

Advanced Persian I - IRAN 320 / MDES 320 - Section 41533R
Class meets on: MTWTh, 9:00-9:50 am
Class location: VKC 103
Course web: <http://dornsife.usc.edu/persian>

Instructor: Peyman Nojournian
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Course Description & Learning Objectives:

Advanced Persian I (IRAN 320/MDES 320) is an advanced and upper division course designed to develop advanced language skills in listening, speaking, writing and reading comprehension. The objectives of the course are to help students:

- read texts of advanced level difficulty and communicate in Persian on a variety of topics
- write complex and cohesive essays
- develop cultural awareness through additional readings, movies and class discussions
- identify important information in an advanced discourse (what, who, where, when, why, how)
- give a full description of an event, location, object or case
- find similarities and differences and analyze discourse
- write a gist and synthesize information to build a cohesive and logical summary or report

The Minor in Iranian Studies:

This is an upper division course and counts towards the Minor in Iranian Studies. Students are required to do five courses for the minor including Persian-IV (IRAN 250/MDES 250), Advanced Persian-I (IRAN 320/MDES 320) and Advanced Persian-II (IRAN 350/MDES 350).

Evaluation:

The final grade will be calculated according to the following grading breakdown:

Item	Percentage	Notes
Participation	10%	Participation is crucial in this course. Also read the attendance policy carefully.
Assignments	20%	Listen to your audio book chapters and summarize a chapter per week, email it Sunday nights.
Paper	40%	Choose a topic before the recess. Write an article in 5 pages. Marking rubric will be provided.
Final Exam	30%	Monday December 15, 2014; 11-12 pm

Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems

Academic Conduct: Plagiarism - presenting someone else's ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in *SCampus* in Section 11, *Behavior Violating University Standards* <https://scampus.usc.edu/1100-behavior-violating-university-standards-and-appropriate-sanctions/>. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in *SCampus* and university policies on scientific misconduct, <http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct/>.

Discrimination, sexual assault, and harassment are not tolerated by the university. You are encouraged to report any incidents to the *Office of Equity and Diversity* <http://equity.usc.edu/> or to the *Department of Public Safety* <http://capsnet.usc.edu/department/departement-public-safety/online-forms/contact-us>. This is important for the safety whole USC community. Another member of the university community – such as a friend, classmate, advisor, or faculty member – can help initiate the report, or can initiate the report on behalf of another person. *The Center for Women and Men* <http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/cwm/> provides 24/7 confidential support, and the sexual assault resource center webpage sarc@usc.edu describes reporting options and other resources.

Support Systems: A number of USC's schools provide support for students who need help with scholarly writing. Check with your advisor or program staff to find out more. Students whose primary language is not English should check with the *American Language Institute* <http://dornsife.usc.edu/ali>, which sponsors courses and workshops specifically for international graduate students. *The Office of Disability Services and Programs* http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home_index.html provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange the relevant accommodations. If an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible, *USC Emergency Information* <http://emergency.usc.edu/> will provide safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued by means of blackboard, teleconferencing, and other technology.

Attendance Policy

Regular and prompt attendance is mandatory and will be reflected in students' participation grade. Language learning classes are highly interactive with a lot of class activities, assignments, etc. This means that regular attendance and active participation in the class discussions are needed to get the most out of the course. Absent students are responsible for obtaining missing information from instructor or other students.

Policy on Usage of Electronic Devices & Food in Class

All electronic devices including cell phones, smart phones, laptops and etc. should be turned off in class. Please refrain from eating food and drinking soda in class in observation of others.

Textbook

- *Advanced Persian I*, Peyman Nojournian. The course pack will be provided to you by the instructor.
- Web-based A/V instructional materials will be provided to the students by the instructor.

Supplementary Materials

Each textbook module contains lexicon at the end of the unit. However, students are able to install a Web App at the following link to access an online Elementary Learner's Dictionary: <http://m.teachmepersian.com/>

Grading

Advanced Persian I (IRAN 320/MDES 320) will be graded based on the following scales:

Point	Percent	Letter Grade	Point	Percent	Letter Grade
4.0	93-100 %	A	2.0	73-77.99 %	C
3.7	90-92.99 %	A-	1.7	70-72.99 %	C-
3.3	87-89.99 %	B+	1.3	67-69.99 %	D+
3.0	83-86.99 %	B	1.0	63-66.99 %	D
2.7	80-82.99 %	B-	0.7	60-62.99 %	D-
2.3	77-79.99 %	C+	0.0	Below 60%	F

Advanced Persian I (IRAN 320/MDES 320) – Tentative Course Schedule							
W	Dates	Textbook	Tasks	Themes	Form	Cultural component	Assignment
1	Aug 25- Aug 28	Reading	Identifying important information in a text	An introduction to the history of Iran	Description	Iranian History	In-class
2	Sep 01- Sep 04	Module 1	Identify 5Ws, analyze discourse	Iran's relation with Tajikistan	Identification	International Relations	Book chapter1
3	Sep 08- Sep 11	Module 2	Analyze important information	Iran's relation with UAE	Analysis	IR	Book chapter2
4	Sep 15- Sep 18	Module 3	Find out similarities and differences	Iran's relation with Iraq	Case Analysis	IR	Book chapter3
5	Sep 22- Sep 25	Module 4	Express positive and negative opinions, support ideas	Iran's relation with Afghanistan	Express opinion	IR	Book chapter4
6	Sep 29- Oct 02	Module 5	Summarize an article using 5Ws and analysis information	Iran's relation with Pakistan	Summarizing	IR	Book chapter5
7	Oct 06- Oct 09	Module 6	Report on a news article using 5Ws and analysis information	Iran's relation with Saudi Arabia	Reporting	IR	Book chapter6
8	Oct 13- Oct 16	Module 7	Debate on a controversial topic	Foreign immigration to Iran	Debating	Foreign Immigration	Read new book
9	Oct 20- Oct 23	Module 8	Discern facts from opinions, finding bias opinions	Iranian Economy, U.S. sanctions	Express opinion	Current state of economy	Book chapter2
10	Oct 27- Oct 30	Module 9	Synthesizing information, analysis and writing reports	Corruption in economy	Report	Current state of economy	Book chapter3
11	Nov 03- Nov 05	Module 10	Translation and analysis	Iranian constitution, privatization	Case analysis	Constitution	Book chapter4
12	Nov 05- Nov 08	Module 11	Writing an analysis type of essay, writing a report	Inflation, and poverty	Case analysis	Social issues	Book chapter5
13	Nov 10- Nov 13	Module 12	Read/listen to a case and analyze it	Current Iranian political affairs	Case analysis	Political status	Book chapter6
14 15	Nov 17- Nov 25	Module 13	Read and write a summary Nov 22 - Break	Persian literature and poetry	Summarizing, analysis	Literature	In-class
16	Dec 01- Dec 04	Papers	Paper Presentations, Q & A				
	Dec 10	Final					