

## **ALI 325: Introduction to Persian (Level 1)**

Fall 2015: Sep 12 – Oct 17

2:00 – 3:30 pm

MARC library, 9000 Bathurst Street, Thornhill, ON L4J 8A7.

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### **DESCRIPTION**

In this course, you will learn how to combine Persian alphabets in writing and in pronunciation. The first lesson will end with a simple dialogue on greeting, introducing yourself and leave-taking expressions. In the remaining weeks, you will learn the vocabulary and grammatical structures needed to communicate in simple dialogues, to read simple texts, and to write simple paragraphs. You will also learn colloquial Persian through simple dialogues at the end of each unit. The dialogues, sample examples, reading texts, and photo captions are all designed such that you will be familiar with the Persian culture and literature. You are encouraged to listen to the audio file of the book, which is available for free in the Routledge website. 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. Every week, you will also be familiarized with a topic related to the Iranian culture. You will be given different words and expressions used in that topic, and you will use them in the fill-in-the-blank exercises following the vocabulary. In addition, various cultural themes will be discussed in the photo captions at the beginning of each unit. You are encouraged to listen to the audio file of the book, which includes the vocabulary, dialogues, texts, and photo captions in every unit.

At the end of this year-long introductory course, you will have covered all the basic principles of Persian grammar and a good scope of vocabulary to enable you to read and write simple texts in Persian. You will also be able to understand and speak about everyday topics and cultural themes.

### **Textbook (available at ALI bookstore)**

Shabani-Jadidi, P. & Brookshaw, D. (2010). *The Routledge Introductory Persian Course: Farsi Shirin Ast 1*. Routledge. Taylor & Francis Group. London & New York.

The audio recordings of all the lessons are available for free in the following website:

Companion website: [www.routledge.com/books/Introductory-Persian-Course](http://www.routledge.com/books/Introductory-Persian-Course)

### **Recommended grammar books**

1. Yousef, S. & Torabi, H. *Basic Persian: a Grammar and Workbook*. Routledge. Taylor & Francis Group. London & New York, 2012.
2. Tackston, Wheeler. *An Introduction to Persian, Revised 4th Edition*. Bethesda, Md.: Ibex Pub, 2009.

### **Recommended dictionaries:**

1. Dehghani, Yavar. *Persian-English English-Persian learner's dictionary: a dictionary for English speakers studying Persian (Farsi/Dari)*. Bethesda, MD: Ibex Publishers, 2008.
2. The combined new Persian-English and English-Persian dictionary, Abbas Aryanpur Kashani and Manoochehr Aryanpur Kashani. Lexington, Ky., USA : Mazda Publishers, 1986.
3. A comprehensive Persian-English dictionary, Steingass. Asian Educational Services, 1992.

### **Online Dictionaries:**

<http://dsal.uchicago.edu/dictionaries/steingass/>

<http://www.aryanpour.com/>

<http://www.farsidic.com/>

<http://www.math.columbia.edu/~safari/masood/cgi-bin/>

<http://www.loghatnaameh.org/> (Persian-Persian)

## Fall 2015 Syllabus

Weeks	Textbook	Additional
<b>Week 01: Sep 12</b>  Lesson 1: The Persian Alphabet	<b>Reading/Writing</b> Transliteration and the Persian Alphabet  <b>Pronunciation</b> Persian Phonology <b>Writing</b> Spelling hints Writing the Alphabet  <b>Reading/Writing</b> Colloquial dialogue: Getting to know someone  <b>Speaking</b> Pronunciation of Persian sounds	<b>Additional practice</b> spelling practice pronunciation practice
<b>Week 02: Sep 19</b>  Lesson 2: Introduce yourself. Where are you from?	<b>Language use and usage</b> Vocabulary building Grammar: to be/to have, <i>ezafe</i> <b>Reading/Writing</b> Formal dialogue: Accent Colloquial dialogue: Introducing yourself  <b>Speaking</b> Introducing yourself What do you do? Where are you from?	<b>Additional practice</b> sentence-making practice translation practice
<b>Sep 26 No class due to Eid al-Adhā</b>		
<b>Week 03: Oct 03</b>  Lesson 3: Is Iran or Canada larger?	<b>Language use and usage</b> Vocabulary building Grammar: negation and adjectives, comparative and superlative  <b>Reading/Writing</b> Formal dialogue: The new professor Colloquial dialogue: Asking for directions Text: Canada and Iran  <b>Speaking</b> Asking for address Where are you from? Compare ... and ....	<b>Additional practice</b> sentence-making practice translation practice

<p><b>Week 04: Oct 10</b></p> <p>Lesson 4: How many provinces does Iran have?</p>	<p><b>Language use and usage</b></p> <p>Vocabulary building</p> <p>Grammar: subjective, objective and possessive pronouns; word order in Persian</p> <p><b>Reading comprehension/Translation/Writing</b></p> <p>Text: Gilan</p>	<p><b>Additional practice</b></p> <p>sentence-making practice</p> <p>translation practice</p> <p>short paragraph writing practice</p>
<p><b>Week 05: Oct 17</b></p> <p>Lesson 4: How many provinces does Iran have?</p>	<p><b>Reading/Writing</b></p> <p>Formal dialogue: Gilan province</p> <p>Colloquial dialogue: At the bank</p> <p><b>Speaking</b></p> <p>Provinces of Iran</p> <p>Bank</p>	<p><b>Additional practice</b></p> <p>sentence-making practice</p> <p>translation practice</p> <p>short paragraph writing practice</p>
<p><b>Week 06: Oct 24</b></p> <p>Lesson 5: What do you know about Noruz?</p>	<p><b>Language use and usage</b></p> <p>Vocabulary building</p> <p>Grammar: sentences; numbers; time expressions</p> <p><b>Reading comprehension/Translation/Writing</b></p> <p>Text: New Year</p>	<p><b>Additional practice</b></p> <p>sentence-making practice</p> <p>translation practice</p> <p>short paragraph writing practice</p>
<p><b>Week 07: Oct 31</b></p> <p>Lesson 5: What do you know about Noruz?</p>	<p><b>Reading/Writing</b></p> <p>Formal dialogue: Noruz</p> <p>Colloquial dialogue: At the cinema</p> <p><b>Speaking</b></p> <p>How do you celebrate the new year?</p> <p>Going to the cinema</p>	<p><b>Additional practice</b></p> <p>sentence-making practice</p> <p>translation practice</p> <p>short paragraph writing practice</p>
<p><b>Week 08: Nov 07</b></p> <p>Lesson 6: What day is the weekend in Iran?</p>	<p><b>Language use and usage</b></p> <p>Vocabulary building</p> <p>Grammar: verbs: past, present, future</p> <p><b>Reading comprehension/Translation/Writing</b></p> <p>Text: The days of the week</p>	<p><b>Additional practice</b></p> <p>sentence-making practice</p> <p>translation practice</p> <p>paragraph writing practice</p>
<p><b>Week 09: Nov 14</b></p> <p>Lesson 6: What day is the weekend in Iran?</p>	<p><b>Reading/Writing</b></p> <p>Formal dialogue: Friday</p> <p>Colloquial dialogue: At the grocer's</p> <p><b>Speaking</b></p>	<p><b>Additional practice</b></p> <p>sentence-making practice</p> <p>translation practice</p> <p>paragraph writing practice</p>

	<p>Days of the week</p> <p>What is your typical day?</p> <p>Grocery shopping</p>	
<p><b>Week 10: Nov 21</b></p> <p>Lesson 7: What is your favourite sport?</p>	<p><b>Language use and usage</b></p> <p>Vocabulary building</p> <p>Grammar: subjunctive, imperative</p> <p><b>Reading</b></p> <p><b>comprehension/Translation/Writing</b></p> <p>Text: Sports</p>	<p><b>Additional practice</b></p> <p>sentence-making practice</p> <p>translation practice</p> <p>paragraph writing practice</p>
<p><b>Week 11: Nov 28</b></p> <p>Lesson 7: What is your favourite sport?</p>	<p><b>Reading/Writing</b></p> <p>Formal dialogue: Football</p> <p>Colloquial dialogue: Sightseeing</p> <p><b>Speaking</b></p> <p>What sport do you do?</p> <p>Sightseeing in Iran</p>	<p><b>Additional practice</b></p> <p>sentence-making practice</p> <p>translation practice</p> <p>short essay writing practice</p>
<p><b>Week 12: Dec 05</b></p> <p>Lesson 8: Do you haggle?</p>	<p><b>Language use and usage</b></p> <p>Vocabulary building</p> <p>Grammar: tenses, verb review</p> <p><b>Reading</b></p> <p><b>comprehension/Translation/Writing</b></p> <p>Text: Haggling</p>	<p><b>Additional practice</b></p> <p>sentence-making practice</p> <p>translation practice</p> <p>short essay writing practice</p>
<p><b>Week 13: Dec 12</b></p> <p>Lesson 8: Do you haggle?</p>	<p><b>Reading/Writing</b></p> <p>Formal dialogue: The Mountain</p> <p>Colloquial dialogue: In the summer</p> <p><b>Speaking</b></p> <p>Do you haggle?</p> <p>What are your hobbies?</p> <p>What do you do in the summer?</p>	<p><b>Oral presentations</b></p>
<p><b>Week 14: Dec 19</b></p> <p>Lesson 9: What do you believe in?</p>	<p><b>Language use and usage</b></p> <p>Vocabulary building Grammar: nouns, numericals, determiners, demonstratives, definite and indefinite markers</p> <p><b>Reading</b></p> <p><b>comprehension/Translation/Writing</b></p> <p>Text: Religion</p>	<p><b>Oral presentations</b></p>