Urdu 104: Intermediate Urdu I Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures

Instructor: Dr. Inam Khokhar(.5)
Office: 300 Hagerty Hall

Phone: 292-9255

Class Schedule: MW 9:30 – 11:18 a.m. **Office Hours:** MW 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Course Description

Introduction

Urdu, belonging to the Indo-European family of languages, is the official language of Pakistan and one of the 15 officially recognized languages of India. Though it is the mother tongue of about 50 million people, it is spoken and understood by almost the whole population of Pakistan and is the primary means of written communication in that country. Being quite similar to spoken Hindi, it is widely understood in India, and the Indian film industry has given it a great boost. Urdu boasts an extremely rich literary tradition, which has enriched itself for centuries and continues to do so even in our times.

Course Objectives

The goals of Urdu 101 are to introduce students to the Urdu alphabet, elementary vocabulary, basic grammar and sentence structure, and to enable students to identify the elements of the spoken and the written language. Students will also learn about the culture, traditions, and history of Pakistan and India. By the completion of the course, students are expected to have enough vocabulary to participate in a basic conversation, and to be able to read and write simple sentences.

In Urdu 102-104, students are further trained to develop their skills of speaking, comprehension, reading and writing. An introduction to some famous Urdu poets and their poetry is presented. Urdu comedy forms and commonly spoken proverbs are also introduced. After studying these four courses, the students should be able to engage in dialogue in Urdu comfortably. Also they should be able to write simple letters to their friends and enjoy reading newspapers and simple prose and poetry books.

Student Evaluation

Class Participation: 25% Homework/Quizzes: 25% Midterm Exam: 25% Final Exam: 25%