***SYLLABUS- PERS 1002***

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

**Instructor**: Roya Mesbah

Class Time: MWF 2:00- 3:00 pm + W 3:00- 4:00 pm Room: Swann 323

Office: Swann 232 Office hours: MF: 12:30 pm till 1:30 pm

Tel: (678) 427-4977 Email: roya.mesbah@modlangs.gatech.edu

**Resources:**  Required textbooks 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. Trade paper.

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

**Iranian movies**:

The white balloon by Jafar Panahi 1995.

The color of paradise by Majid Majidi 1999.

A documentary video 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), you 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 may lose points 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 possible afterwards (please phone, 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 arriving more than 15 minutes late counts as an absence.

**Academic Integrity**

In many of the classroom activities in this course, you often will be asked to work with others; in addition, you are encouraged to study with others in order to help yourself and the others in the class understand the information presented by the professor or the class materials. However, any written/oral work that forms the basis of your final grade in the class MUST be your (or your study group’s) own original work.

**Evaluation:**

* **Class participation: 10%**
* **Homework and quizzes: 10%**
* **Test 1 20%**
* **Test 2 20%**
* **Presentation 10%**
* **Final Exam: 20%**
* **2 Oral exams 10 %**

**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 material needs to be read.**

**A journal is to be kept with daily entries of one paragraph (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.

**Presentations**

Each student will chose from a list of topics and make a ten minutes presentation. We will further discuss the specific modalities of these presentations in class.

**Oral exams**

The oral exam in the middle of the semester, takes the form of a dialog. Students choose with a partner, one of the topics studied in class and write a five minute script and role play it for the class. The second oral exam is an interview with the teacher. Each student individually prepare for an interview .The topic is picked from folded papers, from one of the themes studied in class.

Week 1: Review—greetings, simple past, present

Week 2: Questioning; subjunctive

Week 3: Continuous emphatic; the family; adjectives

Week 4: Conditional; present perfect; pluperfect

Week 5: Prepositions and pronouns; travel; emphatic past

Week 6: Direct object pronouns; calligraphy

Week 7: Hotels

Week 8: Prepositions; reflexive pronouns; health

Week 9: Doctor’s office; grocery and dining

Week 10: Food and culture

Week 11: Future

Week 12: Clothing; buying; reflexive pronouns

Week 13: Dialogs; impersonal structures

Week 14: Tourism; oral exams

Week 15: Review

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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 high 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 2 minutes on a specific 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 Intermediate Low level on the ACTFL scale |
| **ML Learning Outcome 4:**  Demonstrate proficiency in comprehension of authentic written texts in the target Language | Students will demonstrate summarizing comprehension of authentic texts related to familiar topics |
| **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 demonstrate knowledge of specific cultural practices found in Iran |
| **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 |