

Persian-II (IRAN 150) - Section 41508R
Class meets on: MTWTh, 11:00-11:50 AM
Class location: VKC 108
Course web: <http://dornsife.usc.edu/mesp>

Instructor: Peyman Nojournian
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Office hours: 1-1:50 PM, T&Th / by appointment
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Course Description:

Persian-II (IRAN 150) continues Elementary Persian-I (IRAN 120) and is designed to further develop your basic Persian language proficiency and improve listening, speaking, reading and writing skills.

Learning Objectives: At the end of this course, students who actively participate and complete all assigned work will be able to:

- Communicate and converse in Persian on familiar topics such as health, family, friends, and education using simple and short sentences
- Read texts on familiar topics, extract information from the text, and make inferences using this information
- Write simple and accurate sentences on familiar topics, using Persian script
- Listen to oral texts such as simple dialogues and find the important information
- Listen to and follow simple instructions
- Demonstrate cultural awareness of Persian traditions through class discussions
- Perform the functions learned in Persian-I and add the following: follow simple instructions, navigate through a map, describe daily routines, seek medical help, and ask and answer simple, open-ended questions on familiar topics

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

Item	Grade	Notes
Active Participation	10%	Full grade is for no unexcused absence and active participation. Active participation means being engaged in oral speaking and other communicative activities during the class time. Your oral performance is assessed through class activities. Absences may only be excused by Dean or Health Center. Using any kind of electronics or phones in class will be considered a class violation rule and reduces this grade by two points.
Assignments & Quizzes	10%	Homework assignments will be checked at the end of each unit. Late assignments will receive partial grade (-10%).
PIXTON Project	20%	A comic strip project; due on the last week of the classes. See the rubric.
Mid-Term Exam	30%	Written exam on the second week of March. Unit 8 to the end of unit 11 will be in the mid-term.
Final Exam	30%	Written exam on Wednesday, May 6 th , 2020, 11:00 AM.
Total	100%	

PIXTON Project: Students will work on a role-play comic strip project through <http://www.pixton.com/>. Projects should display at least a minimum of 9 slide panels, containing speech bubbles that have been typed and recorded (dubbed) in Persian. The scenario can be on handling a simple social interaction or narration of a past event.

PIXTON Grading Rubric	Points
Scenario: interesting and funny role-play comic-strip on handling a simple social interaction or narration of an event.	20%
Story board: at least 9 panels and 2-3 characters	20%
Typed speech bubbles: typed with accurate Persian spelling (using Unicode)	20%
Oral assessment: recorded speech bubbles: acted in Persian voice with accurate intonation	20%
Teamwork: active collaboration in pairs or teams	20%
Total	100%

Written Assignment Grading Rubric

Written assignments are in the textbook and will be graded based on the following criteria:

Grading Rubric	Points
Grammatical Errors: each grammatical error reduces the grade by -1 points.	25
Meaning Errors: each inappropriate usage of vocabulary reduces the grade by -1 points.	25
Spelling Errors: each spelling error reduces the grade by -0.5 points.	25
Quality of Writing: it clearly states concepts in simple and accurate sentences. The amount of writing is appropriate for the task.	25
Total	100

Spelling quiz grading rubric

After each unit is finished, there will be a spelling quiz on new vocabulary identified in the book with a picture.

Quizzes have 20 to 40 words for 20-40 points. Each spelling error, even one letter, will reduce the point by -1. Spelling quiz dates have been identified in the course schedule in the next page. The quiz will be done at the beginning of the class for 15 minutes. Students who missed the quiz because of an excused absence should contact the instructor to arrange a make up quiz.

Attendance Policy

Regular and prompt attendance is mandatory and will be reflected in students' participation grade. 10 minutes late is considered an absence. 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.

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 Part B, Section 11, “Behavior Violating University Standards” policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in SCampus and university policies on scientific misconduct, policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct.

Support Systems:

Counseling and Mental Health - (213) 740-9355 – 24/7 on call

studenthealth.usc.edu/counseling

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline - 1 (800) 273-8255 – 24/7 on call

suicidpreventionlifeline.org

Free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP) - (213) 740-9355(WELL), press “0” after hours – 24/7 on call

studenthealth.usc.edu/sexual-assault

Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm.

Office of Equity and Diversity (OED) - (213) 740-5086 | Title IX – (213) 821-8298

equity.usc.edu, titleix.usc.edu

Information about how to get help or help someone affected by harassment or discrimination, rights of protected classes, reporting options, and additional resources for students, faculty, staff, visitors, and applicants.

Reporting Incidents of Bias or Harassment - (213) 740-5086 or (213) 821-8298

usc-advocate.symplicity.com/care_report

Avenue to report incidents of bias, hate crimes, and microaggressions to the Office of Equity and Diversity |Title IX for appropriate investigation, supportive measures, and response.

The Office of Disability Services and Programs - (213) 740-0776

dsp.usc.edu

Support and accommodations for students with disabilities. Services include assistance in providing readers/notetakers/interpreters, special accommodations for test taking needs, assistance with architectural barriers, assistive technology, and support for individual needs.

USC Campus Support and Intervention - (213) 821-4710

campussupport.usc.edu

Assists students and families in resolving complex personal, financial, and academic issues adversely affecting their success as a student.

Diversity at USC - (213) 740-2101

diversity.usc.edu

Information on events, programs and training, the Provost's Diversity and Inclusion Council, Diversity Liaisons for each academic school, chronology, participation, and various resources for students.

USC Emergency - UPC: (213) 740-4321, HSC: (323) 442-1000 – 24/7 on call

dps.usc.edu, emergency.usc.edu

Emergency assistance and avenue to report a crime. Latest updates regarding safety, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible.

USC Department of Public Safety - UPC: (213) 740-6000, HSC: (323) 442-120 – 24/7 on call

dps.usc.edu

Non-emergency assistance or information.

Office of the Ombuds - (213) 821-9556 (UPC) / (323-442-0382 (HSC)

ombuds.usc.edu

A safe and confidential place to share your USC-related issues with a University Ombuds who will work with you to explore options or paths to manage your concern.

Policy on Usage of Electronic Devices & Food in Class

All electronic devices, including cell phones, smart phones, laptops, etc. should be turned off in class. You will be asked to leave class if found working on your electronic devices and get -2 points out of your participation grade for each class rules violations. Please refrain from eating food and drinking soda in class in observation of others.

Textbooks

- *Persian Learner Part One: Elementary Persian for College Students*, Peyman Nojournian. Units 8-10 will be covered.
- *Persian Learner Part Two: Elementary Persian for College Students*, Peyman Nojournian. Units 11-14 will be covered.
- Supplemental Audio & Video instructional materials will be available through the Blackboard system

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.persianlearner.com/>

Grading

Persian-II (IRAN 150) 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

The Path to the Minor in Iranian Studies:

This course continues the path to the Minor in Iranian Studies. Students are required to do five courses including Persian-IV (IRAN 250), Advanced Persian-I (IRAN 320) and Advanced Persian-II (IRAN 350) for the minor. Elementary Persian courses (Persian-I, Persian-II and Persian-III) are all pre-requisite for Persian-IV and Advanced Persian courses. For those with prior study of Persian, a placement exam is offered to determine language level. If student proficiency surpasses the third-semester college level, the language faculty should be consulted about a higher-level proficiency exam.

End of Semester Course Evaluations

USC will send you a link at your Blackboard account to do evaluations 9 days before the final exams. The last day of the class is usually assigned to complete Course Evaluations in the classroom. It is expected that all students actively participate in the Course Evaluations and write constructive comments for the improvement of the course.

Persian-II (IRAN 150) - Tentative Course Schedule – Mon Jan 13, 2020 – May 1 st , 2020						
Week	Unit	Tasks	Themes	Form	Culture	Assignments
1 & 2	8	Functions: Describing favorites & leisure time. Talking about relatives, favorites, and leisure time activities. Reading about Nowruz. Writing: Learning & recognizing 4 connecting letters of the alphabet {eyn, qeyn, sâd, zâd}.	Leisure Time, Activities, Sports, Favorites New Year	Compound Verbs	Persian New Year “Nowruz”. Movie episodes 1 & 2	Pages 121, 124, 130, 133, 136 Spelling quiz 1
3 & 4	9	Functions: Dealing with an uncomplicated situation such as hotel reservation, & flight cancellation. Reading about Iranian weddings. Writing: Learning & recognizing connecting 4 letters of the alphabet {tâ, zâ, se, zâl}.	Travel, Medical Needs, Wedding	Question Words, Past Tense	Daily activities, Wedding Iranian Style. Movie episodes 3 & 4	Pages 140, 144, 147, 151 Spelling quiz 2
5	10	Functions: Participating in an extended interview. Dealing with uncomplicated situations such as buying concert tickets, renting an apartment. Reading about jobs, tools and the working culture. Writing: Learning & recognizing other diacritics such as [hamzeh], [tashdid] and [tanvin]	Home, Social Transactions, Jobs	Plural verbs	Social Culture, Working Culture. Movie episodes 5	Pages 156, 161, 164, 166, 167 Spelling quiz 3
6-7	11	Task: Describing daily routine. Handling uncomplicated situations such as shopping for breakfast, lunch, dinner, and clothes. Borrowing books from a library and searching library index to find books for research.	Shopping, Library, Food, Daily Routine	Present Tense, Connectors	Shopping Culture, Social Transactions, Episodes 6 & 7	Pages 4, 8, 12, 16
8-9	12	Task: Describing geographical location of cities, countries, continents, main directions, spatial directions of objects. Navigating through a touristic map of Isfahan	Iran Geography, History, Weather	Word Formation	Iranian Cities, Tourist Attractions. 8&9	Pages 21, 24, 29, 32
11-13	13	Task: Describing a house or an apartment. Handling simple social transactions such as renting an apartment.	Home, Apartment, Urban Life	Question Forms revisited	Urban Life Culture. Episodes 10 & 11 & 12	Pages 37, 41, 44, 48
14-16	14	Task: Narrating in present. Describing health issues, seeking emergency help. Reading about Iranian prominent scientists and physicians	Health, Medical Emergency	Connectors	Iranian History of Science. Last episode 13	Pages 52, 56, 60, 63, 64
April 30	Projects	Task: Students demonstrate their group projects to the class. Q&As will follow.	story telling, role-play	Q&A, narration	project	group project presentations
Final		Wednesday May 6 th , 2020 – 11:00 AM				