

Persian-IV (IRAN 250) - Section 41524R
Class meets on: Tu & Th, 12:00-12:50 PM
Class location: WPH 204
Course web: <http://dornsife.usc.edu/mesp>

Instructor: Peyman Nojoumian
Office: THH 256 N
Office hours: 1:00-1:50 PM, T & Th / by appointment
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Course Description & Learning Objectives:

Persian-IV (IRAN 250) is a high intermediate course designed to develop Persian language proficiency in listening, writing and reading.

The Objectives of the course are to help students:

- Read texts of intermediate level difficulty and communicate in Persian on a variety of familiar topics.
- Write in extended paragraph length discourse.
- Develop cultural awareness through additional readings, movies, and class discussions.
- Students should also be able to the following language tasks in Persian: describe an event or on object in details; identify important information in discourse and write short summaries; find similarities and differences between ideas and express their own ideas; narrate an event in detail, using all times frames; express and support opinions, discern facts from opinions and write a short report.

Evaluation:

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

Item	Grade %	Notes
Active participation & narrative report on Mondays.	15%	Full grade is for no unexcused absence and active participation in class discussions. Absences may only be excused by Dean or Health Center. Each unexcused absence will reduce your participation grade by two points out of 10. Using any kind of electronics devices or smart phones in class will be considered class rule violation and reduces this grade by two points for each violation. You should answer two questions orally in class every Tuesdays for three minutes: 1. What did you do during the last weekend? 2. What do you plan to do for the next weekend?
Assignments	15%	You will read chapters of a simplified story book, given to you by the instructor, and write a brief summary weekly. Each chapter has 1-2 pages only. The report is due on Sunday nights.
Presentation	30%	Choose a topic related to the Iran culture & prepare minimum 10 slides in Persian.
Final Exam	40%	Written Exam on Friday, May 8 th , 2020: 11:00 AM
Total	100	

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

suicidepreventionlifeline.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.

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.

Textbook

- *Persian Learner Part Three: Intermediate Persian for College Students*, Peyman Nojournian. (Unit 21-25 will be covered)
- *Basic Persian, A Grammar & Workbook* by Saeed Yousef & H. Torabi (can be used as a grammar reference)
- 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 can install a Web App at the following link to access an online Elementary Learner's Dictionary: <http://m.persianlearner.com/>

Grading

Persian-IV (IRAN 250) 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:

Persian-IV is considered an upper division course and counts toward the minor in Iranian Studies. The minor requires five courses including Persian-IV (IRAN 250), Advanced Persian-I (IRAN 320) and Advanced Persian-II (IRAN 350). 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.

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

Presentation: Choose a cultural or familiar topic (Persian music, traditions, cinema, holidays, literary figures, etc.) and get it approved by the instructor. Present it in Persian in at least 6-10 PowerPoint slides. Students have 20 minutes to present.

Presentation Grading Rubric	Points
Choose an original, interesting and relevant topic to the course contents	20%
Present two or more different resources from media, web sites, articles or books	20%
Describe locations, events, traditions, objects or people using simple sentences. Compare any existing similarities or differences between the American and Iranian culture in your presentation.	20%
Use slides, audio/video/photos as relevant cues	20%
Ask and answer simple and some open-ended questions on the topic of the presentation. All the students should actively participate in presentations and ask questions from the presenters.	20%
Total	100%

Persian IV (IRAN 250) - Tentative Course Schedule – Mon Jan 13 th , 2020 – May 1 st , 2020						
W	Unit	Task Types	Themes	Forms	Cultural Component	Assignment
1-4	21 & 22	Tasks: Describing foods and places. Handling a simple situation. Expressing simple opinions on foods. Writing about food. Comparing familiar objects, places, simple concepts, jobs, etc. Expressing opinions through comparison. Note: Unit 22 will only be reviewed if covered before.	Foods, Restaurant, Traditions, Customs	Imperative, Subjunctive, Comparison Structure	Persian Food Culture, National Customs and Traditions, Persian Songs	Pages 6, 11, 16, 20, 25, 30, 35, 39
5-8	23	Task: Identifying cultural values, personalities and characters. Expressing opinion on characteristics. Describing personality. Comparing marriage Iranian vs. western styles. analyzing a case. Watching a movie. Project: Writing about a memorable event	Marriage Iranian Style	Main Clause Subordinate Clause Adjectives & Nouns Past Perfect	Iranian Marriage Cultural Values Persian Poetry & Songs	Pages 46, 50, 57, 60
9-12	24	Task: Supporting opinions. Dealing with social interactions properly using Taarof. Dealing with a familiar situation with complexity. Analyzing humor and cartoons. Project: Writing a short story	Taarof Requests	Subjunctive Accept or Reject Forms, Compound Verb, Taarof	Iranian Taarof, Cinema Persian Classic Poetry	Pages 66, 71, 76, 80
13-15	25	Task: Describing current events. Describing an accident in detail. Narrating an event. Report an event. Analyzing an infographic.	Accidents Current Events	Subjunctive Present Perfect	Cultural Events Persian Proverbs	Pages 87, 92, 96, 100
16	Presentation	Task: Presentational skills. All students present their talks and should attend to get full credit of presentation	Iranian Culture	Presentational forms, Q&As	Topics related to the Iranian culture	Presentation
Final Exam		Friday May 8 ^h , 2020: 1100 AM				