in Iran and in

your country?

What can be done to decrease air

pollution?

What is Tehran famous for?

How did the "imposed war" affect Iran?

Lesson 6: W

Lesson 7: What do you	Reading/Writing		
do to protect the	Let's get to know Iran better: Fire temple		
environment?	Speaking		
	What do you know about Iran's		
	geography?		
	Simin Daneshvar and her works		
Week 13	Language use and usage		
Nov 26-28-30	Vocabulary and Structure Exercises		
Lesson 8: What do	Grammar: compound adjectives		
commercial centers	Reading		
look like in your	comprehension/Translation/Writing		
country?	Text: Bazaar		
	Advanced vocabulary building/Writing		
	Media Persian: Trade and industry		
	Colloquial/literary Persian		
	Sadeq Hedayat, The darkroom		
	Reading		
	comprehension/Translation/Writing		
	Let's know more: The folklore of the		
	people of Iran		
	Reading/Writing		
	Let's get to know Iran better: Traditional		
	marketplace		
	Speaking		
	Sadeq Hedayat and his works		
	What do you know about Persian		
	folklore?		
	Describe a traditional market place.		
	How is the traditional market place		
	different from the modern one?		
	Why is fire important in Zoroastrianism?		
	What are some imports and exports of		
	Iran?		
Week 14	Presentations and papers due		

Dec 3-4	
(Tuesday, Dec 4 is a	
Monday schedule.)	

## **CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT**

# **Course organization**

Students can expect to be informally assessed on a weekly basi

#### **DETAILS OF GRADING**

#### 10% Attendance and active participation

You will get the full mark if you do not miss more than 1 class and have active participation in every class.

#### 10% Timely submission of all assignments

You will be given full mark if you submit all the assignments required by the instructor, regardless of the number of mistakes you make. Making mistakes is a very important component of language learning and the best way for the instructor to know your problems and to help you overcome them. Therefore, avoid using Google translate or other methods of this kind. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to consult with one of your classmates and to ask what the assignment is. You must hand it your assignment the following session after your absence.

#### 10% Ouizzes

You will write 3 quizzes during this semester, one after every two lessons. The dates are marked in the syllabus. Your lowest quiz grade will not be counted.

#### 20% Midterm exam

The midterm exam of the fall semester is from lessons 1-4 inclusively. All the sections of the exam include seen texts in the textbook. There are no surprises! The exam has 6 sections: 1-2) one English-Persian and one Persian-English translation of "reading texts" at the beginning of each lesson or the poem or text in the "Let's know more" or the text in some of the "Let's get to know Iran better", 3) one Persian-English translation of the literature excerpt in each lesson, 4-5) one series of English-Persian and one series of Persian-English translation of media sentences contained in each lesson, 6) essay writing (the topics are selected from the titles of the texts in the lesson, you are going to choose one out of the two topics given to write your essay). Please review your exam paper several times before handing it over.

#### 10% Oral exam with the TA

You need to participate in conversation sessions 2 hours per week led by the TA. In week 14, there will be individual oral exams of the topics covered in conversation sessions.

#### 10% Final presentation

You will be given a Persian book to read and to do an extensive library and online research about the text, its author, and other works of the author. No notes are allowed. Full mark will be given to natural and fluid presentations regardless of the number of difficult words you use. Therefore, try to understand your paper and speak in your own words with whatever vocabulary you have acquired at that level.

## 10% Final paper

On the day of your presentation, you must hand in your paper that is based on the book you read and your evaluation and criticism of it. The papers must be handwritten and 4-5 pages long. You will get the full mark if your paper does not contain too many mistakes (some mistake

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.)

**Vajehyab Online Persian-Persian Dictionary:** a great resource for pronunciation, definitions and authentic examples from classical and modern Persian literature. <a href="https://www.vajehyab.com">https://www.vajehyab.com</a>

#### **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 writing resource:**