

Persian 301
Advanced Persian: Reading and Composition

Schedule:	Instructor/email:	Saeed Honarmand(.3)
Location:	Office/phone:	368 Hagerty Hall/688-4358
Class Number:	Office hours:	TBA

Description

Extensive reading of classical and modern Persian literary texts, with practice in grammar and composition at an advanced level.

Rationale

This course is intended to serve as the first course in a three-quarter study of the Persian language on the advanced level. Proposals for Advanced Persian II and Advanced Persian III are planned.

Expected Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course students will develop the ability to read advanced classical, modern and popular texts in Persian; to provide practice in writing advanced compositions on various topics; and to develop appropriate levels of proficiency in spoken Persian.

The course materials, which are mostly short stories or articles, are selected from several sources. The materials will be available to every student either as handouts or as attached files throughout the quarter. This course will enable students to read, speak, and compose in literary as well as colloquial Persian.

Prerequisite

Persian 202 or written permission of instructor. Students who wish to enroll in the course need to have fulfilled two years of elementary and intermediate level courses offered either by the department, (viz., Persian 101, 102, 103, 104, 201, 202) or passed equivalent courses at other universities. Native, heritage, or other students who believe they have enough proficiency to bypass these requirements must obtain the permission of the instructor, in consultation with the coordinator of the Persian language program. A proficiency examination may be administered for this purpose.

Requirements and student evaluation

A weekly response paper (1-2 pages) will be due on the first class meeting of each week. There will be a midterm exam and a final exam. There will also be a final writing assignment: either translating a Persian short story or writing a 7-page essay in Persian. The short story to be translated, or the essay topic, will be selected in consultation with the instructor.

Weekly response papers (in Persian) and class participation:	20%
Mid-term exam (Week 5):	20%
Final essay or translation:	30%
Final exam (Week 10):	30%

Grading scale

A (94-100) A- (90-93) B+ (87-89) B (83-86) B- (80-82) C+ (77-79) C (73-76) C- (70-72) D+ (67-69) D (63-66) D- (60-63) F (below 60)

Sources

The following texts, identified by number (i.e., “text no. 1, pp. 543-47”) in the syllabus below, will either be handed out or emailed to students on the proper date:

1. Farhang-e Afsāneh-hāi Mardom-e Iran (فرهنگ افسانه‌های مردم ایران), Vol. 7, edited by A. A. Darvishiān, Nashr-e Ketāb O Farhang 1379 (2000)
2. Qesseh-hāi-e Mashdi Galin Khānom (قصه‌های مشدی گلین خانم), edited by U Marzolph, A. Vakiliān, and A. Amir Hosseini, Nashr-e Markaz 1374 (1995)
3. Zabān O Adabeyāt-e Farsi Omumi (زبان و ادبیات فارسی عمومی), edited by H. Zolfaghāri, Nashr-e Cheshmeh 1384 (2005):
4. Masnavi Ma’navi, by Rumi (مثنوی معنوی), edited by R. Nicholson 1353 (1974)
5. The Death of Yazdgerd (مرگ یزدگرد) by Bahrām Beizāi, 1979
6. Armaqān-e Mur: Jostāri dar Shāhnāme (ارمغان مور: جستاری در شاهنامه), Shahrokh Meskub, Nashr-e Ney 1384 (2005)
7. Jostār-hā darbāreh-e zabān o adab o farhang-e Tajikistan (جستارها درباره‌ی زبان و ادب و فرهنگ تاجیکستان), M. J. Shakuri Bokhārāei, Enteshārāt-e Asātir 1382 (2003)
8. Shāhnāme (The Book of Kings), by Ferdowsi, Moscow edition

Recommended texts (available at SBX)

Lazard, G., *A Grammar of Contemporary Persian*, Costa Mesa 1992 (English or Persian edition)

Y. Samareh, *Amuzesh-e Zabān-e Farsi*, Vol. 3, 1371 (1992)

SYLLABUS

Week 1: Colloquial language: Folk tales (contemporary)

Three Fools (سه احمق) (text no. 1, pp. 333-35)

Three Lovers (سه عاشق) (text no. 1, pp. 469-70)

Seyed Nesā Khānom O Shāhzādeh (سید نسا و شاهزاده) (text no. 1, pp. 543-47)

Response paper assignment: summarize these contemporary colloquial texts in literary Persian

Week 2: Folk tales, cont.

Simorgh (سیمرغ) (text no. 1, pp. 567-70)

Ali Boneh-gir (علی بونه‌گیر) (text no. 2, pp. 147-151)

‘arusi keh Dukhtar nabud (عروسی که دختر نبود) (text no. 2, pp. 272-274)

Response paper assignment: rewrite one of these contemporary colloquial texts in literary Persian

Week 3: Rumi (medieval)

A story from Rumi (in verse) (text no. 4)

Response paper assignment: rewrite this medieval verse text into prose

Two Myths and Three Modern Interpretations

Week 4: Myth of Ārash

Ārash Kamān-gir (the myth) (آرش کمانگیر) (text no. 3, p. 45)

Summary of Ārash Kamān-gir (the modern play by Beizāi) (text no. 3, pp. 51-55)

Ārash Kamān-gir (the modern poem by Kasrāi) (text no. 3, pp. 46-50)

Response paper assignment: write a 1-2 page paper comparing the myth with the interpretations

Week 5: Historical Story of Yazdegerd

Death of Yazdegerd (مرگ یزدگرد), rewritten in prose, (Historical story) (text no. 8)

Death of Yazdegerd (مرگ یزدگرد) (a play by Beizāi) (text no. 5)

Response paper assignment: summarize this story

Midterm Exam (last day of 5th week; due in class)

Week 6: Yazdegerd, cont.

Play: Death of Yazdegerd (movie)

Punctuation (نشانه‌گذاری); Grammar (text no. 3, pp. 56-60)

Response paper assignment: write a 1-2 page paper comparing the historical event with the play

Week 7: Modern short stories

Veylān al-Doleh (ویلان الدوله), by Jamāl zādeh, (text no. 3, pp. 204-207)

Dāsh Ākol (دش آکل), by Hedāyat, (no. 3, pp. 208-218)

Response paper assignment: summarize one of these stories

Week 8: Modern Cinema and Medieval Romances

Film: Mr. Hālu (آقای هالو 1964), a classic movie

Samak ‘Ayyār (سمک عیار), (text no. 3, pp. 186-189)

Seh Bāzargān (سه بازرگان), (text no. 3, pp. 190-192)

Response paper assignment: summarize one of these stories

Week 9: Memoir (Modern Literature from Tajikistan)

Khāterāt-e Sadr al-Dīn ‘aini (in Tajiki dialect) (خاطرات صدرالدین عینی) (text no. 7, pp. 147-158)

Response paper assignment: summarize the memoir

Week 10: Review

Presentation of the final essay or translation

Final Exam (per OSU exam schedule)

Academic Misconduct Policy

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term “academic misconduct” includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct. (http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/info_for_students/csc.asp).

Disability Services Policy:

Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated, and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone 292-3307, TDD 292-0901; <http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/>.