USCDornsife

Dana and David Dornsife
College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

Persian-I (IRAN 120) - Section 41502D
Class meets on: MTWTh 10:00-10:50 AM at LVL 3B
Office hours: Tu & Th, 1:00-2:00 PM / by appointment
Course web: http://dornsife.usc.edu/mdes

Instructor: Peyman Nojoumian
Office: THH 256 J
Phone: (213) 740-2310 (text or call)
Email: nojoumia@usc.edu

Course Description
Persian-I (IRAN 120) is an elementary level course designed to develop your basic Persian language skills in listening, speaking, writing, and reading. Additionally, students will cultivate cultural awareness through engaging class discussions. This course does not have any prerequisite. For placement test and d-clearance, please refer to https://dornsife.usc.edu/languages/. Comprehensive language resources can be accessed through the Center for Languages and Cultures website at: https://dornsife.usc.edu/center-for-languages-and-cultures/

Learning Objectives: By the end of this course, students who actively participate and complete all assigned work will be able to:
- Communicate and exchange information in Persian on familiar topics using memorized phrases and short sentences.
- Recognize familiar spoken phrases and simple sentences and use them to respond to questions and follow simple instructions.
- Identify Persian script and write memorized phrases and some simple sentences on familiar topics.
- Recognize and read words, phrases and simple sentences on familiar topics, and extract information from reading material.
- Demonstrate cultural awareness of politeness and various gestures through class discussions.
- Perform simple language functions including self-introduction, creation with language, description of places, locations, people, feelings, and ask and answer simple questions on familiar topics.

Recommended Preparation: Please visit https://www.persianlearner.com/ and click on the main menu item "Iran". Take the opportunity to familiarize yourselves with information about Iran under this tab and try to learn and practice the useful phrases provided in the "5- Persian Useful Phrases" section. Furthermore, do not hesitate to add Persian Learner's Dictionary to your mobile device's home screen by visiting: https://m.persianlearner.com/. The dictionary comprehensively covers textbook vocabulary and includes features such as pronunciation guides, accompanying photos, and contextual examples. The platform also offers valuable links to other Persian language resources, contributing to a well-rounded learning experience.

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Technology Proficiency and Required Hardware/Software: This course requires the use of Blackboard, Microsoft Word, Adobe PDF Reader and Zoom. While having access to a printer/scanner or a scanner app on your cellphone can be convenient and useful it is not mandatory. An option for iPhone users is to scan homework pages using "Notes" app (click its camera icon) and turn them to a single PDF file. You can also use an Apple pen on an iPad to write on your homework pages and save them in PDF. You are encouraged to learn typing in Persian (see page 168 of your textbook). Further details about USC's technology support can be found below.

USC Technology Support Links
USC Computing Center Laptop Loaner Program
Zoom information for students
Blackboard help for students
Software available to USC Campus

Required Textbook
Peyman Nojoumian (2017). *Persian Learner Part One: Elementary Persian for College Students,* California: UCI Jordan Center for Persian Studies (links on https://www.persianlearner.com). Audio/Video materials and assignment pages are available on the Blackboard.

Attendance Policy
Regular and punctual attendance (in-class or online) is obligatory and will be reflected in students' participation grade. Being over 10 minutes late is considered an absence. Language learning classes are highly interactive, featuring numerous class activities and discussions. Consequently, consistent attendance and active involvement in the class discussions are vital for maximizing your learning experience. Absent students are responsible for obtaining any missed information from the instructor or peers. Students are expected to conduct themselves respectfully and professionally, refraining from disrupting lectures with noise, chatting or checking cellphones. Disrupting lectures is a breach of class rules and will lead to a reduction in the participation grade.

Policy on Usage of Electronic Devices and Food Consumption in Class
All electronic devices, including smartphones and laptops must be turned off during class unless specifically required by the instructor. You may be asked to leave the class if you are found working on your electronic devices, and a deduction of 5 points from your attendance grade will be applied for each violation of class rules. Please abstain from consuming food during class in consideration of your fellow classmates. Drinking water, however, is permitted.

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Evaluation & Grading Breakdown

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

Item	Grade	Notes
Active Participation	10%	This grade is an average of 5 items: **attendance**, **bonus credit**, **assessment of speaking**, **listening,** and **reading**, each with a 100 point.
		Absences may only be excused by Dean or Health Center. Unexcused absences will reduce the attendance grade by 5 points.
		Using any kind of electronics or smartphones in class, causing distraction, is considered violation of class rules and will reduce attendance grade by 5 points.
Assignment	15%	Assignment pages are accessible on the Blackboard. Students are expected to allocate a minimum of 1-2 hours daily to complete their assignments. Assignments are due <u>at the end of each textbook unit.</u>
		Late submission of assignment will result in a 10% reduction of the assignment grade for each 24-hour delay, unless the situation is excused due to an emergency endorsed by the instructor. Please promptly contact your instructor via email to discuss alternative arrangements due to an emergency.
		Print-write-scan or type your assignment pages then save them in a single PDF file. Name the file as Unit#-Firstname.pdf and upload it to the Blackboard (under each unit Assignment tab).
Quizzes	15%	Regular spelling quizzes are held at the end of each textbook unit (starting from Unit 2). Please check grading rubrics for more details.
Mid-Term Exam	30%	Monday October 9, 2023 (tentative).
Final Exam	30%	Monday December 11, 2023, at 9:00-09:50 AM.
Total	100%	

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Grading Scale

Persian-I (IRAN 120) 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

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 point.	25
Meaning Errors: each vocabulary error reduces the grade by 1 point.	25
Spelling Errors: each spelling error reduces the grade by 0.5 point.	25
Quality of Writing: Full point when concepts are clearly stated in grammatically correct sentences. The amount of writing should also be appropriate for the task.	25
Total	100

Spelling Quiz Grading Rubric

At the completion of each textbook unit (from unit 2), there will be a spelling quiz, focusing on newly introduced vocabulary items, often accompanied by visuals in the textbook. The spelling quiz consists of 20 words for 20 points. For every spelling error, including even a single letter mistake, one point will be reduced. The dates for spelling quizzes are outlined in the course schedule. These quizzes will be given at the beginning of the class and should take less than 20 minutes. Should a student miss the quiz due to an excused absence, they should promptly contact the instructor to arrange a makeup quiz.

The Path to the Minor in Iranian Studies:
This course sets you on the path toward pursuing a minor in Iranian Studies. To fulfill the requirements for the minor, students are required to complete five courses, starting with Persian-IV (IRAN 250). For minors with Iranian Studies Concentration, students must take Advanced Persian-I (IRAN 320). Advanced Persian-I, Advanced Persian-II or Business Persian (IRAN 325) may be taken as electives. For the latest minor in Iranian Studies course requirements, please refer to:
https://dornsife.usc.edu/mdes/iranian-studies/

Please note that Persian-III is a prerequisite course for Persian-IV and Advanced Persian courses. For those with prior study of Persian, a placement test is offered by the Language@USC to determine proficiency level. If a student's proficiency surpasses the third-semester college level, the language faculty should be consulted about a higher-level proficiency exam.

Course Content Distribution and Synchronous Session Recordings Policies
USC has policies that prohibit recording and distribution of any synchronous and asynchronous course content outside of the learning environment.

Recording a university class without the express permission of the instructor and announcement to the class, or unless conducted pursuant to an Office of Student Accessibility Services (OSAS) accommodation. Recording can inhibit free discussion in the future, and thus infringe on the academic freedom of other students as well as the instructor. (Living our Unifying Values: The USC Student Handbook, page 13).

Distribution or use of notes, recordings, exams, or other intellectual property, based on university classes or lectures without the express permission of the instructor for purposes other than individual or group study. This includes but is not limited to providing materials for distribution by services publishing course materials. This restriction on unauthorized use also applies to all information, which had been distributed to students or in any way had been displayed for use in relationship to the class, whether obtained in class, via email, on the internet, or via any other media. (Living our Unifying Values: The USC Student Handbook, page 13).

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Persian-I (IRAN 120) – [1]Tentative Course Schedule – Mon, August 21st to December 1st, 2023						
Week	Module	Language Functions & Tasks	Themes	Forms	Cultural Components	Assignments & Quizzes
1-2	Unit 1	**Functions**: Greetings & simple self-introduction Greet & introduce yourself, your job, age, field of study, etc. Name familiar objects in the class. **Writing**: Learn Persian phonetic transcription. Recognize and write numbers (1-20).	Greetings, Familiar Objects	Basic Sentence Structure	Colloquial vs. Writing Styles	Pages 4, 7, 12, 17 (Due after the unit is finished)
3-4	Unit 2	**Functions**: Describing familiar objects. Telling the time. Answering simple questions on familiar topics. **Writing**: Learn set7 letters of alphabet {alef, dâl, re, ze, zhe, vâv,}. Practice numbers (20-100).	Familiar Objects, Time, Numbers	Verb "to be"	Honorific and Courtesy forms	Pages 20, 24, 28, 32
5-6	Unit 3	**Functions**: Describing date and time. Talking about seasons, date, time, days of the week, and basic colors. **Writing**: Learning & recognizing 4 connecting letters of the alphabet {be, te, sin, ye}. Recognize and write numbers (100-1000).	Date, Time, Colors, Seasons, Clothes	Simple Question Form	Clothing culture	Pages 36, 41, 45, 48 **Spelling quiz 1**
7-8	Unit 4	**Functions**: Extended self- introduction. Talking & writing about yourself in more details. **Writing**: Learning & recognizing 5 connecting letters of the alphabet {mim, she, nun, che, he}. Learning numbers bigger than 1000.	Work, Study, Self, Objects	Simple Present, Verb Conjugation	Working culture	Pages 52, 55, 58, 61, 67, 68 **Spelling quiz 2**

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[1] The course schedule is tentative and may be adjusted due to students' needs and their learning pace.

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9-10	Unit 5	**Functions**: Instructing & following instructions Saying simple instructions and following simple commands. Reading about the summer. **Writing**: Learning & recognizing connecting letters of the alphabet {pe, khe, kâf}.	Current Events, Weather, Shopping,	Simple Imperative	Poetry and proverbs	Pages 72, 75, 78, 81, 84 **Spelling quiz 3**
11-12	Unit 6	**Functions**: Describing friend's physical appearance, introducing self in more details. Reading about the fall. **Writing**: Learning & recognizing 3 connecting letters of the alphabet {gâf, lâm, jim}. Reviewing numbers, dates, times.	Friends, Weather, Transportation,	Plural, Writing vs. Speaking Styles	Friendship culture. Food culture	Pages 89, 92, 96, 99 **Spelling quiz 4**
13	Unit 7	**Functions**: Describing foods. Talking about family friends, life & work. Reading about the winter and its festivities. **Writing**: Learning & recognizing 3 connecting letters of the alphabet {fe, qâf, he jimi}.	Work, Extended Family, Food, Body parts	Possessives	Persian food. Persian exports, and religion of Islam	Pages 105, 108, 111, 115, 116 **Spelling quiz 5**
If time allows	Unit 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".	Pages 121, 124, 130, 133, 136 **Spelling quiz 6**

End of Semester Course Evaluations
USC will post a link to your Blackboard account for end of semester course evaluations about 10 days before the final exams. The last day of class is usually assigned to complete course evaluations. It is expected that all students actively participate in the course evaluations and write constructive comments for the improvement of the course.

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MIDDLE EAST STUDIES DEPARTMENT

Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems

Academic Integrity:
The University of Southern California is a learning community committed to developing successful scholars and researchers dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge and the dissemination of ideas. Academic misconduct, which includes any act of dishonesty in the production or submission of academic work, compromises the integrity of the person who commits the act and can impugn the perceived integrity of the entire university community. It stands in opposition to the university's mission to research, educate, and contribute productively to our community and the world.

All students are expected to submit assignments that represent their own original work, and that have been prepared specifically for the course or section for which they have been submitted. You may not submit work written by others or "recycle" work prepared for other courses without obtaining written permission from the instructor(s).

Other violations of academic integrity include, but are not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, fabrication (e.g., falsifying data), collusion, knowingly assisting others in acts of academic dishonesty, and any act that gains or is intended to gain an unfair academic advantage.

The impact of academic dishonesty is far-reaching and is considered a serious offense against the university. All incidences of academic misconduct will be reported to the Office of Academic Integrity and could result in outcomes such as failure on the assignment, failure in the course, suspension, or even expulsion from the university.

For more information about academic integrity see the student handbook or the Office of Academic Integrity's website, and university policies on Research and Scholarship Misconduct.

Please ask your instructor if you are unsure what constitutes unauthorized assistance on an exam or assignment, or what information requires citation and/or attribution.

Students and Disability Accommodations:
USC welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. The Office of Student Accessibility Services (OSAS) is responsible for the determination of appropriate accommodations for students who encounter disability-related barriers. Once a student has completed the OSAS process (registration, initial appointment, and submitted documentation) and accommodations are determined to be reasonable and appropriate, a Letter of Accommodation (LOA) will be available to

generate for each course. The LOA must be given to each course instructor by the student and followed up with a discussion. This should be done as early in the semester as possible as accommodations are not retroactive. More information can be found at osas.usc.edu. You may contact OSAS at (213) 740-0776 or via email at osasfrontdesk@usc.edu.

Support Systems:

Counseling and Mental Health - *(213) 740-9355 – 24/7 on call*
Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention.

988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline - *988 for both calls and text messages – 24/7 on call*
The 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline (formerly known as the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, across the United States. The Lifeline is comprised of a national network of over 200 local crisis centers, combining custom local care and resources with national standards and best practices. The new, shorter phone number makes it easier for people to remember and access mental health crisis services (though the previous 1 (800) 273-8255 number will continue to function indefinitely) and represents a continued commitment to those in crisis.

Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP) - *(213) 740-9355(WELL) – 24/7 on call*
Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender- and power-based harm (including sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and stalking).

Office for Equity, Equal Opportunity, and Title IX (EEO-TIX) - *(213) 740-5086*
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*
Avenue to report incidents of bias, hate crimes, and microaggressions to the Office for Equity, Equal Opportunity, and Title for appropriate investigation, supportive measures, and response.

The Office of Student Accessibility Services (OSAS) - *(213) 740-0776*
OSAS ensures equal access for students with disabilities through providing academic accommodations and auxiliary aids in accordance with federal laws and university policy.

[USC Campus Support and Intervention](#) *- (213) 740-0411*
Assists students and families in resolving complex personal, financial, and academic issues adversely affecting their success as a student.

[Diversity, Equity and Inclusion](#) *- (213) 740-2101*
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*
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) 442-1200 – 24/7 on call*
Non-emergency assistance or information.

[Office of the Ombuds](#) *- (213) 821-9556 (UPC) / (323-442-0382 (HSC)*
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.

[Occupational Therapy Faculty Practice](#) *- (323) 442-2850 or* otfp@med.usc.edu
Confidential Lifestyle Redesign services for USC students to support health promoting habits and routines that enhance quality of life and academic performance.

Zoom Classroom Etiquettes
This course is exclusively offered **in-person.** However, in the event that an online class is offered, students are expected to adhere to the rules applicable to online classes:

- Please make sure that you have installed Zoom on your device and updated it before the start of online classes.
- Always access the secure Zoom class link through your USC Blackboard account.
- Zoom classes are recorded by default so you can access previous recorded sessions if needed.
- Check your audio and video settings before the meetings. Find the setting icon on upper right corner of your Zoom App.
- Please choose a quiet place with sufficient light.
- Please choose a proper place like your study room (not lying on a bed) and sit alone (no family or friend).
- Keep your phone or laptop charger ready to be hooked up if necessary.
- Please turn on your webcam because synchronous/face-to-face communication is an important part of language education.
- Mute your microphone if you are not speaking (Alt + A).
- Click on "raise your hand" button if you want to ask or answer a question (Alt + Y).
- Keep your microphone mute until your instructor unmutes you.
- Explore the possibility of typing in Persian on your device, especially on the chat section.
- Click on the chat icon to ask your questions or when you want to send a document to your instructor.
- Please avoid eating food while on-line. Water is fine. Please adhere to the same standards of behavior on-line that you follow in real life.
- Please do not leave the session before the meeting ends.
- Do not share or post anything unless instructed to do so by your instructor.
- Do not share any copyrighted materials unless you have permission to do so.
- Refrain from chatting or speaking with other participants unless instructed to do so by your instructor.
- The instructor may put you in Breakout Rooms to do role-play activities. Participate actively in these interactions.
- Please speak loud enough so that your voice is detected by Zoom.
- Please take turn in speaking because sometimes there is a delay when transferring audio.
- Please be courteous and respect your classmates and maintain confidentiality of your classmates' statements and information at all the times.