

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN – MADISON

(South Asian Summer Language Institute – SUMMER 2011)

Pashto Language (Intermediate)

S Y L L A B U S

Instructor: A. Rehman Khan
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Personal Phone: Email communication is preferred
Office hours: TBD

Course Goals / Objectives:

This is an intermediate level Pashto language course intended for the Pashto language intermediate level learners. The course will focus all the four aspects of language learning; i.e. Speaking, Writing, Reading and Listening.

By the end of the eight-week course, the students are expected to;

- Be able to engage in conversations and correspondence, provide and obtain information, express feelings and emotions, and exchange opinions in Pashto language.
- Understand and interpret written and spoken Pashto language on a variety of topics.
- Able to carry out comprehensive conversation about weather, travel, directions, shopping, health concerns, social and cultural issues, etc.
- Understand and use past, present and future tenses of verbs
- Understand basic dialect differences between western Pashto (spoken in Kandahar/Quetta) and eastern Pukhto (spoken in Kabul/Peshawar)
- Know the geography of the Pashtun land (Afghanistan and Pakistan)
- Understand Pashtun culture and participate in some cultural events, and are able to demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the practices and perspectives of Pashtun cultures
- Be able to learn more than 500 Pashto small and simple words

Class Meetings:

The class will meet for four hours, five days a week, i.e. Monday through Friday for eight weeks. Language classes are expected to be interactive where teacher-student, student-teacher and student- student interaction will be highly encouraged and appreciated. The course aims at enabling the students to orally communicate in Pashto with confidence. By the start of the third week of the class, all the students are encouraged to initiate interaction mainly in Pashto. During the last five weeks all the students are expected to speak ONLY Pashto in the class.

Week – 1 & 2:

- An orientation on Pashto language through speaking, listening, reading and writing skills
- Practice the script and pronunciation of Pashto words that the students have learnt prior to coming to this class
- Practice the Pashto sounds, especially the ones that the students have the difficulty with
- Listening to Pashto news audios and explain their contents
- Listen to Pashto audio/video presentations and translate/transcribe them
- Construction of small and simple sentences with the use of nouns, adjectives, verbs and making plurals
- Watch/listen to Pashto songs and transcribe/translate them into English
- Practice Pashto numbers and use them in sentences
- Learn between 70 to 100 new Pashto words and use them in sentences

Week – 3 & 4:

- Learn and practice conversations on multiple topics, such as directions, timings, sizes and shapes, greetings, parts of the body, etc.
- Practice some basic sentence structure (present and simple past tenses)
- Construct medium sentences practicing mainly present and simple past tense
- Perform simple numerical questions (addition /subtraction)
- Watch a Pashto Drama and discuss the contents
- Learn about 100 new words

Week – 5 & 6:

- Work on grammar issues (mainly past perfect)
- Construct lengthier sentences using appropriate grammatical structures
- Practice situational dialogues (about weather/natural disasters, health issues, occupations, shopping and price negotiation, etc).
- Watch a Pashto Drama, read news articles and listen to the music – transcribe and translate them
- Learn about 100 new words

Week – 7 & 8:

- Practice situational dialogues (about Government structure, courts, politics, etc.)
- Learn and use some Pashto proverbs
- Read and learn some Pashto poetry
- Watch a Pashto film
- Learn one or two Pashto songs
- Develop and perform a short Pashto skit/drama
- Learn more than 100 new words

Course Material:

Required Course Packet:

- Since this is the first time the intermediate level course is offered at SASLI, the instructor will make use of several different sources. Material will be uploaded on Learn@UW.
- Supplementary materials (handouts) will also be provided from time to time in the class.
- Pictorial learning material will be provided for better comprehension.

Dictionary:

- Intermediate level students are expected to have their own dictionaries. Online English to Pashto, Pashto to English Dictionary will be used from time to time in the class.
- Electronic (online) Dictionary available on the following website.

<http://dsal.uchicago.edu/dictionaries/raverty/>

<http://www.achakzai.de/j/>

<http://dsal.uchicago.edu/dictionaries/heston/>

Video:

During the course of time the course-instructor will show Two Pashto Dramas and possibly one Pashto film. Moreover, online instructional and entertainment videos will also be used in the class and suggested for out-of-class activities.

Audio:

News presentation, Short stories and conversational audio tapes will be used in the class and suggested for out-of-class listening and practice.

Attendance Policy:

Since this is an intense course, all the students are expected to attend all the classes. Only genuine excuses, for instance illness or family emergency, will be accepted. Regularity and punctuality is expected and highly appreciated. More than two days of absence will automatically lower the overall grade.

Requirements:

- Proactive class participation, Regular homework, Pop up Quiz (starting the third week), Presentation/review on a Pashto drama, Presentation/review on Pashto film or present to the class on any topic involving reading/listening/speaking and/or writing skills, Final Group Project, Mid-term (end of 4th week) and Final exam.

Assessment/Grading:

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|-----------------------|------------------|-----|
| - Class participation | | 20% |
| - 4 Quizzes | (5% each) | 20% |
| - 2 Presentations | (5% each) | 10% |
| - Group Project | | 15% |
| - Mid Term Exam | (Oral & Written) | 15% |
| - Final Exam | (Oral & Written) | 20% |

Student Code of Conduct:

The student Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures for the University of Wisconsin is available on the website listed below:

<http://www.wisc.edu/students/saja/misconduct/misconduct.html>

This document outlines the rules and regulations regarding your student rights and responsibilities while a student at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. It states that "Academic misconduct is an act in which a student:

- Seeks to claim credit for the work or efforts of another without authorization or citation;
- Uses unauthorized materials or fabricated data in any academic exercise;
- Forges or falsifies academic documents or records;
- Intentionally impedes or damages the academic work of others;
- Engages in conduct aimed at making false representation of a student's academic performance;
- Assists other students in any of the above mentioned acts"

For further details, please see the website listed above for further information.

McBurney Disability Resource Center:

The McBurney Center is available for all students at the University of Wisconsin. The Center offers a wide array of services for students with Disabilities. If you are in need of any of the services provided by the Center, please feel free to contact the McBurney Center staff directly. For a list of the services provided, please visit the website:

<http://www.mcburney.wisc.edu/services/>

Contact information for the McBurney Disability Resource Center:

905 University Avenue
Madison, WI 53715
608-263-2741 (phone)
263-6393 (tty)
265-2998 (fax)
mcburney@uwmadmail.services.wisc.edu