***SYLLABUS- FARSI 1001***

***Georgia Tech- School of Modern Languages***

**Instructor**: Dr. Roya Mesbah

**Class Time**: MWF 1:05- 1:55 pm + W 2:05- 2:55 pm **Room**: Swann 320

**Office:** Swann 232 **Office hours**: MF: 2:00 - 3:00 pm **Email:** roya.mesbah@modlangs.gatech.edu

**Resources:**

Required textbook available at the campus Barnes and Noble:

Khorrami, Mehdi. Elementary Persian. Bisotun Publishers. 2008, New York.

**Other resources:**

Brookshaw, Dominic Parviz. Routledge Persian Course: Farsi shirin ast. Book 1. Routledge 2010.

Farzad, Narguess. Complete Persian (Modern Persian/ Farsi) McGraw-Hill 2010, with 2 Audio CD.

Axworthy, Michael. A History of Iran: Empire of the mind. Basic Books 2010.

Katouzian, Homa. The Persians: Ancient, Mediaeval and Modern Iran. Yale University Press, New Haven, 2010

**Iranian movies**:

The White Balloon by Jafar Panahi 1995.

The Color of Paradise by Majid Majidi 1999.

The Song of Sparrows by Majid Majidi 2008.

A Separation by Ahmad Farhadi, 2011.

A film about a young girl’s coming of age in Iran, during the Islamic Revolution.

Persepolis by Marjane Satrapi and Vincent Parronaud, 2007.

Documentary videos about Iran’s historical monuments and natural attractions: Older than History, Persia. Irangardan publication 2001 + videos on Iranian, Afghan and Tajik music.

Handouts distributed in class + many websites providing linguistic and cultural insights.

See [www.chaiandconversation.com](http://www.chaiandconversation.com) for grammar and pronunciation practice.

**Course objectives**: Our objectives are twofold, both linguistic and cultural.

Upon successful completion of the elementary Persian sequence (I & II), students should be able to speak Farsi enough to ask and answer simple questions, and communicate in a variety of settings. We will insist on heard and spoken language as much as reading and writing skills.

Greetings (formal and informal), talking about studies, family, descriptions of people, daily activities, using public transportations, ordering food at a restaurant, getting directions in the street, making a hotel reservation, shopping for grocery and clothing items or a visit to the doctor’s office. These are some of the themes explored by these 2 courses. To develop this level of proficiency, students need to come to class well prepared and participate actively.

Beyond the basic communication skills, this two level course is meant to serve as an introduction to Persian culture, mode of life and customs. The Persians celebrations and festivities, the way Iranians are celebrating them today. The ancient Civilization in which these festivals are rooted is the subject of two seminars including the projection of a documentary followed by discussions. Students are invited to participate to the **Chaharshanbeh Soory**, the Fire Festival that precedes the Persian New Year and the **Nowrooz** celebration by the Iranian community of Atlanta.

**Class attendance**:

Regular class attendance and full participation to the class activities are absolute requirements for language acquisition.

Students taking this course on a pass/fail or audit basis MUST earn a minimum final grade of 70 (C) in order to successfully pass or audit the course. The instructor will monitor class participation daily and record it weekly.

The School of Modern Languages allows **a maximum of 3 unexcused absences during the term**. For additional absences, you will lose a point from your final grade. The instructor has final say over the validity of any excuse. Any planned absence on a quiz/special project day should be discussed with your instructor in advance, and you should report an emergency absence as soon as possible afterwards (stop by, or use e-mail).

No make-up possibility for a missed test unless you have a doctor’s note.

Arriving late to class within the first 15 minutes counts as ½ an absence, while 30 minutes late and more counts as an absence.

**Academic Integrity**

For many of the classroom activities in this course, you will be often asked to work with a partner; in addition, you are encouraged to study with a partner in order to practice the class material in an interactive manner. However, any written/oral work that forms the basis of your final grade in the class MUST be your own original work. Any breaching of the Academic integrity rules will be dealt with according to the School’s Honor Code.

**Evaluation:**

* **Class participation and Homework 10%**
* **Quizzes: 10%**
* **Test 1 20%**
* **Test 2 20%**
* **Wed- Per 15% \* Wednesday performances**
* **Final Exam: 25%**

**\* Wednesday’s second hour (2:00-3:00 pm) will be used, starting the 3rd week of class, to practice the vocabulary and grammar points of the week in little dialogs performed in groups of 2 or 3.**

**All Homework is to be done before coming to class. Standard class preparation time is one hour daily, every single day of the week. All materials need to be read before class.**

**A journal is kept with daily entries of 5 sentences.**

**Before coming to class,** students must read the indicated pages from the textbooks. EP: Elementary Persian and complete the exercises as required. EP is followed by the page numbers to be studied. Practice the pronunciation with a class mate.

All exercises within these pages need to be done. Homework should be done on loose paper so it could be collected. Quizzes are not announced ahead of time.

Week 1: Introduction; greetings; alphabet

Week 2: Letters; personal pronouns; numbers 1-10

Week 3: Letters and H; titles; numbers 7-20

Week 4: Greetings; “to be”; occupations; nationalities; numbers to 100

Formal/informal speech; possession

Week 5: Demonstratives; adjectives; the Ezafeh

Week 6: Present tense; your house; asking questions; compound verbs

Week 7: Colors; days of the week; seasons

Week 8: Adverbs of frequency; telling time

Week 9: Weather; present progressive; simple past; shopping

Week 10: Comparatives/superlatives; past continuous and progressive; Iranian food

Week 11: “Keh”; imperative and conditional

Week 12: possessive attached pronouns; present perfect

Week 13: Iran’s neighbors

Week 14: Subjunctive

Week 15: Future

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| **ML PERFORMANCE GOAL #1: PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION** | |
| **ML Learning Outcome 1 : Demonstrate oral and aural proficiency in the target language** | Students will demonstrate oral proficiency at the Novice Mid or higher level on the ACTFL scale |
| **ML Learning Outcome 2:** Demonstrate effective presentation skills in the target language | Students will demonstrate the ability to present in class for 1 minute on an everyday topic without using notes |
| **ML Learning Outcome 3: Demonstrate writing proficiency in the target language** | Students will produce simple written descriptions and narrations at the Novice Mid or higher level on the ACTFL scale |
| **ML Learning Outcome 4:**  Demonstrate proficiency in comprehension of authentic written texts in the target Language | Students will interact with authentic texts at the Novice High o higher level on the ACTFL scale |
| **ML PERFORMANCE GOAL #2: INTERCULTURAL SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE** | |
| **ML Learning Outcome 5: Demonstrate in-depth knowledge of a *specific* target-language country or region** | Students will successfully provide information related to basic cultural issues related to Iran and its neighbors |
| **ML Learning Outcome 6:**  Demonstrate the ability to analyze an issue from target-culture perspective(s) | N/A |
| **ML Learning Outcome 7:**  Demonstrate critical reflection on cultural complexity and context | N/A |